



## We Pray for Pope Benedict / Prayer Service

**Leader:** The pope has three main jobs: Teacher, Governor, and Sanctifier.

- He teaches through his writing and preaching about Jesus.
- He governs, or leads, with the authority handed on to him from St. Peter, the first pope.
- He sanctifies, or helps make holy, through prayer and the sacraments.

**All:** O God, we pray for Pope Benedict as he carries out his mission during his visit to our country.

**Leader:** In his role as teacher, Pope Benedict comes to bring the truth of God's teachings to the people of our country and to representatives of other countries at the United Nations. May Pope Benedict receive and spread the wisdom of God's teachings.

**All:** Grant this, O God, and bless our teacher, Pope Benedict.

**Leader:** In his role as teacher, Pope Benedict will speak to our bishops and other teachers of our Catholic universities and schools. May his words inspire and inform them so that they will faithfully pass on the truths of our faith to all their students.

**All:** Grant this, O God, and bless our teacher, Pope Benedict.

**Leader:** In his role as leader, Pope Benedict comes to declare and defend the beliefs of the Catholic Church with the authority and courage of St. Peter. May Pope Benedict be strengthened in times of challenge and encouraged by the certainty of God's presence.

**All:** Grant this, O God, and bless our leader, Pope Benedict.

**Leader:** In his role as leader, Pope Benedict is called upon at times to correct those who act contrary to the teachings of Jesus and the beliefs of the Church. May Pope Benedict be successful in turning all people toward God's truth.

**All:** Grant this, O God, and bless our leader, Pope Benedict.

**Leader:** In his role as sanctifier, Pope Benedict comes to pray with us and celebrate the Eucharist, our greatest prayer. May Pope Benedict feel the power and support of our own prayers united with his.

**All:** Grant this, O God, and bless our sanctifier, Pope Benedict.

**Leader:** In his role as sanctifier, Pope Benedict comes to encourage us in our efforts to be faithful to our Baptisms and to follow Christ always. May Pope Benedict be successful in reaching all of us with his message.

**All:** Grant this, O God, and bless our sanctifier, Pope Benedict.

**Leader:** We thank God for Pope Benedict who comes to witness the love of God for all of us. May his presence among us remind us of the important gift of faith we have received from God.

*Pause for reflection.*

**Leader:** O God, we ask your blessing on our Holy Father and on all of us in the name of Christ, our Lord.

**All:** Amen.