

March 2022 Prayer Guide - Greater Cincinnati Prayer Canopy

Our focus for March is to seek the Lord in repentance and unity as we enter the Lenten season - and also to pray urgently for the people of Ukraine.

As you enter into a time of prayer for our city, take a moment to clear your thoughts and to remember that the Lord is present with you now. Spend time now quieting your own mind, thank the Lord for his many blessings. Where it is appropriate, share with the Lord those thoughts or actions that are not of him and in some way keep us from Him, turn from them and seek the Lord.

March also begins the season of Lent. This is a time in which we seek ever deeper holiness and union with God by the removing of sin, barriers that limit and inhibit our love for and experience of the Lord. As we journey towards the Easter season of resurrection let us ask for insight into the things that might keep us from loving God ever more fully and in gratitude for the Lord's mercy ask for forgiveness and strength to move in the pilgrim way of holiness. ***Pause in Silence***

As you begin to pray for the intentions below, you are welcome to pray them aloud or within the silence of your own heart. It may be helpful to pray for one intention and to leave time for silence before moving on. For others a mantra of prayer, such as the Jesus Prayer, may be said between each intention, "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner."

Scriptural guides will also be included, mostly from the Psalms, the prayer book of the Church, and may be prayed. As you pray the Word of God to the Father, recognize the presence of the Holy Spirit in this holy hour of prayer. Distractions may arise in your time of prayer but simply allow them to pass and return to your intention. You are also welcome to include your own petitions within each theme as you pray.

O Christ, our Morning Star, Splendor of Light Eternal, shining with the glory of the rainbow, come and waken us from the grayness of our apathy, and renew us in your gift of hope. -Prayer of St. Bede

O Lord in your mercy, protect the people of Ukraine and their land; strengthen Ukrainians as they defend and fight for freedom and peace for their nation... Deliver them from evil and bring many to faith.

Arts/ Media

Praise is due to you, O God of Zion... -Ps. 65:1

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows forth his handiwork. -Ps. 19:1

Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for your masters... -Col. 3:23

For those artist communities in our city, including the many churches, Christians and especially the ministry of the Angelico Project, may their work show forth Your beauty and the goodness of Your creation. May those within our city be drawn to Your love in the experience of Your beauty through these communities and may those in the areas of marketing and media recognize the wonderful gift they have in proclaiming the glory of God and the dignity of all people. New artists that have recently moved into Cincinnati seeking to open a new art studio and academy to share the Gospel. May new creative platforms and expressions of art and media open avenues for connection to the love of God, especially in the lives of children. ***We pray to the Lord...***

Businesses

May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us... -Ps. 90:17

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. -Gen. 2:15

Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal. -Jn. 6:27

For all who labor in their specific fields, may their work contribute to the common good of our city and the flourishing of all life. May you be with the ministry of At Work on Purpose and their many partners, Jobs Plus and OCEAN and may all employers and employees seek the good of humanity in both profit and practice. We praise you, Heavenly Father, for the new branch location of the Black-owned Liberty Bank, and the work of the Community Economic Advancement Initiatives team. Bless their ongoing projects in Bond Hill and Roselawn and complete the Equity Fund for projects through investments by churches and individuals. ***We pray to the Lord...***

Churches

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. -Ps. 84:1-2

He is able to save completely, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession. - Heb. 7:25.

I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in Me through their word, that they may all be one. As You, Father, are in Me and I am in You, may they also be in Us, so that the world may believe that You have sent Me. - Jn. 17:20-21

Recognizing our unity as the body of Christ and fraternity in the waters of baptism bring us to a more full union in all charity and peace, taking to heart Christ's own prayer that we may be one. Through the empowering of Your Holy Spirit grant that we may act as Your instrument to bring about the salvation of many and to bring healing to all within Your body and of those within Your world. For an ever deepening unity of all Christians to the Gospel and to those who are unfamiliar with the love of Christ, may our hearts experience conversion and may all come to know of the saving love of Jesus. As we enter into this season of Lent may the people of God seek you with a whole hearted devotion and love. ***We pray to the Lord...***

Developmental Ministries, Social Services, Parachurch Ministries, and International Missions and the Persecuted Church

Happy are those who consider the poor; the Lord delivers them in the day of trouble. -Ps. 41:1

For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper. -Ps. 72:12

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and will be repaid in full. -Prov. 19:17

For those serving the needs of the poor in their own families and assisting the needs of others, may your Spirit be with them. For those proclaiming Your good news to the whole world, especially those where Your Church is attacked and looked at with scorn, may Your Word continue to bear fruit. We thank you for the decades of ministry that Roger Howell, President of City Gospel Mission, has given and pray for wisdom as the Mission seeks new leadership upon his retirement.

Pray for the continued work of the City Servants and the 7P's initiative. For the unified prayer movements seeking to start in both Dayton Ohio and Long Beach, California. Pray that through these groups new opportunities for city-transformation may occur. For Master Provisions and their longstanding request for a larger facility. For the upcoming Jack Deere and Randy Clark conferences and those in attendance, that the Spirit of God will be experienced in an impactful way. For the "40 Days For Life" Lenten campaign to end abortion and the 588 cities that will be engaging in this vigil. We lift up the persecuted church and ask you to encourage them! ***We pray to the Lord...***

Education

I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. -Ps. 32:8

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims His handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. -Ps. 19:1-2

There is gold, and abundance of costly stones; but the lips informed by knowledge are a precious jewel. -Prov. 20:15

For educators in our schools and homes, may they open up Your wonders in the exploration of Your creation. Grant them patience and fulfillment. For Cincinnati Public Schools, the numerous Catholic schools, homeschool groups, Whiz Kids and Evangelical schools, may your grace be upon them. We praise you, Lord, for the new branch campus of Gordon-Conwell seminary opening in our city, and the progress in funding a new Jesuit school to serve disadvantaged children. ***We pray to the Lord...***

Government

Unless the Lord builds this house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. -Ps. 127:1

O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill? Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart. -Ps. 15:1-2

Gideon said to them, "I will not rule over you, and my son will not rule over you; the Lord will rule over you." -Judges 8:23

Pray for the people of Ukraine and all those affected by the war. The ministry of My Home for Orphans. Pray for the poor and the children, and all those afraid. Pray for refugees and those without a home. Pray that governments seek to be peace-makers and care for the most vulnerable. For the Lord to bring us a new Police Chief for the blessing of our City. ***We pray to the Lord...***

Health Care

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits - who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases. -Ps. 103:2-3

A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a downcast spirit dries up the bones. -Prov. 17:22

Pray for a complete decline in Covid cases, strength and resolve in the spirits of health care workers and for new methods of treatment to end the pandemic. For all those who suffer from illness to experience peace and healing. **We pray to the Lord...**

Israel

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem... -Ps. 122:6

As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. -Rom. 11:26-31

For the people of Israel, those through whom came the salvation of all peoples in Jesus Christ and for whom the promise is given, bring peace. **We pray to the Lord...**

The Neighborhood of College Hill

The Lord gives strength to His people; the Lord blesses His people with peace. -Ps. 29:11

Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. -Ps. 34:14

For unity within the community for the benefit of all people. Peace and shalom amongst neighbors. The ministries of Jesus University, Art of Becoming, Whiz Kids and Treehouse Learning, College Hill Gardeners, along with the many schools within the area. For unity among the College Hill Ministerium coalition of churches, and the various evangelistic efforts in the community. Pray for an increase in racial unity and justice. **Lord, hear our prayer...**

Almighty God, You have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to You, and You have promised through Your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in His name You will be in the midst of them. Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of Your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.
-Prayer of St. John Chrysostom

We praise God for your prayers! Please email Laura at lburger@andersonhills.org if you have any prayer requests for next month. **Please use www.gcprayercanopy.net and the video there to invite other churches and individuals to pray with us!**