

Presider

Opening:

Caring, compassionate, faithful God
you know our needs better than we do
and you are ever attentive to our prayer.
Accept our gratitude for all past blessings
and hear the concerns we have for our world.
Help us to be ever mindful of the needs of others
and to desire, passionately, the coming of your divine milieu.

Chair 1

We give thanks

for our communal life of faith
and your all embracing nearness

We give thanks

for our chairpeople and all community ministers
who serve us, lead us and hold us together

We give thanks

for our presiders, preachers, advocates and co-counsellors
whose good will and good words
make us hopeful about the future of faith
and who are our living connection with the universal church.

We give thanks

for NOVA's young people and new members
whose needs and questions keep us attentive
and flexible

We pray with confidence and hope

Response: the joy of God is our strength

Chair 2

We continue to give thanks

for church, for all communities of believers and,
especially, for this congregation of St. Clement.

May its vision stay true to your ^{spirit} vision, its outreach
bear fruit, and its members live at peace

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We give thanks

for our many freedoms - individual, social and political -

May we use them in favor of Spirit and Community
and for peace and justice

We give thanks

for the challenges and problems which come our way,
in NOVA. May we see them as opportunities to greater
consciousness, increased cooperation and improved,
new structures

We give thanks

for intentional, small faith communities, everywhere.

May they survive, prosper and truly benefit God's people

We pray with confidence and hope

Response: The joy of God is our strength

Chair 2

We ask for courage and wisdom
for when it goes hard with us.

May we remember you are a God of ever-new life
and hope and trustworthiness of our faith

We ask for courage and wisdom
for the upcoming year of discernment.

May our deliberations strengthen NCUA and
help us make timely choices

We ask for courage and wisdom

in our personal vocations as well as in our work
as parents, professionals, citizens and artisans
of daily life. May our day-to-day work be blessed
with commitment, spirit and excellence
and may it serve well all your people.

We pray with confidence and hope

Response: the joy of God is our strength

For what else shall we pray?

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After every 3 petitions

a music leader gathers up the prayers with:

"We pray with confidence and hope"

Response: the joy of God is our strength

Presider Closing:

Gracious and merciful God

attune us to your truth

and help us to pray

in and through your Spirit.

May we come to see life and the universe

as through your eyes.

May we long for your creation

to be whole and holy;

persevere us in this longing

for your joy's sake. Amen

Prayer of the Faithful - Cont'd.

- NOVA Presiders
- NOVA Affirmants

We also pray for peace and justice,
especially in the trouble spots of our world

We pray for all displaced persons, refugees
and immigrants

We pray for all who labor too hard, too long
and still can not make ends meet

We pray for intentional, eucharistic faith-
communities everywhere

For what else shall we pray?

Gracious God:

You promised to hear us and look after us.
You also invite us to care and nurture
those who are in need, greater than ours.
Help us to make real your reign, on earth.

April 18, 99

Let us now pray for our church and for God's World:

• For the church and all God's faithful, that those who lead may be ^{compassionate} servants and minister in truth and gentleness — we pray → God graciously hear us.

• For the new bishop of No. Va. that he may be spirit-led and make conciliation possible
we pray → God, graciously hear us.

• For the newly baptized everywhere that their faith may deepen in a circle of supportive community;
we pray → God, graciously hear us

• For the leaders of nations, esp. those of the USA that they ^{may} govern judiciously and through cooperation & compromise keep peace in our world
we pray → God, graciously hear us.

• For the peaceful progress of the NATO summit, next weekend ... and a change-of-heart concerning Kosovo.
We pray → God, graciously hear us.

• For the success of this week's conference ^{in D.C.} on the crisis concerning male black youth
we pray → God, graciously hear us

• For what else shall we pray?

For these intentions and all the prayers which remain in our hearts, too deep for expression

We pray → God, graciously hear us

Prayer for the Jewish People--Let Us Pray:

Bless, O God, the Jewish people
who provided us with the roots of our
faith. We are grateful for their
witness.

Grant them peace of soul, as a people,
and keep us from ever again
contributing to their store of suffering.
Also, grant them peace in their homeland.

Good Friday, 1989
SMD

Prayer for Christian Unity--Let Us Pray:

O God, Who in the mystery of the Holy Trinity
has sanctified the notion of diversity within unity,
help us to achieve a human unity amidst the diversity
of our approaches to you.

Help us, O God, to avoid the snares of institutional pride
in the validity of our own beliefs and keep our minds
and hearts open to the universal truths we all share as
co-creators with You of the cosmic harmony within Your
reign.

Good Friday, 1989
GED

NOVA LITURGY, Dec. 30, 1990
Feast of the Holy Family

Prayers of the Faithful

Let us now pray for our spiritual and worldly needs;
the response is: Lord, hear our prayer.

We ask you, O God, to bless all leaders of the Church
that they may be guided by your Word and
minister unselfishly. Let us pray to the Lord/
Lord, hear our prayer.

Bless also all civic rulers; may peace and justice be
their standards and cooperation their watchword.
Let us pray to the Lord....

May our understanding and definition of family be
broadened so that all who are involved in mutual
caring and face-to-face relationships be granted
the social recognition and protections for carrying
out their obligations and commitment. Let us pray
to the Lord....

May parents and ^{other} primary caretakers come to their job
with the maturity and competence their task
deserves and may they experience the quiet
satisfactions which will help them to carry on.
Let us pray to the Lord...

May children and ^{over adult} dependents, be able to trust their
elders or guardians, ^{respectively...} enjoy honest communication
and feel content in each other's presence. Let
us pray to the Lord....

May family life prepare us for community and ever-wider
outreach and may healthy and strong roots enable
us to live independently but connected. Let us
pray to the Lord....

May the family of God be a safe harbor and place of
growth for all of us, but especially for those
who experienced a lack in their natural families.
Let us pray to the Lord.... ^{blood}

Please offer your own petitions.

Hear, O God, these spoken prayers and those which
remain unvoiced in our hearts. May we always
feel free to approach you with our needs.
AMEN.

Let us pray also for
the unity of the human
family, world-wide...
that we value what we
have in common over
that which divides us.
Let us pray to the Lord...