

*We pray for those who cannot believe and who give their lives in the service of others. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

*We pray for the unity of the church. Enable those divided by opinion or doctrine to find ways of remaining faithful to your call to love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

*O Christ, light from above, visit all those who are in darkness or who are paralysed by fear. Show them the way of your love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

*O Christ, source of confidence and life, support those who are going through times of sickness, difficulty or discouragement. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

Chant 139 : Aber du weißt den Weg

***Lord, gather all my thoughts,
Fill my heart with your love.
In you I find light in the deepest night.
In you I find patience and help in time of need.
Though I often do not understand,
I will trust you, who hold me by the hand.***

Silence

A prayer by Brother Roger, founder of the Taizé Community

Bless us, Christ Jesus. Enable us to surrender everything to you.

Silence

Chant 121 : Wysławiajcie Pana ♪

***We leave in silence.
Please allow those who wish to do so
to continue to pray undisturbed.***

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Taizé Prayer 84 6th March 2016

Prayer in the style of the Taizé Community for Lent 4

Welcome! Please feel free to sit quietly or to join in as you feel most comfortable. We will be following a pattern based on the worship of the Taizé Community, one of whose aims has always been to make Christian worship as simple and uncluttered as possible.

Taizé is a small village in eastern France. For almost 70 years, it has been the home of a Christian monastic community made up of brothers from many different countries, speaking many different languages and, uniquely, belonging to several different Christian denominations. Catholics, Anglicans, Protestants, Orthodox and others live and pray together, share a simple life and welcome the tens of thousands of visitors who come to spend time with them every year from all over the world.

The numbers refer to the orange booklet of Taizé Chants which you received as you joined us. This symbol ♪ indicates that we sing the English translation provided alongside the music.

Opening Silence

For Silent Reflection

“To live in the world without belonging to the world summarizes the essence of the spiritual life. The spiritual life keeps us aware that our true house is not the house of fear, in which the powers of hatred and violence rule, but the house of love, where God resides. Hardly a day passes in our lives without our experience of inner or outer fears [...]. These dark powers have pervaded every part of our world to such a degree that we can never fully escape them. Still it is possible not to belong to these powers, not to build our dwelling place among them, but to choose the house of love as our home. This choice is made not just once and for all but by living and breathing God’s breath. Through the spiritual life we gradually move from the house of fear to the house of love.”

Henri J.M.Nouwen
Behold the Beauty of the Lord

Chant 39 : Tu sei sorgente viva

***Lord, you are living water,
You are light and fire, you are love.
Come, O Holy Spirit! Come, O Holy Spirit!***

From Psalm 30

I will exalt you, Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me. Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me. You, Lord, brought me up from the realm of the dead; you spared me from going down to the pit. Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people; praise his holy name. For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favour lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning. When I felt secure, I said, "I will never be shaken." [...] To you, Lord, I called; to the Lord I cried for mercy: "What is gained if I am silenced, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it proclaim your faithfulness? Hear, Lord, and be merciful to me; Lord, be my help." You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent. Lord my God, I will praise you forever.

Silence

In the silence, we call to mind God's favour, which lasts for a lifetime. Then, trusting in Him, we sing...

Chant 53 : Dona la pace

***Teach us to trust you, Christ Jesus.
In you the peace of our hearts.
As we trust in your promise, Christ Jesus,
Heal us and lead us.***

From Isaiah chapter 40

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God'? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Silence

Chant 14 : Tui amoris ignem ♪

From St Paul's 2nd Letter to Timothy

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

Chant 115 : The Kingdom of God

Long Silence

Food for Thought in the Silence

“The mystery of our relationship with God is one that embraces such a vast canvas that only by developing our capacity for awe-filled and reverential silence will we ever be able to appreciate even a fraction of its wonder. We know that God is intimately with us and we also know that He is infinitely beyond us. It is only through deep and liberating silence that we can reconcile the polarities of this mysterious paradox. And the liberation we experience in silent prayer is precisely liberation from the inevitably distorting effects of language when we begin to experience God's intimate and transcendent dominion within us.”

John Main OSB : *Word into Silence*

Chant 1 : Dans nos obscurités ♪

Silence

Intercessions

Between each prayer, we sing

Chant 86