

QVSR Sea Sunday Prayers

Let us pray ...

For the world's harvest, for the fruits of land and sea, for the creativity of different nations and cultures, and for the seafarers who bring these cargoes to the ports of the world...
let us give thanks to the Lord.

We thank you, O Lord.

For the courage, steadfastness, and devotion of all those who serve at sea, for their skills of seamanship, engineering, and navigation. The willingness of seafarers to serve and live a life of sacrifice in order that we might have an abundance of goods and supplies...
let us give thanks to the Lord.

We thank you, O Lord.

For the work of those who construct and equip ships and provide for their safety; and for the dedicated service of chaplains, volunteer ship visitors and all those in the world who minister to the needs of seafarers...
let us give thanks to the Lord.

We thank you, O Lord.

Let us pray for all seafarers, especially those who are far from their loved ones during these COVID times, who suffer dislocation in their lives, who experience the despair of isolation, who are fearful of piracy on their voyages, and who longingly seek respite, friendship, comfort, and support. We especially pray for the seafarers' vaccination programme around the world which will allow this itinerant population to be protected from this virus and enable them to enjoy much needed shore leave and rest.
Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Let us pray especially for all those who serve in the navies of nations to protect and keep open the sea routes, for all merchant seafarers who crew the ships and for those hardy and courageous people who earn their living as fishers to provide our food.
Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all those who carry out the services of the ports and harbours, who crew the lifeboats, and who watch over the coast.
Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For all young people studying navigation and seamanship, for the staff of nautical training colleges, for all ship operators, crewing agencies, and seafaring union representatives and all the welfare Associations that care for seafarers and their families. We pray for the families, partners and dear friends of seafarers who face loneliness and anxiety whilst their loved ones are away at sea.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lord we pray for our world, we ask that you bring peace and harmony to our nations as we emerge from these challenging times. May we take better care of your world for the sake of future generations and all of nature. May we each, just where we are, try to reach out in love to those who need our help and support following your example.

We acknowledge that you are our God and Creator, that this is your world and that you are indeed the Lord of sea and sky.

Amen

Benediction

As we journeying through life,
may we never lose our sense of direction,
never lose sight of the landmark
towards which we travel.
And should cloud or rain obscure our vision,
may we draw closer to you, O Lord
so that our feet may tread
in your footsteps,
your words be our encouragement,
and your love our protection
against the storms that assail us.

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face;
the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Amen