

Prayer of the Church
Third Sunday in Lent (Oculi)
20 March 2022

Merciful God, You do not change and are always ready to hear our prayer. May our eyes be ever fixed on You, that we would always be ready to receive Your forgiveness and help in time of need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty Father, we thank You that Christ has disarmed the devil and liberated us by His blood, bringing us into His ranks together with all the saints. Preserve all Christians in the faith until life's end. Do not permit anyone to abandon or blaspheme Your Spirit's work and the forgiveness of sins. Turn us in brotherly love toward one another to live always according to God's holy will. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, You call us to live in purity and holiness. Protect and guide Christian families to love and seek chastity and decency, learning to grow in virtue and all godly living. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, no kingdom divided against itself can stand and a house divided must fall. Graciously preserve our nation with its government. Frustrate the work of Satan and the seeds of destruction he would sow in every place were he not stayed by Your gracious hand. Unite our leaders and our people for a common good, while leading us to hope in that eternal kingdom which is not of this world. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, the strength of the weak, hear our prayers for all who are sick, anxious, lonely or oppressed in any way [*especially* _____]. Overcome the devil and his demons, that he would not lead any into despair, and grant Your healing and cleansing power to rest upon their bodies and minds. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed Lord, the mother of Your Son was blessed because she heard Your Word and kept it. Grant that we who hear Your Word would also treasure it in our hearts and minds and so receive Your eternal blessing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. **Amen.**