



Notre Dame Morning Prayer February 10-14, 2020

+ = In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

Monday, February 10, 2020 - World Day for Consecrated Life

We recently celebrated the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple as a 40-day-old child. For Catholics, it was also the World Day for Consecrated Life when we remember all those who have decided to remain single and dedicate their lives to the service of others. Priests, nuns, and brothers show us in a unique way how we can love God and others by living a simple life.

Let us pray. + Lord, we are all called to love You and others, but You call each of us in a unique way to show this love. For some, it is in marriage, and others You call to a single life, reminding all of us that what truly matters is knowing You and loving You by loving others. We thank you for all who serve the Church and the world through consecrated life. No matter our path, help us to recognize that You made us for Yourself and that our hearts are restless until they find their rest in You. We pray this together with the words that You taught us: *Our Father*. Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. + Amen.

Tuesday, February 11, 2020 - World Day of the Sick

Today is World Day of the Sick, a yearly Catholic commemoration on the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes. Lourdes is a small town in France where Mary appeared in the 19th century and it is a place where many have received healing. On this day, we remember the sick in our community.

Let us pray. + God of healing and compassion, You shower us with Your infinite care, and You comfort all in pain and affliction. Look with abundant mercy on all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Grant healing and hope to the sick, the wounded, and the dying in their darkest hours, so they may witness the power of Your healing presence in the world. Be with those who are sick within our community and any facing a major illness. Be also with those dealing with colds and flus, and with any whose illness, whether of body or mind, is hidden: You, Lord, know their needs. We ask this through the intercessions of the Mother of God: *Hail Mary*. + Amen.

Wednesday, February 12, 2020 - Black History Month

During Black History Month, we reflect on the ways in which black people have been mistreated through slavery, violence, and racism, not only in other parts of the world but also in Canada, but we also focus on the incredible contributions black people have made. Celebrating the value of others helps us to turn away from thinking less of others.

Let us pray. + Loving God, You created all human beings in Your image and likeness. Through that image, You call on us to reflect Your goodness, justice, and love to all the world. Remind us that when we speak out for justice, mercy, and compassion, we are displaying the attributes we find in You. Show us how to respect Your image in all human beings. Help us to defend Your image in all human beings. We ask this through the prayer You gave Your Son: *Our Father*. Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. + Amen.

Thursday, February 13, 2020 - Valentine's Day coming and Open House

In the Bible, we read, "Live a life of love". Love is what we all desire, and for many, the most exciting form of love is romantic love. To be loved by another person as uniquely special is indeed wonderful, but all love can bless us - love in friendship, love from family, and ultimately love from God. And even if all other loves fail us, God's love is never ending. As we celebrate Valentine's Day tomorrow, may we recognize the many ways in which we are loved and that we can show love.

Let us pray. + God, You are love. You exist in the Trinity as the love between Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and You relate to us in love. May we accept Your love and share it with our families, with our friends, and with the person You may call us to care for in romantic love. May we recognize You as the source of true love and love others as You have loved us. Bless also our Open House tonight: help everyone with their final preparations and may we demonstrate well to all who attend the blessing we desire to be to our community. We pray this together with the words that You taught us: *Our Father*. Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. + Amen.

Friday, February 14, 2020 - Valentine's Day

Today is Valentine's Day, a day we associate with romance. Valentine's Day was originally created to remember a few early Christians named Valentine who were killed for their faith. One was a priest who, according to legend, while awaiting execution, prayed for the blind daughter of his jailer, who received her sight. He then wrote her a letter, which he signed "Your Valentine". Another Valentine was a bishop in Italy. According to legend, soldiers at the time were banned from getting married and Valentine ignored the order and blessed their marriages.

Let us pray. + Lord, we thank you that we can experience love in many forms, including the love of family and friends. On this day when we focus on romantic love, may we recognize that all love seeks the good of others. From the time of creation, you have given us romantic love as a sign of Your love for all people. May we respect its power and always use feelings of romantic love as inspiration to be attentive to the needs of others. We also thank you that the Open House last night went well and for all who helped make it a success. We look forward to those students who will be joining us in the next school year. We offer all our prayers through the prayers of Your Mother: *Hail Mary*. + Amen.