

## PRAYER REQUESTS AT OUR CHURCH

Saint Dennis Church welcomes all your prayer requests. We are happy to pray for you and your intentions, and we have four ways of doing so.

**First**, we have an online prayer list that we email to our parishioners who have subscribed to this service. To join, please contact the parish office.

**Second**, we have a book of prayer requests in the narthex of the church. Please write your intention in this book so that we can all pray for you.

**Third**, the parish office can write your prayer intention in this book for you, for any day you request. Please contact the parish office for this service.

**Fourth**, we are still accepting a limited number of Mass Intentions for the openings reserved for this purpose. Please contact the parish office.

Every Mass is offered for all of these prayer requests together, whether public or private. All our prayer requests are of equal spiritual importance.

## MASS INTENTIONS AT OUR CHURCH

There are limited openings in our parish calendar for Mass Intentions. Only one intention may be scheduled for each Mass. If your requested date and time are not available, please use our book of special intentions instead.

The quantity of Mass Intentions that may be requested at any one given time is at the discretion of the parish secretary in consultation with the pastor. This is to leave room for more people to request Mass Intentions.

The full prayer requests of the Mass Intentions and the names of their donors are published in the book of special intentions in the narthex. Please add your additional prayer requests to this special book as well.

The names of those for whom we are praying will be published in the church bulletin, for the priest to announce at Mass. However, the Mass Intention is only one among the many intentions that we pray for at Mass.

No Mass is ever offered for only one intention to the exclusion of all others. All our prayer requests are of equal and infinite value. Whether announced or not, God hears all of our prayers when we lovingly turn to him in faith.

## ALL ABOUT MASS INTENTIONS



**A GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATING  
THE IMPORTANCE OF ALL OUR PRAYERFUL PETITIONS  
WHEN WE CELEBRATE THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS**

Every Mass is always offered for everybody everywhere. However, in the Middle Ages, some parishioners started paying priests to pray for them at Mass. This got out of hand and had to be regulated by the Council of Trent.

As a result of its reforms, the priest was only allowed to accept only one set fee for only one Mass each day. Some people took this to mean that the Mass was being offered only for their paid intention. But that was never true, for every Mass is always offered for everybody everywhere.

The paid Mass Intention is only one of the many intentions for which the priest is praying at Mass. It is not required to be published or even announced, but most priests do so in order to obtain more paid Mass Intentions. But, considering all of this, why would you pay for a service that you already have at no cost to you? Please reflect on this point prayerfully!

Through your participation in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, all your intentions are already included in the offering of each Mass that you attend. So, thank you for all your prayers! And may God answer all of your prayers!

Nevertheless, and with all of this in mind, we follow the laws of the church in accepting only one paid intention per Mass. For everyone else, we recommend our book of special intentions by the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Otherwise, remember to symbolically place your intentions on the paten with the host, and symbolically pour your tears of joy and sorrow into the chalice at the offertory of the Mass. Then let the Lord answer your prayer when you come up to receive Holy Communion at that Mass. The Eucharist is the greatest of all prayers. It is the source and summit of our faith!

And, in regard to the book of special intentions, please write your prayer requests there when you come to Mass. This book is located by the door to the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

When the priest leaves the rectory to come to church, he comes through the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and checks this book on the way to the sacristy for Mass. Thus, all your special intentions are included in the priest's intentions, along with the one paid intention.

Finally, there is a venerable custom of lighting candles for our special intentions. As part of the Eucharistic Revival, we would like to install vigil lights in our Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Due to fire and safety concerns, these votive lights would have to be electric.

If you would like to make a donation toward this special vigil light project for our church, or to obtain more information about it, please contact the parish office.

Thank you for all of your prayer requests, including those we send out on our online parish prayer list. Please contact the parish for more information.

To learn more about developing your prayer life, please check out [CatholicChristian.org/Praying](http://CatholicChristian.org/Praying). God bless you!

