Hope for the Ages

Jesus, the hope of the ages, not only taught us how to pray in words but through his actions. Jesus ordinarily prayed alone in silence. He depended on prayer to help him through the most difficult moments in his life. Periods of silence and prayer may be rare in our lives, but Jesus’ example shows us how to achieve a richer life of prayer.

A Family Prayer

Write each line of the Lord’s Prayer on a separate slip of paper. Have each family member read a line out loud, and discuss its meaning together.

On Sunday

Listen to what the priest says just after the Lord’s Prayer. What should you do when you are worried and why?

On the Web

Visit our Web site for the saint of the day and the reflection question of the week.

Weekly Planner

Saint of the Week

Our Lady of Czestochowa

The image of Our Lady of Czestochowa is sometimes called Our Lady of Jasna Góra, after the monastery in Poland in which it has been kept for six centuries. Many miracles have been attributed to the image, including the halt of an impending Russian invasion of Poland in 1920. Polish Catholics have a special devotion to Our Lady of Czestochowa.

Lord, through the intercession of the Blessed Mother, we come to you in prayer for all our needs. Hear and answer us. Amen.
**Scripture Background**

**In the Time of Jesus**

**The Lord’s Prayer**  The prayer that Jesus taught, the Lord’s Prayer, was called “the most perfect of prayers” by Saint Thomas Aquinas. He said, “In it we ask not only for the things we can rightly desire, but also in the sequence they should be desired.” The prayer is seen as a model prayer that features essential elements of all Christian prayers. In the Lord’s Prayer, Jesus taught us to call God our Father, bringing us into the relationship he had with God. Read how Jesus taught the Lord’s Prayer in Matthew 6:9–13 and Luke 11:2–4.

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**Our Catholic Tradition in Film**

**Alfred Hitchcock**  The films of late director Alfred Hitchcock often betray his Catholic roots. Educated at St. Ignatius College in London, Hitchcock often relied on Catholic imagery and plots about suffering for other people’s crimes. In the 1953 film *I Confess*, his most overtly “Catholic” film, a parishioner confesses a murder to a priest. When the police learn that the murder victim had been trying to blackmail the priest, the priest becomes the main suspect. The sacred seal of confession, however, prevents the priest from revealing the truth. The priest is subjected to a trial and public humiliation. One scene depicts the priest walking past statues of Christ carrying the cross.