

AN OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR

The Ordination & Consecration of

The Reverend

Anne Bryson Jolly



as a Bishop in the Church of God

and

Bishop Coadjutor

of the

Episcopal Diocese of Ohio

Saturday, April 29, 2023

11 o'clock in the morning

Feast of Saint Catherine of Siena

Cleveland Public Auditorium

Cleveland, Ohio

Introduction

On April 29, 2023, the Reverend Anne Jolly will be ordained and consecrated as the Bishop Coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio. Anne will need our prayers as she prepares for the consecration and new ministry as a bishop, and this octave of prayer in the days leading up to the service will surround her with our love and prayers. Please pray too for Anne's husband, David, for their daughters, and for other members of their family. Pray too for the priests, people, and parishes of this Diocese amongst whom Anne will serve and minister; for the people of St. Gregory's Episcopal Church in Deerfield, Illinois, who have lost their beloved rector; and for the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago, whom she led during their recent transition as President of the Standing Committee.

Within the fellowship of all the baptized, bishops play a distinctive and important role. Bishops lead priests and people in following the disciplines of the Church and in worshiping God well. They help us navigate through many difficulties in our modern world and to fight against the attacks of the devil on the unity of the Church. Bishops deserve our prayers as they seek to care for their flocks. This octave of prayer is based on the ordination and consecration service for a bishop and focuses on the elements of ministry which are particular to bishops, as well as the writings of Catherine of Siena, whose feast day we will observe at the ordination and consecration.

As you spend time in prayer, we hope that you will also have a greater understanding of the role of the bishop and the part that you can play in supporting and upholding bishops in their office and in their ministry. We thank the Society of St. Wilfrid and St. Hilda in the Church of England for writing their novena for consecrations which we used as inspiration for this octave.

We offer our prayers and blessings at this important moment in the story of the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio.

Mr. Richard Pryor, III
on behalf of the Consecration Sub-Committee

How to pray the Octave

An octave (from the Latin for eight days, *octava dies*) is an ancient practice of prayer in the Church. An octave consists of a series of prayers for a particular intention or theme over a period of eight days.

The tradition of having an octave started in the fourth century as a way to commemorate and extend the feasts of Easter and Pentecost to allow the newly converted to take a joyful retreat. Over the centuries, other celebrations, such as the feasts of saints, were given octaves, and specific liturgical commemorations were created to use during them.

In this octave we are praying for our new Bishop Coadjutor, as she prepares for her ordination and consecration, over a period of eight days between April 22 and April 29.

You may also want to use this octave at other times of the year for Anne and other bishops, especially in the lead up to the anniversary of their consecrations.

On each day there will be a different intention for our prayers, focusing on a specific aspect of the ministry of the bishop, as in the service of ordination. For each day, we start the prayer by making the sign of the cross and reading a quote from Holy Scripture, a quote or rubric from the consecration service, and a selection from the writings of Catherine of Siena. The time of prayer ends each day with the Lord's Prayer, followed by a prayer based on the day's theme written by the Rev. Rosalind Hughes, Rector of the Church of the Epiphany in Euclid.

A Prayer for Clergy and People

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom comes every good and perfect gift: Send down upon our bishops, and other clergy, and upon the congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of your grace: and, that they may truly please you, pour upon them the continual dew of your blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for the Diocese

O God, by your grace you have called us in this Diocese to a goodly fellowship of faith. Bless our Bishops Mark, Arthur, and William; Anne, our Bishop-elect and other clergy; and all our people. Grant that your Word may be truly preached and truly heard, your Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Day One

April 22

+In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

How priceless is your love, O God! Your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings. (Psalm 36:7)

My sister, the people have chosen you and have affirmed their trust in you by acclaiming your election.

I could easily have created [people] possessed of all that they should need both for body and soul, but I wish that one should have need of the other, and that they should be My ministers to administer the graces and the gifts that they have received from me ... See then, that I have made [people] My ministers, and placed them in diverse stations and various ranks, in order that they may make use of the virtue of love.

- The Dialogue, Catherine of Siena

A period of silent meditation and prayer may now follow.

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.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Lover of souls, unite us with Anne in the ministries of your Church. Grant that the growing bonds of mutual affection between us may strengthen our will to love you with heart, mind, and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves, that we may serve together your glory, and the good of your creation, your Son, and the many children made in your image. Let us love your new bishop in your name, so that she may be free to follow your call in all that she says and does, and always to your glory. Amen.

Day Two

April 23

+In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:4-6)

You are called to guard the faith, unity, and discipline of the Church.

For, in Baptism and through the mediation of the Blood of My Only-begotten Son, you have received the form of faith; which faith you exercise in virtue by the light of reason, which gives you life and causes you to walk in the path of truth, and, by its means, to arrive at Me, the True Light.

- The Dialogue, Catherine of Siena

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for ever and ever. Amen.

Guard the faith of your Church, Holy Wisdom, and clothe it in righteousness and truth. Give grace to your daughter Anne so to follow in your way that she may lead others in right discernment. Give to each of us the will to seek out your light, as it is found in the Word and the Sacraments, and make us thereby a beacon of salvation for the world, for the sake of your Holy Name. Amen.

Day Three

April 24

+In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-19)

Will you be faithful in prayer, and in the study of Holy Scripture, that you may have the mind of Christ?

The soul who is lifted by a very great and yearning desire for God and the salvation of souls begins by exercising herself, for a certain space of time, in the ordinary virtues, remaining in the call of self-knowledge, in order to know better the goodness of God toward her. ... Labor, therefore, to increase the fire of thy desire, and let not a moment pass without crying to Me with humble voice, or without continual prayers before Me for thy neighbors.

- The Dialogue, Catherine of Siena

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O God, who is always more ready to hear than we to pray: kindle in your daughter, Anne, such affection for conversation with you that she may be always ready to hear you and to respond with heartfelt openness to your word and your grace. Remind us of our promise to uphold her with our prayers, and keep us from coldness of spirit and torpor of soul. Let Anne, and each of us, draw ever closer to the mind of your Christ, for the sake of your graciousness to us. Amen.

Day Four

April 25

+In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. (2 Timothy 4:1-2)

Will you boldly proclaim and interpret the Gospel of Christ, enlightening the minds and stirring up the conscience of your people?

To the Holy Spirit is attributed fire and to the Son wisdom, by which wisdom My ministers receive the light of grace, so that they may administer this light to others, with gratitude. ... And every one has had the illumination of this light according as [they] needed it for [their] salvation or that of others, or for the exposition of the Scriptures.

- Catherine of Siena

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for ever and ever. Amen.

Word of God, eternal Truth, Wisdom and Way, our Lord Jesus Christ: loosen the tongue of your preacher, Anne, and let her proclaim with boldness and joy the fearfully good news of your incarnation, your death and resurrection, and your embodiment of God's terrific mercy. Open the ears of your people to hear your call to repent and see that the kingdom of God is at hand. Send the Holy Spirit to guide and goad us to respond with faith and enthusiasm. In the name of God. Amen.

Day Five

April 26

+In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you, and your favor to those who are true of heart. (Psalm 36:10)

With your fellow bishops you will share in the leadership of the Church throughout the world. Your heritage is the faith of patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and those of every generation who have looked to God in hope.

And these My anointed ones and ministers are peculiarly beloved by Me, on account of the dignity which I placed in them, and because this Treasure which I placed in their hands they did not hide through negligence and ignorance, but rather recognized it to be from Me, and exercised with care and profound humility with real and true virtues; and because I, for the salvation of souls, ... placed in them so much excellency they never rested like good shepherds from putting sheep into the fold of the Holy Church.

- The Dialogue, Catherine of Siena

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for ever and ever. Amen.

O God, you have called forth and sent abroad apostles of every generation to tend your flock and feed your sheep. You have ordained them and sustained them, and required their constant love and charity for you and for your people. We give thanks for the faithful and steadfast service of the bishops of Ohio throughout the generations, and most recently for Mark, Arthur, David, William, and Clark. We pray that Anne will know herself to be upheld and embraced by such a cloud of witness to your love that she may be humbled and emboldened to be your bishop in this place. In the name of Christ. Amen.

Day Six

April 27

+In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Honor everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. (1 Peter 2:17)

At the Offertory, it is appropriate that the bread and wine be brought to the Altar by the family or friends of the newly ordained. The family of the newly ordained may receive Communion before other members of the congregation.

The heart of man is in no wise so drawn as by love, because he was made by love. This seems to be the reason why he loves so much, that he was made by nothing but love, both his soul and his body. For by love God created him in His Image and Likeness, and by love his father and mother gave him substance, conceiving and bearing a son. God, therefore, seeing that man is so ready to love, throws the book of love straight at him, giving him the Word His Only-Begotten Son, who takes our humanity, to make a great peace.

- The Letters, Catherine of Siena

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for ever and ever. Amen.

Holy Trinity, you have set us in families of blood and affection, that we may practice among ourselves the bonds of love that bind us to you. Bless and keep Anne's family, protect their home, and sanctify them so that they may be witnesses to your grace among themselves, and overflow with your mercy toward others. Keep us ever mindful of the needs of the lonely, for your love's sake. In the name of the mystery that is Trinity and Unity. Amen.

Day Seven

April 28

+In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

[The LORD] has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)

Will you be merciful to all, show compassion to the poor and strangers, and defend those who have no helper?

The soul, enamoured of my truth, never ceases to serve the whole world.
- The Dialogue, Catherine of Siena

This is the rule: that he hold him ready to give bodily life for the salvation of souls,
and temporal goods to help the body of his neighbor.
- The Letters, Catherine of Siena

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for ever and ever. Amen.

Most merciful God, keep us ever mindful of your tenderness toward those whose every need is known to you. Open our hearts and our eyes to see your Christ in every person whom you send us to serve. Bless Anne with deep compassion, enduring patience, wisdom, and grace to know and to do your will, seeking and serving Christ in all; Christ in whose name we pray. Amen.

Day Eight

April 29

+In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

[The LORD said] “I will come down and talk with you there; and I will take some of the spirit that is on you and put it on them; and they shall bear the burden of the people along with you so that you will not bear it all by yourself.” (Numbers 11:17)

Therefore, Father, make Anne a bishop in your Church. Pour out upon her the power of your princely Spirit, whom you bestowed upon your beloved Son Jesus Christ, with whom he endowed the apostles, and by whom your Church is built up in every place, to the glory and unceasing praise of your Name.

Clothe me, clothe me with Thee, O Eternal Truth, that I may run my mortal course with true obedience and the light of holy faith, with which light I feel that my soul is about to become inebriated afresh.

- The Dialogue, Catherine of Siena

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For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Spirit of God, come with your breath, your flame, your brooding creative power and make of your people a new creation. Fill Anne with your indwelling presence and assure her daily of it. Inspire us to your purpose, and inflame us with the desire to do God's will, together, as you and the Son and the Father are ever one. Amen.

Thanks be to Thee, Supreme and Eternal Father, Satisfier of holy desires, and Lover of our Salvation, who, through Thy Love, didst give us Love himself ...

I leave you the imprint of grace, as does a seal, which, when lifted from the hot wax upon which it has been impressed, leaves behind its imprint, so the virtue of this Sacrament remains in the soul ...

(Catherine of Siena, *The Dialogue*)

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All scriptural quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version, except for those from the Psalms, which are from the Book of Common Prayer.

Quotations of Catherine of Siena are from

The Dialogue of St. Catherine of Siena: A conversation with God on living your spiritual life to the fullest; Dictated by her, while in the state of ecstasy, to her secretaries, and completed in the year of Our Lord 1370. Translated with an Introduction by Algar Thorold. A New and Abridged Edition, TAN Books, 2010. Kindle edition.

and *The Letters of Saint Catherine of Siena*, translated & edited with Introduction by Vida D. Scudder, 1905; edited by Darrell Wright, 2016. Kindle Edition.

Prayers adapted by the Reverend Rosalind C. Hughes.