



# World Day of Peace

· JANUARY 1, 2021 ·

## Mass Prayers & Readings

Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord:  
Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

Missal · Proper of Time, Christmas Time  
Lectionary · no. 18

First Reading · Numbers 6:22-27

Resp. Psalm · Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

Second Reading · Galatians 4:4-7

Verse before Gospel · Hebrews 1:1-2

Gospel · Luke 2:16-21

## Universal Prayer

SAMPLE INTENTIONS

That the Lord will watch over the Church as she nourishes the hope for peace through apostolic works.

That the Lord will preserve harmony among the peoples of all the world.

That the Lord will swiftly banish violence in our midst.

That the Lord will grant true peace to all who have died in His mercy.

## Spirituality

REFLECT on the Beatitudes · Matthew 5:1-12

· <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5> ·

PRAY the Prayer of Saint Francis · “Lord, make me an instrument of your peace”

· <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/prayers-for-peace> ·

LEARN from Pope Francis · Annual Papal Messages for the World Day of Peace

· <http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace.html> ·

BE a peacemaker in your family, school/work, and local community

· <https://www.usccb.org/take-action> ·





# Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

• JANUARY 18-25, 2021 •

**Abide in my love  
and you shall bear much fruit**

*cf. JOHN 15:5-9*

**Jan 18** • [THEME] Called by God: “You did not choose me but I chose you” (Jn 15:16a)

† MEDITATE Gen 12:1-4 · The call of Abraham | Jn 1:35-51 · The call of the first disciples

**Jan 19** • Maturing Internally: “Abide in me as I abide in you” (Jn 15:4a)

† MEDITATE Eph 3:14-21 · May Christ dwell in our hearts | Lk 2:41-52 · Mary treasured all these things

**Jan 20** • Forming One Body: “Love one another as I have loved you” (Jn 15:12b)

† MEDITATE Col 3:12-17 · Clothe yourself with compassion | Jn 13:1-15;34-35 · Love one another

**Jan 21** • Praying Together: “I do not call you servants any longer...but I have called you friends” (Jn 15:15)

† MEDITATE Rom 8:26-27 · The Spirit helps us in our weakness | Lk 11:1-4 · Lord, teach us to pray

**Jan 22** • Letting Oneself be Transformed by the Word: “You have already been pruned by the word...” (Jn 15:3)

† MEDITATE Deut 30:11-20 · The word of God is very close to you | Mt 5:1-12 · Blessed are you

**Jan 23** • Welcoming Others: “Go and bear fruit, fruit that will last” (Jn 15:16b)

† MEDITATE Gen 18:1-5 · Abraham hosts the angels | Mk 6:30-44 · Jesus’ compassion for the crowds

**Jan 24** • Growing in Unity: “I am the vine, you are the branches” (Jn 15:5a)

† MEDITATE 1 Cor 1:10-13;3:21-22 · Is Christ divided? | Jn 17:20-23 · As you and I are one

**Jan 25** • Reconciling with All of Creation: “So that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete” (Jn 15:11)

† MEDITATE Col 1:15-20 · In him all things hold together | Mt 4:30-32 · As small as a mustard seed

<http://www.christianunity.va/content/unitacristiani/en/settimana-di-preghiera-per-l-unita/en.html>





# Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn

· JANUARY 22, 2021 ·

## Mass Prayers & Readings

For Giving Thanks to God  
for the Gift of Human Life

Missal · Various Needs & Occasions, no. 48/1  
Lectionary · nos. 947A-947E (supplement)  
Vestments · White

-or-

For the Preservation  
of Peace and Justice

Missal · Various Needs & Occasions, no. 30  
Lectionary · nos. 887-291 (vol. 4)  
Vestments · Violet

## Universal Prayer

SAMPLE INTENTIONS

For the legal protection of unborn children and for loving support for their mothers before and after their births.

May all who suffer from participating in abortion turn to God's loving forgiveness.

For public servants: May God grant them the humility, wisdom, and courage to defend all human life.

For our nation: May God unite us in peace and respect for each other and reverence for all human life.

May friends and families of women with difficult pregnancies provide loving, life-affirming support for both mother and child.

## Spirituality

REFLECT on the Prologue of John · John 1:1-18

· <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/john/1> ·

PRAY the "9 Days for Life" Novena · January 21-29, 2021

· <https://www.usccb.org/resources/9-days-life-2021-novena-english> ·

LEARN from St. John Paul II · Encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*

· [http://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/encyclicals/documents/hf\\_jp-ii\\_enc\\_25031995\\_evangelium-vitae.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_jp-ii_enc_25031995_evangelium-vitae.html) ·

SUPPORT the Gabriel Project of the Diocese of Arlington

· <https://helpforpregnantwomen.org/en/home> ·





# Sunday *of the* Word of God

· JANUARY 24, 2021 ·

## Mass Prayers & Readings

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Missal · Proper of Time, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun in OT  
Lectionary · no. 68

First Reading · Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Resp. Psalm · Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Second Reading · 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Verse before Gospel · Mark 1:15

Gospel · Mark 1:14-20

## Universal Prayer

SAMPLE INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we may continue to respond to the word of God which is proclaimed in our midst.

For all who listen as the Scriptures are proclaimed, that God's word may find in them a fruitful field.

For those who have not heard the message of Christ, that we may be willing to bring them the good news of salvation.

For our readers, that with deep faith and confident voice they may announce God's saving word.

## Spirituality

REFLECT on the Sending of the Apostles to Preach · Luke 24:44-48

· <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/luke/24> ·

PRAY the Scriptures · *Lectio Divina*

· <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/meditations> ·

LEARN from Vatican II · Dogmatic Constitution *Dei Verbum*

· [https://www.vatican.va/archive/hist\\_councils/ii\\_vatican\\_council/documents/vat-ii\\_const\\_19651118\\_dei-verbum\\_en.html](https://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_const_19651118_dei-verbum_en.html) ·

PROCLAIM the Gospel in word and deed in your family, school/work, and local community

“God's word constantly reminds us of the merciful love of the Father who calls his children to live in love.” (Francis, *Aperuit Illis*, no. 13)

