

Practical Exercise #1 -- Is this Christian?

Litany for the Diaspora

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, hear us.

O Christ, hear us.

O God, the Father in heaven;

Have mercy upon us.

O God, the Son, Redeemer of the world;

Have mercy upon us.

O God, the Holy Ghost;

Have mercy upon us.

Be gracious unto us.

Spare us, good Lord.

Be gracious unto us.

Help us, good Lord.

From all evil;

From all error;

From all sin:

Of having other gods than Thee, the only true God;

Of blasphemy of Thy Holy Name in our thoughts, with our mouths or in our lives;

Of neglect of Thy Presence in the Divine Service and not hearing Thy Word or receiving Thy Sacrament;

Of lack of fear, reverence and respect to parents and others that have authority over us;

Of malice, hatred, party spirit and vindictiveness;

Of impurity in thought, word or deed;

Of falsehood and injustice in contracts and promises, and false pretenses and theft;

Of sneering, exaggeration and slander;

Of sloth in vocation, discontent with our stewardship, and envy and covetousness;

From all sin:

Good Lord, deliver us.

From the crafts and assaults of the devil;

From sudden and evil death;

From pestilence and famine;

From war and bloodshed;

From sedition and rebellion;

From all calamity by fire and water;
And from everlasting death:
Good Lord, deliver us.

Deliver us:
By the Mystery of Thy Holy Incarnation;
By Thy Holy Nativity;
By Thy Baptism, Fasting and Temptation;
By Thine Agony and Bloody Sweat;
By Thy Cross and Passion;
By Thy Precious Death and Burial;
By Thy Glorious Resurrection and Ascension;
And by the Coming of the Holy Ghost, the Comforter:
Help us, good Lord.

In all time of our tribulation;
In all time of our isolation and loneliness;
In all time of our prosperity;
In the hour of death;
And in the day of judgment:
Help us, good Lord.

We poor sinners do beseech Thee;
To hear us, O LORD God.
And to rule and govern Thy Holy Christian Church;
To sustain and uphold all Christians in this world, especially those souls
who are in the Diaspora;
To preserve all pastors and ministers of Thy Church, in the true
knowledge
 and understanding of Thy Word, and in holiness of life;
To sustain and uphold the brotherhood in this world, especially those men
who are lonely pastors;
To put an end to all schisms and causes of offence;
To bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived;
To beat down Satan under our feet;
To send faithful laborers into Thy harvest;
To accompany Thy Word with Thy Spirit and grace;
To raise up them that fall, and to strengthen such as do stand;
And to comfort and aid the weak-hearted and distressed;
We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

To give all nations peace and concord;
To preserve our land from discord and contention;
To give to our land victory over Thy enemies;
To direct and defend our head of state, and all in authority;
And to bless and keep our magistrates, and all our people:
We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

To behold and succor all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation;
To protect all who travel by land or water;
To preserve all women in the perils of childbirth;

To protect all unborn children and infants unto Baptism;
To strengthen and keep all sick persons and children;
To set free all who are innocently imprisoned;
To keep all who are suffering for Thy Name's sake;
To defend and provide for all orphans and widows;
And to have mercy upon all men;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts;
To give and preserve to our use the fruits of the earth;
And graciously to hear our prayers:

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God!

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world;

Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world;

Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world;

Grant us Thy peace.

O Christ, hear us.

O Christ, hear us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Amen.

Grant, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, unto Thy Church, Thy Holy Spirit, and the wisdom which cometh down from above, that Thy Word, as becometh it, may not be bound, but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve Thee, and in the confession Thy Name abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father Who art in heaven,

Hallowed be Thy Name;

Thy Kingdom come;

Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven;

Give us this day our daily bread;

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;

And lead us not into temptation;

But deliver us from evil;

For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.