

A Priestly Prayer for President Trump

by Fr. Michael Sparough, SJ

Gracious Father,
we pray for President and Mrs. Trump, their family, and our nation.

Bless them with the spirit of the beatitudes, that together we may grow to know our own poverty of spirit and rejoice in your riches.

May he learn to mourn for all that is not yet lived according to your plan.

May he learn the gentle strength that is the hidden power of the meek.

May you increase his hunger and thirst for righteous behavior.

May you grant him and all who seek you a double share of your heart of mercy.

Bless him with a clean heart, O God. Bless his marriage and his children. Make of us all a holy family of faith.

Bless him with great wisdom in knowing what makes for peace within our world and the strength to carry it out.

May he be given the gift to bear with his critics and his supporters - forgiving and reconciling with them as Christ has commanded us to do.

Loving Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, grant that our President be strengthened with power through your Spirit in his inner self.

May Christ dwell in his heart through faith.

May he be rooted and grounded in love.

May he have strength to comprehend with all the holy ones what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that he may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to you, O God, who is able to accomplish far more than all we ask or imagine, by your power at work within us, be glory in our nation, in our Church, in Christ Jesus to all generation, forever and ever.

Amen.

A Prophetic Prayer for President Trump

by Claudia Heinrich

Lord, in the biblical tradition of the prophets, we come before you to cry out for justice in our nation, for you are a God of justice.

We pray for President Trump, that he may govern our country with wisdom and humility on behalf of every American.

We pray that President Trump will turn from the divisive language that mocks the weak, disrespects women, scapegoats “the other”, and emboldens the hateful.

We pray that President Trump will govern in such a way that those who often find themselves on the bottom of our society--single moms, refugees, the mentally ill, and immigrants--would share in the economic blessings of our country.

And Lord, we also pray for your people, the church, for each of us in this room, that we would live by your kingdom values and not by the values of this world.

May we be ready to pay a personal cost to stand up for the vulnerable among us: families on government assistance, the elderly, the mentally ill, the prisoners, and the unborn.

May we look with your eyes on undocumented immigrants in our country, our cities, and our own church. Help us to see that each person, regardless of legal status, is your beloved child.

May we, your church, repent of our own wall-building, and actively embody love to our Muslim neighbors, our LGBTQ brothers and sisters, and anyone who does not look like us, vote like us, or believe the same way as us.

May we prayerfully seek your face but never cower in the presence of earthly might. May we resist chasing the world’s power, but humbly walk with the least of these in the way of Christ.

Amen.