



PARA-LITURGY TO USHER IN THE NEW YEAR (2021)

HOPE: BELIEVE, LIVE AND GIVE

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Introduction

It is time to say our good byes to the old year, we remember the joys and sorrows of 2020. In facing the Pandemic and the related challenges, we are made to realise how much we need God and depend on His saving presence. In moments of uncertainty and pain of losses, God has carried us with love in the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and kept us safe through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Health

Let us pause for a moment and reflect on the past year. While we thank God for His goodness in keeping us safe, we also ask for forgiveness for our short comings:

1. For the times, when fear, anxiety and all negative emotional sentiments surfaced and we failed to trust in the mighty power of God to see us through this trying pandemic times.

Antiphon: Lord, have mercy.

Response: Lord, have mercy.

2. For the times, when our own needs and self-centeredness blinded us to the needs of others - especially the poor, the marginalized, the disfranchised, the abandoned, the elderly, the differently abled and the sick.

Antiphon: Christ, have mercy.

Response: Christ, have mercy.

3. For the times, our own spiritual and our family's needs were not given enough attention and had a negative consequence on our relationship both with God and within our families.

Antiphon: Lord, have mercy.

Response: Lord have mercy.

As we usher in the New Year 2021, let us pray to God for His Spirit to infill us and guide us in making wise decisions and open our hearts and minds to desire Him above all else. We ask for wisdom, strength and power to preserve in faith and love. Let us HOPE: BELIEVE, LIVE and GIVE

Scripture verse to meditate & Intercession

Isaiah 40:31 – but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Intercession: Heavenly Father, we seek your direction as each of us and our families enter into a new chapter in our life. Give us heart filled wisdom to hear your voice and fill us with an ardent desire to faithfully believe and follow Your will.

Lord hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

Jeremiah 29:11 – For I knew the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Intercession: Lord of hope, we ask that you give the leaders of all nations, clarity of vision to guide the world out of the current crisis, courage and will power to help and protect the innocent, the poor and those who are struggling to make a living by opening new opportunities and furnishing them with the resources they need to live with dignity.

Lord hear us.
Lord graciously hear us.

Proverbs 3:5-6 – Trust wholeheartedly in Yahweh, put no faith in your own perception; acknowledge him in every course you take, and he will see that your paths are smooth.

Intercession: Merciful God, grant strength and perseverance to all those who are working in the front and back lines developing an effective and safe control of the Covid-19 virus. Keep everyone safe and protected in your Most Sacred Heart which is burning with love for us.

Lord hear us.
Lord graciously hear us.

As Jesus taught us to pray, let us now recite the **Lord's Prayer**.

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. Amen.

Concluding Prayer

Eternal Father, as we step into 2021, help us to always keep in mind that You are our Emmanuel – “God is with us”. You have come to give us new life, peace and hope. We seek your humble providence and blessings to protect us against this pandemic. As we continue to live in hope, shine your light through us, may our lives be an example of the fruits of your spirit. May we make a difference in this world by believing, living and giving. Amen

On this feast of Mary Mother of God, we pray for her maternal intercession:

Hail Mary, Full of Grace,
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners now,
and at the hour of death. Amen

In this year dedicated to **St Joseph**, let us pray:

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.

Final blessings

(Numbers 6: 24-26)

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

Amen.

May He let his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

Amen.

May Almighty God show you his face and bring you peace.

Amen.

(You may incorporate a hymn of your choice either at the beginning or end)