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PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

*Adapted from the writings of
St. Gertrude and St. Mechtilde*



Prayer for a Sick Person

As St. Gertrude was wishing to pray for a sick person and asked Christ in what manner she should do so, He answered her:

“Pray only that I should give him patience and turn every moment to his advantage; and as often as you pray thus, your own merits and those of the sick person will be increased.” (B. iii. ch. 13.)

All-compassionate Jesus, You truly bore our sickness; You take our pains and infirmities from us. I remind You of the manifold torture and pains, which for three long hours You endured upon the cross for the salvation of the world.

I beg You by all that suffering by which You bore witness to Your love for the

Father and for us.

I beg You especially by the hard thrust of the lance which pierced Your sweet Heart. I beg You that You will assist this poor sick person and grant him true patience.

I also pray that You would grant that every moment of his suffering shall tend to Your honor and glory and to his well-being and salvation in any way in which Your loving Heart has decreed from all eternity

Grant this, O most loving Jesus through Your infinite goodness and mercy and through the glorious intercession of Your sweet mother and of all the saints. Amen.

Prayer of One Sick or in Trouble

As St. Mechtildis was once very sick and complained of it, Christ said to her, "Lay all your pains in my heart, and I will so perfect them and make them so fruitful that they shall bring honor to the saints in heaven, merits to the just, forgiveness to the sinner, refreshment to the poor souls in purgatory." (B. ii. cli. 32.)

Most beloved Jesus, You have sent me this my sickness, or misfortune, from Your Divine Heart as an expression of Your love. I accept it with all my heart. Reflecting Your love for me, I offer my sufferings to You to show my gratitude to You.

In Your sweet Heart I lay all my suffering and pain. I request that You enclose them in Your sufferings and make them perfect. In my pain and trouble, I cannot praise my heavenly Father, God, as I ought to do.

I beg of You that with the same praise with which You once praised Him amid Your awful sufferings on the cross, You now praise and glorify Him in my stead. And even as You thanked Him for sending You so many torments and pain, please thank Him now in like manner for what I suffer.

I ask You also, that with the self-same love, with which You accepted and offered to Your heavenly Father all Your sufferings, and the mockeries that assailed You, please offer these my inward and outward calamities, in union with Your own, to His honor and glory. Amen.



An Efficacious Method of Loving and Praising God

While St. Mechtilde was disquieted because she did not worthily honour and love God, our Lord said to her:

When you desire to praise Me, and cannot praise Me as you would, say:

O GOOD Jesus,

I praise Thee,
vouchsafe to supply for me
whatsoever is lacking
in my praise.

*And if you wish
to love Me, say:*

O GOOD Jesus, I love Thee:
vouchsafe to supply whatever
is lacking in my love,
and offer the love
of Thy Sacred Heart
to God the Father for me.