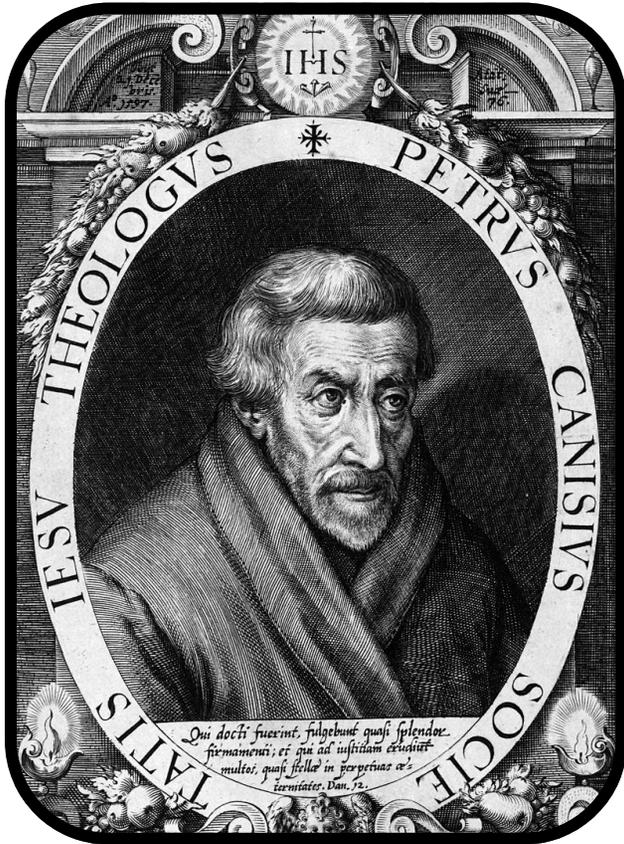


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J.M.J.

# THE UNIVERSAL PRAYER OF SAINT PETER CANISIUS

—Translated from the German  
by Fr. Mark Woodruff



Almighty, eternal God,  
Lord, heavenly Father,  
look with Your eyes of  
undeserved compassion  
on our sorrow,  
misery and need.

Have mercy  
on all the Christian faithful,  
for whom Your only-begotten  
Son, our Lord and Saviour,  
Jesus Christ,  
was content  
to give Himself  
into the hand of sinners  
and shed His precious Blood  
on the wood  
of the Holy Cross.

For the sake of the Lord Jesus,  
most gracious Father,  
avert our well-deserved  
punishments,  
present danger  
and future threats,  
harm and outrage,  
arms and warfare,  
dearth and misfortune,  
sickness and sorrowful,  
miserable times.

Enlighten and strengthen  
in all goodness  
our spiritual leaders  
and earthly rulers,  
that they may do  
everything to further  
Your honour as God,  
our salvation,  
the common peace,  
and the welfare  
of all Your people.

Grant us, O God of peace,  
a true unity in faith,  
free of all division  
and separation.  
Convert our hearts  
to true repentance and  
amendment of life.

Kindle in us the fire  
of Your love;  
give us hunger and zeal  
for justice in all things,  
so that we,  
as obedient children  
through life unto death,  
may be pleasing  
to You and find favour  
in Your sight.

We also pray, O God,  
as You willed  
that we should pray,  
for our friends  
and enemies,  
for the healthy  
and the sick,  
for all Christians  
in sadness and distress,  
for the living and the dead.

To You, O Lord, be entrusted  
whatever we do,  
whatever our path,  
our work and our dealings,  
our living and dying.

Let us delight in Your grace  
here in this world,  
and attain the next  
with all Your  
chosen ones,  
to praise, honour  
and extol You  
in unending joy  
and blessedness.

Grant us this, O Lord,  
heavenly Father,  
through Jesus Christ,  
Your beloved Son,  
Who lives and reigns

with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

**A Prayer of Saint Peter  
Canisius for the Jesuits:**

I commend to You, Lord Jesus,  
the whole Society of Jesus:  
our superiors and our  
subjects,  
our old and our young,  
our sound and our sick,  
our ministries of body and  
soul.

May we be rightly governed  
to the glory of Your name  
and to the upbuilding of  
Your Church.

Through You may we grow  
in our numbers  
and in our service.

May we know our vocation  
thoroughly,  
and, knowing it, love it;  
and thus may all in the  
Society  
serve Your majesty worthily  
and faithfully,

cling to the commands and  
the counsels of the Gospel,  
and, united in the love  
of brothers,  
feel Your blessings  
on our provinces,  
our schools, our missions,  
and all our ministries.  
May we be sober, simple,  
prudent, peaceable,  
and studious of solid virtue:  
may our lives conform to the  
Name we bear  
and our deeds reflect  
to the vows we profess.  
We commend to You  
all the brothers  
who share our life  
in the Society  
and all our companions and  
partners  
who share our heritage  
and our vision.  
With the Father  
and the Holy Spirit,  
we praise You forever.  
Amen