

Prayer to Mary, Mother of the Church and Mother of our faith*

Mother, help our faith! Open our ears to hear God's word and to recognize his voice and call. Awaken in us a desire to follow in his footsteps, to go forth from our own land and to receive his promise. Help us to be touched by his love, that we may touch him in faith. Help us to entrust ourselves fully to him and to believe in his love, especially at times of trial, beneath the shadow of the cross, when our faith is called to mature. Sow in our faith the joy of the Risen One. Remind us that those who believe are never alone. Teach us to see all things with the eyes of Jesus, that he may be light for our path. And may this light of faith always increase in us, until the dawn of that undying day which is Christ himself, your Son, our Lord! **{*Prayer to Mary at the conclusion of the Encyclical Lumen Fidei (29 June 2013)}**

Prayer to Mary, woman of listening*

Mary, woman of listening, open our ears; grant us to know how to listen to the word of your Son Jesus among the thousands of words of this world; grant that we may listen to the reality in which we live, to every person we encounter, especially those who are poor, in need, in hardship. Mary, woman of decision, illuminate our mind and our heart, so that we may obey, unhesitating, the word of your Son Jesus; give us the courage to decide, not to let ourselves be dragged along, letting others direct our life. Mary, woman of action, obtain that our hands and feet move "with haste" toward others, to bring them the charity and love of your Son Jesus, to bring the light of the Gospel to the world, as you did. Amen. **{*Prayer to Mary at the conclusion of the recital of the Holy Rosary (Saint Peter's Square, 31 May 2013)}**

Prayer to Mary, Mother of silence*

Mother of silence, who watches over the mystery of God, save us from the idolatry of the present time, to which those who forget are condemned. Purify the eyes of Pastors with the eye-wash of memory: Take us back to the freshness of the origins, for a prayerful, penitent Church. Mother of the beauty that blossoms from faithfulness to daily work, Lift us from the torpor of laziness, pettiness, and defeatism. Clothe Pastors in the compassion that unifies, that makes whole; let us discover the joy of a humble, brotherly, serving Church. Mother of tenderness who envelops us in patience and mercy, Help us burn away the sadness, impatience and rigidity of those who do not know what it means to belong. Intercede with your Son to obtain that our hands, our feet, our hearts be agile: let us build the Church with the Truth of love. Mother, we shall be the People of God, pilgrims bound for the Kingdom. Amen. **{*Prayer to Mary after the Profession of Faith with the Bishops of the Italian Episcopal Conference (23 May 2013)}**