## 14 Great Ways to Use the Prayers in the Pew<sup>™</sup> Prayer Cards

**OUR FAITH: LEARN IT, LIVE IT, LOVE IT.** 

Thank you for being a prayer missionary with us to increase prayer, devotion, and depth of love for our Catholic faith! Many of our readers have asked for ideas on how they can use and promote these beautiful cards, so we've put together this basic list of ideas to assist all our missionaries of prayer.

## **For Devotion**

If a person does no more than pray the prayers on these cards regularly, they will have achieved the primary goal of strengthening the faith, hope, and charity in their hearts. Beyond that, a few other ideas for individual use may also help.

- **1. Mass Preparation:** Ask your children and other family members to bring them to church on Sunday (especially the *Church Edition*) and to use them for their spiritual preparation before Mass.
- **2. Gifts:** Give these prayer cards to friends and family as gifts for any occasion or for specific celebrations (birthdays, First Communions, Confirmations, weddings, etc.). They can also be resold in parish bookstores or local religious shops.
- **3. Union:** Spouses and families will find a convenient way to nurture the fires of love and devotion through the abundant and beautiful prayers on these cards, many of which are directly or indirectly related to marriage and family.
- **4. Memorization:** Revive the habit of memorizing prayers, especially among children; many of the prayers on the cards are short and have been chosen for this purpose.
- **5. Resources:** Share with your people in your prayer group or ministry, spiritual directors, priests, nuns, friends, etc. as resources for their own spiritual growth.

## For Instruction

Each prayer card is dedicated to one specific theme (Eucharist, Mary, family, pro-life, etc.), and all the prayers on each card relate to its theme. In essence, the wording and theology of the prayers themselves can be used to educate others about the subject.

- **1. Teachers:** Priests, catechists, and school teachers may distribute these cards in religious education programs (adult ed, RCIA, CCD, etc.), for general catechesis, and for teaching about devotions and basic Catholic issues.
- **2. Parents:** These cards give parents a way to exercise their role as "primary educators in the faith" and to inculcate habits of prayer in their children. The cards offer abundant Catholic themes, teaching moments, and traditional prayers, many of which are from the great saint heroes of our faith.
- **3. Leaders:** The use of these theme-oriented cards add an educational and devotional dimension to an active prayer group or ministry.

- **4. Ministers:** Many of these cards offer lay ministers ways to give hope and comfort in times of illness, crisis, death-and-dying situations, as well as insight into various critical issues of our day, such as defense of life, marriage, and family.
- **5. Resources:** Share with your people in your prayer group or ministry, spiritual directors, priests, nuns, friends, etc. as resources for their own spiritual growth.

## For Evangelization

Our original intent was (and still is) to get these prayer cards into the hands of as many people as possible to introduce them to the beauty of Catholic prayer. This means that they can be used by any and all Catholic evangelization (or re-evangelization) efforts.

- **1. Parishes:** Encourage pastors and other clergy to put these cards into every pew of your local parish so that people will have a tangible resource for spiritual preparation before Mass and for spiritual growth.
- **2. Local Church:** Leave these cards in strategic spots in other churches and adoration chapels (unless prohibited).
- **3. Non-Catholics:** Personally hand these cards out to non-Catholic friends and family members as a very non-threatening introduction to the Catholic faith.
- **4. Events:** Appeal to a wider audience by sponsoring tables and booths at local Christian events in order to enhance "Catholic awareness" among those who may not be familiar with the Catholic faith.
- **5. Fundraising:** Catholic schools will find these cards especially attractive fundraisers that kids will enjoy promoting (see our Fundraising web page at the web address below). All kinds of Catholic ministries can also use these cards as lead magnets (invitations to sign up) for their causes.

These are only a few of the many ideas for using and distributing these excellent *Prayers in the Pew* Prayer Cards for the propagation of the Catholic faith. Let us know if you have other evangelization ideas – and especially success stories! – so that we can post them on our website, www.sitstandkneel.com, for the benefit of all.

Once again, welcome to our prayer card missionary team!

"O sublime humility! O humble sublimity! That the Lord of the whole universe, God and the Son of God, should humble himself like this and hide under the form of a little bread, for our salvation." ~ St. Francis of Assisi





Note: All prayer cards have received the Church's *Nihil Obstat* indicating they are free of doctrinal or moral error and *Imprimatur* granting permission for publication and distribution according to the norms of c. 827, §3 of the 1983 *Code of Canon Law*.

For further information about Prayer Cards and Novenas, please visit our website at www.sitstandkneel.com.

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