



HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH

National Catholic Church
15 THAYER STREET

SOUTH DEERFIELD, MA 01373

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**TODAY – JANUARY 25, 2025
3rd SUNDAY IN THE ORDINARY**

9:00 am – Holy Mass of the Eucharist

10:00 am - Monthly meeting of the Parish
Committee of Holy Name of Jesus

OPENING HYMN

TO THEE WE COME, O LORD, OUR GOD

To Thee we come, O Lord, our God,
Before Thine altar, Father

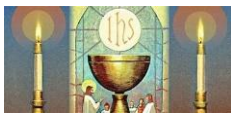
Thou knowest best our yearning hearts.
This supplication answer.

Lift up from want Thy people, Lord,
Bless us, O God; O Father, bless our toil.

Under Thy cross we stand prepared, To
serve Thee with devotion.

Be it with sweat of blood or tears, Or
humble resignation.

For we Thy people are, O Lord,
Save us, O God; O Father, bless our toil.



ENTRANCE HYMN
(Psalm 147:1-3)

- C. How good it is to celebrate our God in song.
How sweet to give fitting praise. The Lord
rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the dispersed
of Israel.
- R. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their
wounds.

- C. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the
Holy Spirit.
- R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall
be, world without end. Amen.

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the Highest,
And peace to His people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God, and Father
We worship You; we give You thanks
We praise you for Your glory
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father
Lord God, Lamb of God
You take away the sins of the world
Have mercy on us
You are seated at the right hand of the Father
Receive our prayer
For you alone are the Holy One
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, With the Holy Spirit
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

- C. The Lord be with you.
- R. And also with you.
- C. Let us pray. Life giving Father, Your Spirit
descended upon Your Son in the synagogue. By the
gifts of the same Spirit enable us to fulfill Your
calling by being instruments of Your love and
peace. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ,
Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
- R. Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF
NEHEMIAH THE PROPHET
(Nehemiah 8:2-4, 5-6. 8-10)**

Ezra the priest, brought the law before the assembly,
which consisted of men, women, and those children
old enough to understand. Standing at one end of the

open place that was before the Water Gate, where he read out of the Book from daybreak till midday, in the presence of the men, the women, and those children old enough to understand; and all the people listened attentively to the book of the law. Ezra the scribe, stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the occasion. He opened the scroll so that all the people might see it, for he was standing higher up than any of the people and, as he opened it, all the people rose. Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people, their hands raised high, answered, "Amen, Amen!" Then they bowed down and prostrated themselves before the LORD, their faces to the ground. Ezra read plainly from the book of the law of God, interpreting it so that all could understand what was read. Then Nehemiah, that is, His Excellency, and Ezra the priest-scribe, and the Levites, who were instructing the people, said to all the people: 'Today is holy to the LORD your God. Do not be sad, and do not weep,' for all the people were weeping, as they heard the words of the law. He said further: "Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared; for today is holy to our LORD. Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the LORD must be your strength!"

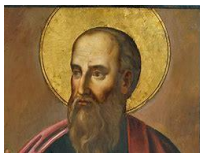
C. The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL
(Psalm 30:11,13)

V. Hear, O Lord, have mercy on me; Lord, be my helper.

R. With my whole being I sing endless praise to You. O Lord, my God, forever will I give You thanks.



**A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF
PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS
(1 Corinthians 12: 12-30)**

Brothers and sisters: As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit, we were all baptized into one body, whether

Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

Now the body is not a single part, but many. If a foot should say, "Because I am not a hand I do not belong to the body," it does not for this reason belong any less to the body. Or if an ear should say, "Because I am not an eye I do not belong to the body," it does not for this reason belong any less to the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God placed the parts, each one of them, in the body as he intended. If they were all one part, where would the body be? But as it is, there are many parts, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I do not need you," nor again the head to the feet, "I do not need you." Indeed, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are all the more necessary, and those parts of the body that we consider less honorable we surround with greater honor, and our less presentable parts are treated with greater propriety, whereas our more presentable parts do not need this. But God has so constructed the body to give greater honor to a part that is without it, so that there may be no division in the body, but that the parts may have the same concern for one another.

If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy. Now you are Christ's body, and individually parts of it. Some people God has designated in the church to be, first, apostles; second, prophets; third, teachers; then, mighty deeds; then gifts of healing, assistance, administration, and varieties of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work mighty deeds? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?

C. The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE
(Psalm 146:2)

C. Alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

V. Praise the Lord, my soul; I shall praise the Lord all my life, sing praise to my God while I live.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.



**THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE
(Luke 1:1-4; 14-21)**

C. The Lord be with you.

R. And with you.

C. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

R. Glory be to You, O Lord.

“Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as those who were eyewitnesses, from the beginning and ministers of the Word have handed them down to us, I too have decided, after investigating everything accurately anew, to write it down in an orderly sequence for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may realize the certainty of the teachings you have received.

Jesus returned to Galilee, in the power of the Spirit, and news of Him, spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all. He came to Nazareth, where He had grown up, and went according to His custom came into the synagogue on the sabbath day. He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed Me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord. Rolling up the scroll, He handed it back to the attendant and sat down, and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at Him. He said to them, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

C. The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH – THE NICENE CREED

I believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
Of all that is seen and unseen.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
The only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father.
God from God, Light from Light,
True God from true God,
begotten not made.

Of one being with the Father
Through Him, all things were made

For us and for our salvation.

He came down from heaven:
By the power of the Holy Spirit
He was born of the Virgin Mary

And became man.

For our sake, He was crucified
under Pontius Pilate
He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again
In fulfillment of the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and
Is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory
To judge the living and the dead
And His kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The Lord and Giver of Life

Who proceeds from the Father
With the Father and the Son
He is worshipped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in One, Holy, Catholic
and Apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.

I look for the resurrection of the dead
And the + life of the world to come.



OFFERTORY VERSE

(Psalm 146:8)

C. Let us pray: The Lord gives sight to the blind. The
Lord raises up those who are bowed down; the
Lord loves the righteous.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Loving God, You have created us and called us to be Your disciples. Make holy these gifts we offer You today and strengthen us in that calling. We ask through our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.



ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Let us Pray: Most loving Jesus, I adore You in the Most Blessed Sacrament, in which You are truly present. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart and heal my soul. I embrace You and unite myself with You; may I never be separated from You. In flame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord and Savior. Amen.



COMMUNION VERSE

(Exodus 19:5-6a)

V. Therefore, if you hearken to My voice and keep My covenant, you shall be My special possession, dearer to Me than all other people, though all the earth is Mined. You shall be to Me a kingdom of priests, a holy nation.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

C. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

C. Let us pray. Eternal Father, in Your Son the prophecies of the scriptures have been fulfilled. Through this Holy Communion may we receive the strength to faithfully fulfill the ministry that You have entrusted to our care. We ask this through us Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

R. Amen.



RELECTIONS ON TODAY'S GOSPEL

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me, to bring glad tidings to the poor.”

We read, that Jesus was baptized by John the Baptizer, in the Jordan River. c. 27 AD, early in the “fifteenth year” of Tiberius. His baptism was to be recorded in all four Gospels

We also read in the Gospel of Luke, that Jesus, after being baptized by John, where he [John] witnessed and testified the coming of the Holy Spirit unto Jesus.

In Luke 1:14, we read: “Afterward, Jesus returned to Galilee, in the power of the Spirit, and news of Him spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all.”

We read, that Jesus, goes back to the town of Nazareth, where He was raised as a child, and at the age of 30, the age which has been related as coming into manhood as well as the age of priests and prophets, enters the main synagogue in Nazareth for worship. He is handed a scroll and turns to the prophet Isaiah 61:1-2 of the Old Testament and proclaims:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.”

We further read that He gave back the scroll to the attendant and proclaimed: "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

I wonder what the Learned, those who were gathered that day, must have thought of this declaration and proclamation. Many of us would think there was a happy ending to this story, but His declaration did not bring praise, but rather condemnation.

“They began to ask: “Is He not the son of Joseph? Jesus answered their blindless inquiries and narrowness and said, “Verily I say unto you, no

prophet is accepted in his own country.”

I think one of the valuable lessons found in today’s Gospel, are people, even when they hear truth, question the source and choose not to accept it. But, Jesus declared that the Lord sent Him to “proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of the sight to the blind.” I believe that the “recovery of the sight of the blind” was not limited to His healings of those who suffered from physical blindness, but rather Jesus came as the “Light of the World” to bring “enlightenment and illumination” to all those who lived in darkness and would hear and have faith in His teachings and witnessed to His healings.

We read, that the end of the 4th chapter of Luke, things got worst for Jesus before they began.

“And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, and [they] rose up, and threw Him out of the city, and led Him unto the brow of the hill upon which their city was built, that they might cast Him down headlong. But He, passing through the midst of them, went His way and came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and taught them on the sabbath days.”

And so, we come to read and understand in John 1:11:” He came unto His own, and His own received Him not.”



EZRA & NEHEMIAH

Ezra was a priest and Nehemiah was a chief and scribe. They were contemporaries and their books complement each other.

In the beginning they formed one book in the Hebrew Canon and in the Septuagint Greek. Both books place an emphasis on the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem, the priesthood, and the worship of the exiles from Babylon.

In a historical sense they form three distinct time periods. In Ezra 1-6, the history of the return colony to Jerusalem, from the first arrival of the 42,360 exiles under Zerubbabel and Joshua in 536 BC till the dedication of the temple in 516 BC. In Ezra 7-10, it describes Ezra’s arrival in Jerusalem in 536 BC

and the reforms he introduced. In Nehemiah 1-13, it speaks of the joint activities between Ezra and Nehemiah in rebuilding the walls in Jerusalem during the Nehemiah’s first visit to Jerusalem in 445 BC. More particularly, in Nehemiah 8-10, the first public reading of the law and the celebration of the Feast of the Tabernacles takes place and in Nehemiah 11-13, it lists the princes, priests and Levites when Nehemiah revisits Jerusalem in 432 BC. Both books cover a period of 103 years (536-433 BC). During this time, we are also introduced to Esther, a most famous woman who also wrote an Old Testament book.



THE BODY OF CHRIST

I personally believe, as I am sure that for many, church leaders, that one of the most important terms that binds all Christians and churches together is the phrase “**The Body of Christ.**”

Today, we hear again, from the Apostle Paul, who speaks in his First Letter to the people of Corinth, of the “correlation” of the various parts of the physical body and how they correspond to the importance of unity. Paul spoke of “spiritual” gifts and various ministries, through the “manifestation of the Spirit” as a member of the “Body of Christ.”

We are reminded of last week’s second reading, also taken from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians where he writes:

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

“Brothers and sisters: There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit. To one is given through the Spirit the expression of wisdom; to another, the expression of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another, faith by the same Spirit; to another, gifts of healing by the one Spirit; to

another, mighty deeds; to another, prophecy; to another, discernment of spirits; to another, varieties of tongues; to another, interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them individually to each person as He wishes”

This reading also calls upon all to seek these gifts, for the sanctification and the edification of the” Body of Christ,” which is the Church.

Saint Paul, who is known as an “Apostle to the Gentiles,” compliments Saint Peter, who is known, as the “Apostle to the Jews.” They both brings the “Good News” of Jesus.

In my study, I am currently reading from the New Testament, in the Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible of Paul’s Letter to the Romans, which tells of the salvation of the Jews and the Gentiles, whether circumcised as with the Jews through the covenant with God and Abraham and the Gentiles, who were uncircumcised and had not covenant with God as with Abraham. Beginning with chapter 2 of Roman and continuing through chapter 3, we begin to see what is known as “justification by faith.” In Roman 3:21-24, we read:

“ But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ^[d] for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.”

Eloquently Paul, in his letter to the Romans unites all, both Jew and Gentile into the Body of Christ, being defined in his letter to the Ephesians 4:5-6 as the “One Faith, one Lord, One Baptism,”

In today’s second reading, we hear Paul who continues to speak in his 1st Letter to the Corinthians 12:12-13 and continues to verse 31:

“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.”



OUR PARISH CALENDAR

January 27th – February 2nd

8:45 am Liturgy of the Hours

9:00 am Holy Mass of the Eucharist

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| Mon. 1/27 | Private Prayer & Meditation
John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor
Julian of Lemans, Bishop
Vitalian of Rome, Bishop |
| Tue. 1/28 | Mass of Thanksgiving
John Reomay, Abbot
Paulinus of Aquileia, Bishop
Peter Nolasco, Priest |
| Wed. 1/29 | Mass of Health & Healing
Francis de Sales, Bishop
Gildas the Wise, Abbot
Suplicius, Bishop |
| Thurs. 1/30 | Mass to the Holy Saints of God
Martina of Rome, Virgin & Martyr
Barsimaeus of Edessa, Bishop
Bathildis, Widow |
| Fri. 1/31 | Mass to the Holy Angels of God
Cyrus & John, Martyrs
Marcellia, Widow
Aidan of Ferns, Bishop |
| Sat. 2/1 | Mass to the Most Holy Name of Jesus
Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr
Pionius, Priest & Martyr
Brigid, Abbess |



NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2025
SOLEMNITY – PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD
SCOUT SUNDAY

**9:00 am – Holy Mass of the Eucharist in the
Traditional Rite of the PNCC.**

Please note: On this day, we will bless candles as well as bless the throats of those in attendance wishing to receive this traditional blessing.



PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

In our prayers, let us please remember all our brothers and sisters, who seek the blessings of God for health and healing.

Let us especially remember our dear brothers and sisters;

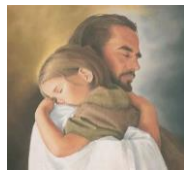
George Sadowski – who is presently at the North Quabbin Rehab Center in Athol, MA

Wayne Shaw – Presently residing at home.

Karen Herzig – Currently residing at home.

Through various privacy laws, I am hesitant to mention others, respecting their privacy. A complete list of names whom we pray for, are mentioned during our weekly Mass of Health and Healing.

Let us pray. O Lord, God of mercies, in Your kindness stretch out Your hand and heal all our brothers and sisters who are in any way ailing. Make them worthy of health, deliver them from their present sicknesses and illnessness and grant them recovery in Jesus' holy name. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



OUR PARISH OUTREACH PROGRAMS

“Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.” - Philippians 2:4

As Pastor, of Holy Name of Jesus PNCC, I am so proud of our Parish family, here in South Deerfield, who throughout the past year of 2024, supported and became deeply involved themselves into so many “outreach” programs in helping others: from donating non-perishable food items for our monthly “grocery giveaways,” to being involved in other ministries, such as “Adopt-A-Family,” the “Warm the Children” and “Socks for Vets” programs. I also

want to thank all those who made monetary donations this past year to help others. May God bless all our endeavors.

In this New Year of 2025, we continue to ask for assistance and donations, if possible, for non-perishable food items that may be left in our Parish Hall. We are also currently collecting toiletries for **“survival kits,”** for the Northampton Survival Center which may be left in the vestibule of our church. A flyer of these needs of personal toiletries, etc. may be found in the vestibule of the church.

For monetary donations, personal checks may be made out to **“Holy Name of Jesus PNCC.”** with the memo **“HNJ Mission Fund.”** May God bless all our endeavors as we strive to help others in need.



Our Food Ministry: “To Feed the Hungry”

“I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat.” - Matthew 25: 35.

The next date for helping those in need will be held on **Saturday, February 15th**, from **10 am** while supplies last.

I want to thank Josh and Mary Tudryn for helping with this month’s food giveaway.

Again, we ask for the assistance of our parishioners and friends, if possible, in donating non-perishable food items that are used in our monthly food ministry. For more information, please ask either Fr. Koerber or a member of the Parish Committee.



Collecting plastic tops

One of our dear parishioners, Maryanna Foster, who works closely with veterans, has asked for our help in collecting **white or clear plastic bottle tops** that will be donated to aid in the making of prosthetics for veterans in need. A collection container has been set up in the vestibule of our church. Please help donate your plastic tops to this new ministry. May God bless all of our endeavors.



Can Soda Tabs

As most of you know, we are also collecting tabs from soda cans that are then donated to aid the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled children. Please save your can soda tabs. There are containers that are located in our Parish vestibule for this purpose. Thank you for your help and may God bless.



BLESSING OF HOMES

I will continue this week to visit the homes of our parishioners for the traditional blessing with chalk. If you wish to have your home blessed this year, I will be placing calls for blessings.



ED MISSION & EVANGELISM COMMISSION WEDNESDAYS AT NOON – CALL TO PRAYER

On Wednesdays at 12:00 Noon, during the month of January, a “call to prayer” the following two prayers are said.

Let us Pray: O Lord, Jesus Christ, Who said: “Ask, and you shall receive; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you,” give, we ask You, the grace of Your most divine love, that with all our hearts, words and works we may love you and never cease to praise You. May we revere and love Your Holy Name for You will fail to govern those whom You establish in Your love. You live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed by 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 of our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and led us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.



MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY

Today, throughout the PNCC is Music Scholarship Sunday, which is dedicated throughout the Parishes of the PNCC. and a special collection will be taken following Holy Mass to provide help to the organists and music directors of our Church. All contributions are greatly appreciated.



A PROBLEM WITH AI

Recently, after doing an update to my computer, I found that I had acquired a new friend, who claims that it can help me to re-write my articles. This friend, who came with this update is called “Co-Pilot” and appears in Microsoft applications. But it is known, throughout today’s technology by other names, but is commonly known as “AI” or “Artificial Intelligence.” So, what is AI and what is a major problem, in my opinion, with AI?

Artificial intelligence is defined as:

- the application of computer systems able to perform tasks or produce output normally requiring human intelligence, especially by applying machine learning techniques to large collections of data:

While I personally believe that there are many positive advancements through using “AI,” such in dealing with complicated computations and problems that can be resolved in science, medicine and other fields of study in the technological world of the 21st century, I also am leery about the other definition of “AI”

- a program or other pieces of software that performs tasks or produces output normally requiring human intelligence:

I personally believe, in dealing with “AI,” there is the potential and inherent robbing and “diluting” of the creativity of an individual who becomes dependent and will eventually rely solely upon the use of “Artificial Intelligence” to become their standard and other self. I wonder what great authors such as Mark Twain & Charles Dickens would of the thought of using “AI” in their writings.



A MORNING DEVOTIONAL

Lord, come to my assistance. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

**Christ is the world's Light, He and none other;
Born in darkness, He became my brother,
If I have seen Him, I have seen the Father;
Glory to God on high.**

**Christ is the world's Peace, He and none other;
No man can serve Him and despise his brother,
Who else unites me, in God the Father;
Glory be to God on high.**

**Christ is the world's Life, He and none other;
Sold, once for silver, murdered here, my brother
He, who redeems me, reigns with God the Father
Glory be to God on high.**

A DEVOTIONAL READING **(Romans 12:14-16)**

Let love be sincere; hate what is evil, hold on to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; anticipate one another in showing honor. Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the holy ones, exercise hospitality. Bless those who persecute [you], bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Have the same regard for one another; do not be haughty but associate with the lowly; do not be wise in your own estimation. Do not repay anyone evil for evil; be concerned for what is noble in the sight of all. If possible, on your part, live at peace with all.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord, I praise You with my lips, and with my life and heart. My very existence is a gift from You; to You I offer all that I have and ever will be. Be with me this day and may I be guided by Your Holy Spirit to help and assist others in need and be faithful as a member of the "Body of Christ." All of this I pray in the name of Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit. Amen.



AN EVENING DEVOTIONAL

Lord, come to my assistance. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

**O Christ, You are the light and day
Which drives away the night,
The ever-shining Sun of God
And pledge of future light.**

**As now the ev'ning shadows fall
Please grant me, Lord, I pray,
A quiet night to rest in you
Until the break of day.**

**Remember me, Your mortal one,
I humbly ask, O Lord,
That may Your presence be in my soul
Be now as my great reward.**

A DEVOTIONAL READING **(1 Peter 1:3-5)**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you who by the power of God are safeguarded through faith, to a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the final time. In this you rejoice, although now for a little while you may have to suffer through various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold that is perishable even though tested by fire, may prove to be for praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

CLOSING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, I thank You for guiding me this day and as I come to the close of this day, I come to You, the Light that never fades, Shine forth in the darkness of this night. May my evening prayer rise up to You, and may Your blessings come down upon me and my loved ones. Lord, in You I put my trust, never let me be confounded. In You I find my true pasture of rest and comfort. All this I pray in the name of the Most Holy Trinity. Amen.