

LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY: We don't always now how, or what to pray.

Why we can always begin with the Lord's Prayer / Our Father!

A POWERFUL PRAYER: THE OUR FATHER (LORD'S PRAYER).

A form of the Lord's Prayer is found in all three synoptic Gospels.

-Matthew (Full text and what we read in the Liturgy and Mass)

-Mark (focuses on forgive trespasses).

-Luke (Similar to Matthew: We see God addressed as Father / His name is Hallowed / Ask for His Kingdom to come / For our Daily Bread / To Forgive Debt / and to Lead us not into temptation).

I will break this down starting with our second reading:

-Colossians: Baptism (Power): Original sin is washed away. We get to share in Jesus' Sonship, which gives us a participation in His Kingdom, and sharing in this Sonship repairs: thus connecting us again to a Father.

-Through Jesus we can call our Creator - Father.

THE CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE AND ALL THINGS IS NOW OUR FATHER!

WOW!

-Hallowed be thy name (Holy is thy name!). We start with true justice. Giving God what is first due to Him, by reverencing His Holy Name. Perfect way to start out a prayer.

Then we ask for His Kingdom to Come

-We are asking for His perfect Will for us (God's will for us is "our ultimate good" thus, He isn't handing us a snake).

-Daily Bread: He sustains us with spiritual food, but, in His Will, we will always be under His Divine Providential Care.

-In Luke (our translation uses the word Debt) / Justice for our sins is death. But through Baptism we are released from this punishment.

-God releases us from this debt.

Imagine if we did this (in our interior / and consciously) with others that have hurt us deeply / broken communion with us / Yet in our hearts, we release them from any debt owed to us. By simply saying **YOU OWE ME NOTHING! Leads to Forgiveness and Freedom / We are no longer held in the pain of the past, but move forward. If you want more on forgiveness go to this link...**

https://www.iopnc.org/files/ugd/1b84dc_559f185378c248a187a179c4255f6251.pdf

-Lead us not into temptation.

-The Greek used here means (trials that test us) (or temptation: when we desire, and/or have attraction to a sin/vice).

-(James 1:13) *“While experiencing temptation, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God himself tempts no one.”*

-James rejects the idea that God can lead us into sin.

-In this prayer, we are essentially praying the same prayer as Jesus when he said, *“If possible let this cup pass from me” (Matt. 26:39). “My Father, if it is possible, allow this cup to be taken from me. Yet let your will, not mine, be done.”*

-When we are subjected to a testing/trial (may we NOT be tempted to fall away from the Faith). May we acknowledge our weakness and our need for courage and strength from God / We need God and Grace!

-Revelation 7:14 *“And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”*

-satan is trying to snatch the faith away from us. These Saints persevered, and so shall we...Amen

THIS PRAYER IS GIVEN TO US BY JESUS: START WITH THIS PRAYER: PRAY EVERY DAY / IF JESUS GAVE IT TO ME / DAD-GUM IT / I'M PRAYING IT WITH THE CONFIDENCE AS A SON OF A FATHER, WHO IS GOD!

-Think how the Lord's Prayer (Our Father) links us to all of the great figures in Christian history, from Peter and Paul to Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Francis of Assisi, John Henry Newman, G.K. Chesterton, John Paul II, and right up to the present day.

Can you see how this prayer rightly orders us? We must put God's holy name first; we must strive to do his will in all things and at all times; we must be strengthened by spiritual food or we will fall; we must be agents of forgiveness; we must be able to withstand the dark powers.