



MERCYHURST UNIVERSITY

ONLINE PRAYER BOOK

Initiated by Sister Lisa Mary McCartney, RSM, a committee was formed to begin work on a prayer book specifically designed for the Mercyhurst University community. University Chaplain Fr. Jim Piszker was recently given leadership of the project. It was decided that rather

Prayer by Thomas Merton

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this, you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

For our Student Body:

Generous God, guide and protect our students. Direct this academic year with a realization of our hope for them, that their studies contribute to their growth and maturity and that their campus involvement might awaken and deepen their love of Mercyhurst and increase their capacity to give service Beyond the Gates. May they be a blessing to Mercyhurst and bring the university energize, confidence and hope. Amen.

Prayer for a New School Year

Spirit of God, fill our hearts with a desire to seek truth and rejoice in beauty.

Help us to know what is pleasing to you and to understand what is right and good in your sight.

Give us the spirit of learning that we may please you by our thoughts and love you in your creation.

Give all teachers your constant encouragement and guide them in their good work.

Spirit of God, make us effective witnesses of your truth to all whose lives we touch. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

Amen.

Unknown

For our students in the health care area:

A Blessing for Caregivers

May you see with tender eyes

The wounds of those before you.

May you hear with well-tuned ears

The unspoken needs of those whose voices are muted.

May you hold with gentle hands

The bodies and the spirits of those you care for.

May the beauty of soul,

The strength of spirit,

The wholeness of being

Lead you, inspire you

And let you know your own beauty of soul,

Strength of spirit,

Wholeness of being.

May you know that

As you care for others,

God cares for you, sees you,

Holds you tenderly.

Amen.

From the Catholic Health Association of the U.S.

A Blessing of Healing Hands

Yours are the hands that touch lives.

Yours are the hands reaching out with compassion,

Taking time to show care, swiftly taking action.

Yours are the hands gently touching your patients.

You touch families, too.

Yours are the hands that show you care.

You lift the hearts of those who suffer.

Your hands celebrate the joy of healing.

Your hands bless all they touch with the spirit of compassion,

Thank you for sharing your abundance and gifts,

For touching lives and lifting spirits.

Blessings and thanks for the many works of your hands.

May your hands bring healing to all those you touch.

With an anointing, the blessing said is

"May God bless your hands for healing."

From the Catholic Health Association of the U.S.