

Prayer of the Faithful

At the Death of Pope Francis

Brothers and sisters, our loving Creator has placed within our hearts a yearning to live, even in the face of death. Trusting in the immense mercy of the Father, and confident that eternal life awaits those who remain close to Jesus, we pray now for Pope Francis and for all those whom he embraced with special care and attention.

For our brother, Pope Francis, whose constant message of hope and mercy touched and transformed many hearts; may he now experience God's mercy and love face to face.

For our Holy Father, who taught us that Christ loved us so much that he earnestly desires that we become one with him each time we celebrate the Eucharist; may he now be welcomed to the banquet that has been prepared for all believers.

For Francis, who washed the feet of prisoners, embraced and consoled terrified refugees, and who wept for the victims of war; may his example lead others to soften their hardened hearts and strengthen their resolve to reach out to those most vulnerable on the margins of life.

For the Pope, who took the name Francis to call to mind the wonders of God's creation and the role each of us must accept to protect and cherish this irreplaceable gift for future generations.

For our earthly shepherd Francis, who was never afraid to smell like the flock he tended; may he now know the embrace of Jesus the Good Shepherd, who forgives whatever sins he may have committed.

For Pope Francis, who taught us that Jesus, who took on our human flesh, truly knows what it is to suffer, and that when we suffer and face death, God remains close to us; may all those living in pain and chronic and terminal illness know that God will never abandon them.

For all those who will grieve the loss of our Holy Father, that his faith may strengthen theirs and be a beacon of hope and source of courage in troubling times.

God our shelter and our strength, you listen in love to the cry of your people; hear the prayers we offer for your servant, Pope Francis, and all our departed brothers and sisters. Cleanse them from their sins and grant them the fulness of redemption.

We ask this through Christ our Lord— AMEN

