

THE GIFT OF A SHEPHERD

Prayers for use at the time of the retirement of the Archbishop of Southwark and in preparation for the installation of a successor

As the Archdiocese of Southwark prepares for Archbishop-elect John Wilson's installation as successor to Archbishop Peter, the following suggestions are offered to the parishes, schools and religious communities of the Archdiocese.

Mass Texts

- 1 Masses for Various Needs and Occasion,
No 49, Mass Text B, Other Prayers - For giving thanks to God
[*Roman Missal*, p.1387]
Common Preface IV – Praise, the gift of God [*Roman Missal*, pp650-651]
or
Eucharistic Prayer for use in Masses for Various Needs – 2
– God guides his Church on the Way of Salvation [*Roman Missal*, pp810-815]
with its own Preface

Every Parish is encouraged at some point in the coming weeks to celebrate this Mass on a ferial weekday (with the readings from the ferial day or from the appropriate section in Lectionary Volume 3) to give thanks for Archbishop Peter and his ministry here in Southwark, Cardiff and East Anglia.

- 2 Masses for Various Needs and Occasion, No 3, For the Bishop
[*Roman Missal*, pp.1306-1307]
Preface: The Priesthood of Christ and the Ministry of Priests [*Roman Missal*, pp324-327]
or
Eucharistic Prayer for use in Masses for Various Needs – 1 – The Church on the Path to Unity [*Roman Missal*, pp804-809] with its own Preface

After the new Archbishop has been installed every Parish is encouraged at some point in the days afterwards to celebrate this Mass on a ferial weekday (with the readings from the ferial day or from the appropriate section in Lectionary Volume 3).

The Eucharistic Prayer

Once the name of the new Archbishop has been announced he is not prayed for in the Eucharistic Prayer until he has taken possession of the Diocese and been installed in the Cathedral, on Thursday 25th July 2019.

Until that time we continue to name and pray for '... Peter, our Bishop,...'.

Bidding Prayer

Intentions for the new Archbishop and his future ministry can be included most aptly in the Bidding Prayers.

Further intentions might include Archbishop Peter and our other Archbishop Emeriti and retired Auxiliary Bishops.

For example:

For Archbishop-elect John, as he prepares to take up his office as shepherd of this Archdiocese of Southwark, that, guided by the Holy Spirit, his ministry among us will be blessed.

For Archbishop Peter, as he prepares for the next stage of his priestly ministry, that along with Archbishop Michael and Archbishop Kevin, and Bishops John and Howard, that they will be sustained by our prayers.

Prayers

The following prayers might also be used at meetings and other gatherings of the faithful as appropriate:

For the Archdiocese of Southwark

O God, who in each pilgrim Church throughout the world make visible the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church, graciously grant that your faithful may be so united to their shepherd and gathered together in the Holy Spirit through the Gospel and the Eucharist, as to worthily embody the universality of your people and become a sign and instrument in the world of the presence of Christ. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

[From the Mass For the Church – For the Particular Church]

Prayers for the Archbishop on appointment

O God, eternal shepherd of the faithful,
who tend your Church in countless ways
and rule over her in love,
grant, we pray, that John, your servant,
whom you have set over your people,
may preside in the place of Christ
over the flock whose shepherd he is,
and be faithful as a teacher of doctrine,
a Priest of sacred worship
and as one who serves them by governing.
Through Christ our Lord.

Or:

O God, shepherd and ruler of all the faithful,
look favourably on your servant John,
whom you have set at the head
of your Church of Southwark as her shepherd,
grant, we pray, that by word and example
he may be of service to those over whom he presides,
so that, together with the flock entrusted to his care,
he may come to eternal life.
Through Christ our Lord.

Or:

O Lord, who for the feeding of your flock
have set your servant John over it as a successor to the Apostles,
grant him, we pray,
a spirit of counsel and fortitude, a spirit of knowledge and piety,
so that, by faithfully governing the people entrusted to him,
he may build up in the world the sacrament of the Church.
Through Christ our Lord.

[From the Mass For the Bishop]

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