MONTHLY PRAYERS BASED ON THE VIRTUES

Visual aid to facilitate prayer:

Pope Francis’ Five Finger Prayer

1.) The thumb is the closest finger to you. So start praying for those who are closest to you. They are the persons easiest to remember. To pray for our dear ones is a “sweet obligation.”

2.) The next finger is the index. Pray for those who teach you, instruct you and heal you. They need the support and wisdom to show direction to others. Always keep them in your prayers.

3.) The following finger is the tallest. It reminds us of our leaders, the governors and those who have authority. They need God’s guidance.

4.) The fourth finger is the ring finger. Even that it may surprise you, it is our weakest finger. It should remind us to pray for the weakest, the sick or those plagued by problems. They need your prayers.

5.) And finally we have our smallest finger, the smallest of all. Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. When you are done praying for the other four groups, you will be able to see your own needs in the proper perspective, and also you will be able to pray for your own needs in a better way.
Visual guide to praying the Rosary:

For a more detailed review on how to pray the rosary, click on the following link.
September: Hospitality

Hospitality Prayer

Lord, give us the eyes of Jesus to see our neighbors and the strangers we meet.
Teach us what it means to love the stranger as we love ourselves.
Forgive us for our selfishness, for our silence,
for not caring enough for the strangers who come to our communities.

Teach us to love and care for the stranger the way you do.

Amen
Rebeca Jiménez Yoder

October: Gratitude

A Prayer of Gratitude

God, thank you for the blessings
You have bestowed upon me today.
Help me share your generosity and love with those I meet.

Thank you, for the Universe, for your grace and guidance.
For intuition, hope and dreams.
Thank you for the ever-present abundance that is reflected in each moment of my life.

Amen.
(Catholics Online)

IN GRATITUDE

Thank you, Father, for having created us and given us to each other in the human family. Thank you for being with us in all our joys and sorrows, for your comfort in our sadness, your companionship in our loneliness. Thank you for yesterday, today, tomorrow and for the whole of our lives. Thank you for friends, for health and for grace. May we live this and every day conscious of all that has been given to us. Amen.

From The Catholic Prayer Book, compiled by Msgr. Michael Buckley.
November: Peace

The Prayer of St. Francis
Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy;
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Peace Prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, who is called the Prince of Peace, who are yourself our peace and reconciliation, who so often said, "Peace to you," grant us peace. Make all people witnesses of truth, justice, and love. Banish from their hearts whatever might endanger peace. Enlighten our rulers that they may guarantee and defend the great gift of peace. May all peoples on the earth become as brothers and sisters. May longed-for peace blossom forth and reign always over us all. Amen
December: Charity

Prayer for Charity

O Lord, give us more charity, more likeness to you.
Make us kindly in thought, gentle in word, generous in deed.
Teach us that it is better to give than to receive,
better to forget ourselves than to put ourselves forward,
better to minister than to be ministered to.
And to you, the God of love, be all glory and praise, now and forever.
Amen.

(Henry Alford)

Charity Prayer

Lord Jesus, open our eyes that we may see you in all our sisters and brothers.
Open our minds that we may understand their hopes and dreams,
their sorrows and pain, their longing for you.
Open our hearts to give generously of ourselves.
Grant us wisdom to respond effectively
to the needs of your people with grace and compassion.
Give us the courage to speak your words of life, peace, love, mercy and human solidarity.

Amen.
January: Courage

Prayer for Courage

O God, I pray for courage,
for I understand there is work to be done,
burdens to be carried,
feelings to be shared and joys to be celebrated.

Grant me the courage to be silent that I may hear your voice;
to persevere, that I may share your victory; and to remember,
so that I not forget the way you have led me.

And when this day is done, O Lord,
may I have the courage to see your guiding hand
in the friendships that have been made,
in the hurts that have been healed,
and in the strength that has been given.

Amen

The Serenity Prayer

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I
cannot change,
The courage to change the things I can,
And the wisdom to know the difference.

Amen
February: Love

Ubi Caritas

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est
Where charity and love are, God is there
  - Taizé Hymn
(you may want to repeat this prayer three times as a mantra)

March: Forgiveness

Prayer for Forgiveness Psalm 51

If we really want to love we must learn how to forgive.
— Mother Theresa

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.
You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
April: Justice

Justice Prayer
Grant us, Lord God, a vision of your world as your love would have it:

A world where the weak are protected, and none go hungry or poor;
A world where the riches of creation are shared, and everyone can enjoy them;
A world where different races and cultures live in harmony and mutual respect;
A world where peace is built with justice, and justice is guided by love.

Give us the inspiration and courage to build it, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

www.anglocatholicsocialism.org/prayers
**May: Compassion**

![Jesus' Heart of Compassion](image.png)

**Prayer for Compassion**

Lord, help us to remember that others don't always see the way we do, hear what we hear, feel what we feel, or understand things the way we've come to understand them. You give each of us gifts that are uniquely ours but so often we fail to value the gift in another, judging other gifts as wrong or somehow less important than our own. Give us the compassion you want us to have, Lord, and teach us to embrace each other with compassionate arms, no matter what our age, color, creed, history, or belief. Help us to remember that you are life itself, and that you are using every one of our unique gifts to bring us together with you once again.

[www.revisionsplus.com/compassion](http://www.revisionsplus.com/compassion)
June: Faithfulness

Faithfulness Prayer

Loving God,
Ever-living source of all that is good,
keep me faithful in serving you.
Help me to drink of Christ’s truth,
and fill my heart with his love
so that I may serve you in faith and love.
Keep me in your presence.
Let me never be separated from you
and help me to do your will.