

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has been observed from January 18 – 25 since 1908. I would like to encourage every parish in the diocese to participate in some way.

1. Suggestions:

- a. Make copies of a prayer for Christian unity available for your parishioners to take home and encourage them to pray the prayer every day from January 18-25.
- b. Make copies of a prayer for Christian unity available in the pews and pray after communion at the weekend Masses on Ecumenical Sunday, January 22.
- c. Include an intention for Christian Unity in the general intercessions on January 22 or throughout the month of January.
- d. Pray the Mass for the Unity of Christians on page 1272 in the Roman Missal on Sunday, January 22 or throughout the week of prayer.

2. Sample General Intercessions:

- a. For church leaders everywhere, that they may work together and promote unity among Christians.
We pray to the Lord.
- b. For all who have been hurt by the division among Christians especially for ecumenical families.
We pray to the Lord.
- c. For the Church, that we may dedicate ourselves to working for visible unity among all Christians.
We pray to the Lord.

3. Sample Prayers for Christian Unity:

- a. Almighty ever-living God, who gather what is scattered and keep together what you have gathered, look kindly on the flock of your Son, that those whom one Baptism has consecrated may be joined together by integrity of faith and united in the bond of charity. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. (Collect of the Mass for the Unity of Christians, page 1272 of the Roman Missal.)
- b. Make known in us, O Lord, the abundance of your mercy and, in the power of your Spirit, remove the divisions between Christians, that your Church may appear more clearly as a sign raised high among the nations and that the world, enlightened by your Spirit, may believe in the Christ whom you have sent. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. (Collect of the Mass for the Unity of Christians, page 1278 of the Roman Missal.)
- c. Traditional Daily Offering of the Apostleship of Prayer
O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer You my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world. I offer them for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart: the salvation of souls, reparation for sin, and the reunion of all Christians. I offer them for the intentions of our bishops and of all Apostles of Prayer, and in particular for those recommended by our Holy Father this month.