

ABLAZE PRAXIS 1-29-17

PRAYER

Our Father Who art in Heaven,
hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

PRAXIS: THE HEAVENLY FATHER, BURNING DEVOTION TO THE FATHER OF LIGHTS

I. The Lord's Prayer

- A. "Our Father"—Loving and True Communion as Family
 - 1. By Creation
 - 2. By Adoption
- B. "Who art in Heaven"
 - 1. Our Home—Origin and Destination
 - 2. Inheritance by the Blood of the Beloved Son
- C. "Hallowed be Thy Name"
 - 1. Reverence, Piety, and Devotion to God
 - 2. Universal call to holiness for all created persons
- D. "Thy Kingdom come"—Through, with, and in Christ the King and His Church
 - 1. Has come in the First Advent (Incarnation/Head)
 - 2. Is coming now in the Final Age of the Church (Sacrament/Body)
 - 3. Will come definitively in glory at the Second Coming (Resurrection of the Body and Life Everlasting. Amen.)
- E. "Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven"
 - 1. "God our Savior [. . .] desires that all men be saved and come to knowledge of the truth." (1 Timothy 2:3-4)
 - 2. "Sacrifice and offering You have not desired, but a body You have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings You have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'Behold, I come to do Your will, O God.'" (Hebrews 10:5-7 quoting Psalm 40)
- F. "Give us this day our daily bread"
 - 1. Sustenance—Material and Spiritual
 - 2. "Daily"—"Super-essential": Eucharist
 - 3. Focus: The Present and Ordinary made Holy and Glorious
- G. "And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us"
 - 1. Reconciliation and Freedom
 - 2. Mercy

- H. "And lead us not into temptation"
 - 1. Divine Providence and Protection
 - 2. God's Will
 - a. Positive
 - b. Permissive
 - 3. Temptations vs. Trials
- I. "But deliver us from evil"
 - 1. Physical and Moral
 - 2. And/Or "the Evil One"—the Devil

- II. Mediation of Fatherhood—Examples:
 - A. My Earthly Father
 - B. Pope Saint John Paul II
 - C. Particular Expressions of Love
 - 1. Through Truth
 - 2. In Responsibility

QUESTIONS

- I. On earth, who has most powerfully mediated the Heavenly Father's love to me? Describe an instance or example of how this love was shown.
- II. Describe a particular spiritual experience wherein the Heavenly Father's "Hand" was clearly present and effective.

MISSION

- I. Praying The Lord's Prayer with reverent attention and deliberation
- II. Mental Prayer: 5/5/5 (children) or 10/10/10 (teen/adult)
 - A. Gospel of the Day or Any Passages from Scripture
 - B. Stories or Writings of Saints
 - C. Passages from Theological or Catechetical Writings
 - D. Particular Decades of the Rosary
 - E. Visual Images
- III. Examination of Conscience followed by an Act of Contrition:
 - A. Was my interior life—all that is hidden from others, except from the Father Who sees in secret—radiant or dark, or a mixture of the light and darkness? What must I do to increase the light and dispel the darkness in my soul?
 - B. When encountering and engaging others at home or in any other situation, did I increase the light or increase the darkness? What must I do to bring light to others?
 - C. How did I please the Father as a child of light, and how did I disappoint Him? In the Light of His Truth and Mercy, for what do I need to express contrition, and for what do I need to give thanks?
 - D. What especially do I need to ask my Heavenly Father to help me overcome or change to become more radiant in holiness and charity?