

A Prayer to Acquire the Virtues

“O God, all-powerful and all-knowing, without beginning and without end, You Who are the source, the sustainer, and the rewarder of all virtues,

Grant that [we] may abide on the firm ground of faith, be sheltered by an impregnable shield of hope, and be adorned in the bridal garment of charity.

Grant that [we] may through justice be subject to You, through prudence avoid the beguilements of the devil, through temperance exercise restraint, and through fortitude endure adversity with patience.

Grant that whatever good things [we] have, [we] may share generously with those who have not and that whatever good things [we] do not have, [we] may request humbly from those who do.

Grant that [we] may judge rightly the evil of the wrongs [we] have done and bear calmly the punishments [we] have brought upon [ourselves], and that [we] may never envy [our] neighbor’s possessions and ever give thanks for Your good things.

Grant that [we] may always observe modesty in the way [we] dress, the way [we] walk, and the gestures [we] use, restrain [our] tongue[s] from frivolous talk, prevent [our] feet from leading [us] astray, keep [our] eyes from wandering glances, shelter [our] ears from rumors, lower [our] gaze in humility, lift [our] mind[s] to thoughts of heaven, condemn all that will pass away, and love You only.

Grant that [we] may subdue [our] flesh and cleanse [our] conscience, honor the saints and praise You worthily, advance in goodness, and end a life of good works with a holy death.

Plant deep in [us], Lord, all the virtues, that [we] might be devout in divine matters, discerning in human affairs, and burdensome to no one in fulfilling [our] own bodily needs.

Grant to [us], Lord, fervent contrition, pure confession, and complete reparation.

Order [us] inwardly through a good life, that [we] might do what is right and what will be meritorious for [us] and a good example for others.

Grant that [we] may never crave to do things impulsively, nor disdain to do what is burdensome, lest [we] begin things before [we] should or abandon them before finishing.”
Amen.

Love of Neighbor

Lord Jesus Christ, when on the point of dying, You did recommend fraternal charity to Your beloved Apostles; grant that I and my family and friends may love souls, especially abandoned souls, with an ardent love; pray and labor unceasingly for their welfare; fear neither dangers nor adversities in order to save them; think nothing of inconvenience, hunger, thirst, cold, or suffering, even of death itself provided only one soul can be saved.

Enable me, Lord Jesus, to put on the depts of singular charity towards You and all who I meet ; never to quarrel with them; always to respect them; willingly to assist them without annoying them; to abhor gossiping as worse than a serpent or a mad dog; to receive all kindly; to visit and console the sick; to please all in the Lord and especially by prayer, word and example to strive to lead all to You.

O Mary, my Mother, make me love all people, your children and the brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ, with a supernatural love. Amen.