



PRAYERS FOR USE BY CHURCHES SUPPORTING THE WORK OF FRAMEWORK

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WHEN REPRODUCING ANY OF THESE PRAYERS PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE IN THE WAY INDICATED.

Shelter us, O Lord, and grant us the compassion and knowledge to help others in their search for shelter.

Protect us, O Lord, from darkness, and grant us the wisdom and skills to protect others who live in unsafe and unhealthy housing and long for the light.

Bless us, O Lord, with homes that make comfort and joy realities for our families, and grant us the grace to ensure this for all families.

Amen.

Education for Justice, USA Catholics: www.educationforjustice.org

For homeless children

Dear Lord, we pray for all children without a home of their own this day. Guide them to a place where they will feel loved and cared for. Help us to support and cherish them, and give us the wisdom to discern how best to guide them. For your love's sake. Amen.

Lord Jesus, you began life homeless. Mary and Joseph protected you on the journey into Egypt. Grant that today's homeless children may find such loving and faithful protectors, and bless all who care for these homeless young. In your name we pray. Amen.

For those facing addiction to drugs or alcohol

O Christ, we place in your hands this day those who are addicted to alcohol or drugs (especially . . .). Guide them as they seek help, and grant their loved ones the grace to forgive them for the pain they may have caused. Through the Divine Mercy of Jesus we pray. Amen.

These three prayers from Mercy Home 1140 W. Jackson Blvd. Chicago, Il. 60607 (adapted)

God of Justice, have mercy on those who sleep on the streets or in hostels,
on the floor or on a sofa, in store rooms or offices,
and those who know that their friends' hospitality is at breaking point.

Help us to build a fairer society, where having no home does not exclude
anyone from work and health and respect.

Help us to build a society where all may 'dwell in safety'.

In the name of the homeless Saviour, Jesus. Amen.

A Prayer of the month from 'The Well at Willen' Community, Milton Keynes:
www.thewellatwillen.org.uk/Prayer.htm

Christ, let me see You in others.
Christ, let others see You in me.
Christ, let me see:

You are the caller
You are the poor
You are the stranger at my door.

You are the wanderer
The unfed
You are the homeless
With no bed.

You are the other who comes to me
Open my eyes that I may see.

David Adam, 'The Cry of the Deer', SPCK, 1987

O God, who created us out of love, we pray for all who are losing hope. Help us to
understand what it is like to be poor or marginalised, or exhausted by the sheer struggle to
survive. Fire our imaginations, and empower us to work for the relief of their suffering;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Angela Ashwin, 'The Book of a Thousand Prayers', 2002

Lord Jesus Christ, who will, in the end, acknowledge all acts of mercy as done to you; grant
that we may never pass by those in need, but may respond with generous hearts to the
voice of those whom we easily forget, but whose cry is your own.

Source unknown

Our Father, we pray for the homes and families and for the children of the inner cities; for those whose families are broken, for the badly housed and the homeless, the lonely and the disadvantaged, and for all whose lives seem purposeless or who cannot find work.

We remember especially young people growing up amid urban deprivation and decay.

Give to us all the will to seek for them a better quality of life, true opportunity, a future and a hope.

In the name of him who loved Jerusalem, and wept for it, even Jesus Christ our Lord.

Timothy Dudley-Smith, 'New Parish Prayers' Hodder & Stoughton, 1982

You have shown us, Lord, what is good.
Enable us, we pray,
to act justly,
to love mercy,
and to walk humbly with you, our God.

Based on Micah 6:8

Giver of Life, we wait with you to bear
your hope to earth's darkest places:
we wait at the places where darkness is
deeper than the deepest pain.
Where love is denied:
let love break through.
Where justice is destroyed:
let righteousness rule.
Where hope is crucified:
let faith persist.
Where greed is dominant:
let generosity prevail.
Where truth is denied:
let the struggle continue.
Where laughter has dried up:
let music play on.
Where apathy paralyses:
let forgiveness break through.

Robin Green 'Let All the World' (USPG, London, 1990)