



Praying in a world so much in need of prayer

We all ask others to pray for us
and promise in return to remember
those who ask us to pray for them...

I'll be praying today for folks who've asked me
to lift up their names to the Lord
- and I'm sure you'll be doing the same...

I'll be praying for many people,
for many reasons,
and I take comfort in knowing
that the Lord knows our every need
even before we speak...

Like you, I'll pray for family and friends
and for neighbors and parishioners
who've asked for prayers;
and like you, I'll pray for people I've never met,
for whom others have asked me to pray...

For some we'll pray for help, hope and healing...
for others we'll intercede
for patience, forgiveness and reconciliation,
for many we'll ask
for guidance, counsel and understanding...
for others we'll pray
for relief, comfort and consolation...
and for all we'll ask
for serenity, harmony and peace...

We'll pray for all whose lives have been upended
by natural and man-made disasters:
for those whose lives have been devastated
by hurricanes and earthquakes and wildfires;
and for those who were the victims
of a sniper's deadly aim...

We'll pray for the healing of the sick,
for the consolation of the dying
and for those who care for them, day by day...

We'll pray for those who need work
and we'll pray for those who need rest...

We'll pray for those who are burdened
with anxiety, worry and fear...

We'll pray for those in prison,
for freedom in their minds and hearts...

We'll pray for children waiting to be born
and for the mothers who carry them;
we'll pray for children waiting adoption
and for the families who'll receive them...

We'll pray for an end to violence
in peoples' homes, in their streets
and between nations...

We'll pray for the church throughout the world
and for our parish here in Concord...

We'll pray for the people
whose lives, homes and churches
are threatened by death and destruction...

We'll pray for the healing
of the abused and betrayed,
and for the recovery of the addicted...

We'll pray for the victory of justice
and we'll pray for a harvest of peace...

We'll pray for counsel and wisdom
in the work and decisions
of those who govern us...

We'll pray for reconciliation and unity
in our deeply divided nation...

We'll pray for all who serve and protect us:
for those in harm's way
at home and 'round the world...

We'll pray, as Jesus taught us, for our enemies
and for those who persecute us...

We'll pray for the many needs of many people
confident that God hears our every prayer.

For whom, for what will you be praying today?
Let's pray for one another
through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

-Fr. Fleming at ConcordPastor.blogspot.com