

# Prayers for Young People

## Prayer for Youth

"Let the children come to me." (Mt. 19:14)

Loving Father, you look with compassion on all your children, especially those who are vulnerable. May we work to create a world in which every child has access to food, clean water, shelter, education, health care, and all other basic rights. May we teach youth about their role in working for peace, justice and the common good. May we act together to ensure that the lives and dignity of children everywhere can be respected. Amen.

*As children of one heavenly Father we pray, "Our Father..."*

(From USCCB handout for World Day of Peace 2012)

## Prayer for Students

Lord our God, in your wisdom and love you surround us with the mysteries of the universe. Send your Spirit upon these students and fill them with your wisdom and blessings. Grant that they may devote themselves to their studies and draw ever closer to you, the source of all knowledge. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. (USCCB Prayer for Students)

## Pope Francis' Prayer for Young People

Lord Jesus... your Church turns her attention to all the young people in the world. We pray that they might boldly take charge of their lives, aim for the most beautiful and profound things of life and always keep their hearts unencumbered.

Accompanied by wise and generous guides, help them respond to the call you make to each of them, to realize a proper plan of life and achieve happiness. Keep their hearts open to dreaming great dreams and make them concerned for the good of others.

Like the Beloved Disciple, may they stand at the foot of the Cross, to receive your Mother as a gift from You.

May they be witnesses to your Resurrection and be aware that you are at their side as they joyously proclaim you as Lord. Amen.

(Adapted from "Prayer for Young People, in view of the forthcoming Synod of Bishops 2018: Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment" by Pope Francis, Libreria Editrice Vaticana © 2017)

## **Christ the King Prayer**

Jesus Christ, King of the Universe,  
to you we turn in humble prayer.  
Look with favor upon all young adults,  
bearers of hope for the Church and the world.

Jesus Christ, companion of young adults,  
bless the paths of discovery and discernment,  
through times of joy and experiences of hardship,  
with the constant love and support of your Church.

Jesus Christ, alive in the hearts of all your people,  
grant that we may “journey together, young and  
old... to nourish our enthusiasm, cause dreams to  
emerge, awaken prophesies and enable hope to  
blossom.”

Jesus Christ, Redeemer of all humankind,  
open our hearts to encounter all young adults,  
to accompany and be in community together,  
and as one Church, embark upon our holy mission.

Jesus Christ, in the company  
of the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
graciously hear our prayer  
and be with us forevermore. Amen.

(Adapted from “A Prayer for Youth and Young Adults,” from A National Pastoral Resource  
Guidebook for the Global Celebration of Young People: for the Annual Celebration of Youth  
and Young Adults in the United States of America on the Solemnity of Christ the King, USCCB  
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