

April Prayers - Month of The Blessed Sacrament

The month of April is dedicated to the Blessed Sacrament, the source and summit of our Christian life. Jesus Himself, body, blood, soul, and divinity, is present in the Sacred Host. In a tangible way, Jesus remains with us and is available to us, in our churches and tabernacles. What a great comfort and consolation amid our earthly journey, that we can have such assurance that He never leaves us. In this month, it is fitting to pray for increased faith in Jesus' presence in the Blessed Sacrament. Pray for a deeper love of Jesus and an understanding of His love for us, made known through this sacrament.

St. Ignatius of Loyola said of devotion to the Blessed Sacrament: "Jesus in the Tabernacle protects me against all my enemies, evil spirits, the world, my own wicked passions and evil inclinations. He is my support in weakness, my comfort in suffering, my weapon in combat, my refreshment in heat, food for my hungry soul, my stimulus when I am exhausted. He is my Heaven on earth."

Prayer to the Most Blessed Sacrament by St. Alphonsus de Liguori

My Lord Jesus Christ, who for the love you bear us, remain night and day in this Sacrament, full of compassion and of love, awaiting, calling and welcoming all who come to visit you. I believe that you are present in the Sacrament of the Altar. I adore you from the abyss of my nothingness and I thank you for all the graces you have given me until now, and in particular, for having given me your Most Holy Mother Mary as my advocate and for having called me to visit you in this church.

I now salute your Most Loving Heart, and this for three ends: first, in thanksgiving for this great gift; second, to make amends to you for all the outrages which you receive in this Sacrament from all your enemies; third, I intend by this visit to adore you in all the places on earth in which you are present in this Sacrament and in which you are the least revered and the most abandoned.

My Jesus, I love you with my heart. I grieve for having until now so many times offended your infinite goodness. I purpose by your grace never more to offend you for the time to come; and now, miserable and unworthy though I am, I consecrate myself to you without reserve. I give you and renounce my entire will, my affections, my desires, and all that I possess. From now on, use me and all that I have as you wish. All I ask of you and desire is your holy love, final perseverance and the perfect accomplishment of your will.

I recommend to you the souls in Purgatory; but especially those who had the greatest devotion to the Most Blessed Sacrament and to the Most Blessed Virgin Mary. I also recommend to you all poor sinners.

And finally, my dear Saviour, I unite all my affections with the affections of your most loving Heart, and I offer them with you to your Eternal Father and beg him for your sake and for love of you, graciously to accept and grant them.

St. Ignatius of Loyola – Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.

Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within Thy wounds hide me.
Suffer me not to be separated from Thee.

From the malignant enemy, defend me.
In the hour of my death, call me.
And bid me come to Thee.
That with Thy saints I may praise Thee.
Forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer of St. Bonaventure

Pierce, O most sweet Lord Jesus, my inmost soul with the most joyous and healthful wound of Thy love, and with true, calm and most holy apostolic charity, that my soul may ever languish and melt with entire love and longing for Thee, may yearn for Thee and for thy courts, may long to be dissolved and to be with Thee.

Grant that my soul may hunger after Thee, the Bread of Angels, the refreshment of holy souls, our daily and super substantial bread, having all sweetness and savor and every delightful taste.

May my heart ever hunger after and feed upon Thee, Whom the angels desire to look upon, and may my inmost soul be filled with the sweetness of Thy savor; may it ever thirst for Thee, the fountain of life, the fountain of wisdom and knowledge, the fountain of eternal light, the torrent of pleasure, the fullness of the house of God; may it ever compass Thee, seek Thee, find Thee, run to Thee, come up to Thee, meditate on Thee, speak of Thee, and do all for the praise and glory of Thy name, with humility and discretion, with love and delight, with ease and affection, with perseverance to the end; and be Thou alone ever my hope, my entire confidence, my riches, my delight, my pleasure, my joy, my rest and tranquility, my peace, my sweetness, my food, my refreshment, my refuge, my help, my wisdom, my portion, my possession, my treasure; in Whom may my mind and my heart be ever fixed and firm and rooted immovably. Amen.