



## **Intercessions and Blessings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter – May 11, 2025**

### **General Intercessions**

Choose from among the following prayers:

For mothers – whose unconditional love for their children, in moments of joy and difficulty, mirrors the love of Christ for his Church – that they may be given the grace to be true witnesses to the Gospel message, enthusiastically accepting the challenge of forming the next generation of saints. Let us pray to the Lord.

For all mothers – biological mothers, godmothers, grandmothers, stepmothers, birth mothers, adoptive mothers, foster mothers, spiritual mothers, and those who mother in any way – that they may be supported and encouraged in their special vocation of love. Let us pray to the Lord.

For all mothers mourning the loss of a child, that they may grieve and find healing, comforted by the hope that they will one day be reunited with their child in the Heavenly Kingdom. Let us pray to the Lord.

For women experiencing infertility, that our Heavenly Father may comfort their hearts and help them discern how to share their gift of femininity through other opportunities to nurture and encourage. Let us pray to the Lord.





## **Blessing for Mothers**

After reciting the Prayer after Communion, invite all mothers to stand and offer the following prayer together:

Loving God,  
as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children,  
so you give life and care for your Church.  
Bless these women, as we celebrate this day in their honor.  
May they be strengthened as Christian mothers.  
Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.  
Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor and appreciate them with  
a spirit of profound respect.  
May the example of Mary, mother of Jesus, inspire them to live their vocation  
as Christian mothers and call their children to faith.  
Guide and protect them in challenging times and help them to continue to  
trust in you all the days of their life.  
Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.





## **Blessing for a Child in the Womb**

If appropriate, the mother is invited to come forward, along with the father and other family members. With hands extended, the Priest concludes the intercessions by blessing the child in the womb and all those present, in these words.

God, author of all life, bless, we pray, this unborn child;  
give constant protection and grant a healthy birth  
that is the sign of our rebirth one day  
into the eternal rejoicing of heaven.  
Lord, who have brought to this woman  
the wondrous joy of motherhood,  
grant her comfort in all anxiety  
and make her determined  
to lead her child along the ways of salvation.

### **[For the father:**

Lord of the ages, who have singled out this man  
to know the grace and pride of fatherhood,  
grant him courage in this new responsibility, and make him an example of  
justice and truth for this child.]

### **[For the family:**

Lord, endow this family with sincere and enduring love  
as they prepare to welcome this child into  
their midst.]

Lord, you have put into the hearts of all men and women of goodwill  
a great awe and wonder at the gift of new life;  
fill this parish community  
with faithfulness to the teachings of the Gospel  
and new resolve to share  
in the spiritual formation of this child in Christ  
our Savior,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
Amen.

