

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH AND VICTIMS OF ABUSE
Archdiocese of Cincinnati
Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
September 14

Sample Liturgical Texts for Mass

PENITENTIAL ACT

Celebrant: **Brothers and sisters,**
let us acknowledge our sins
and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

Deacon/Cantor: **Lord Jesus,**
you saved humanity by the wood of the cross:
Lord, have mercy. *R. Lord, have mercy.*

Deacon/Cantor: **Christ Jesus,**
you bring light to those in darkness:
Christ, have mercy. *R. Christ, have mercy.*

Deacon/Cantor: **Lord Jesus,**
you are the Savior of the world:
Lord, have mercy. *R. Lord, have mercy.*

Celebrant: **May Almighty God have mercy on us,**
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

Celebrant: With faith in Jesus' triumph over suffering and death, let us bring our prayers before our loving God.

Deacon/Reader: For Pope Francis, bishops, priests, deacons, and all who lead us: may they follow the example of Christ, the Good Shepherd, who guides and guards his flock, no matter the cost. We pray to the Lord.

For victims of abuse, for their families, and for all affected by this crisis in the Church: may they find healing and wholeness through the outpouring of God's mercy. We pray to the Lord.

For all members of the Church who carry the cross of Christ: may we commit ourselves to speaking out against injustice and to finding ways to effect change. We pray to the Lord.

For all entrusted with the care of children: may they always model the love of Jesus, and safeguard against anything contrary to the Gospel. We pray to the Lord.

For the sick and dying: may they experience the compassionate care of loving families and communities of faith. We pray to the Lord.

Additional intercessions may be added for the needs of the local community.

If the Vocations Prayer is prayed at another time, the celebrant concludes in these or similar words:

**Celebrant: Almighty God,
we ask you to hear our prayers
and to grant us healing and hope
through the mystery of the Holy Cross.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**