

Fellow Prophets, Pray for Us

Reader 1: Lord, we need your help. As we go into the world to care for those who are oppressed and needy, to speak out against injustice, and to proclaim the Good News, grant us the gifts of the prophets before us.

Reader 2: During the Salvadoran war, Archbishop Oscar Romero, sometimes called “bishop of the poor,” called on his government to stop the violence against its own citizens. He was assassinated in 1980 while celebrating Mass. God, help us to be like Oscar Romero. Give us courage.

All: Oscar Romero, pray for us.

Reader 3: By 1997 the order founded by Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, the Missionaries of Charity, was established in 123 countries. Mother Teresa, along with the Sisters, dedicated her life to serving “the poorest of the poor.” God, help us to be like Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. Give us humility.

All: Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, pray for us.

Reader 4: One hundred years before the time of Shakespeare, Saint Thomas More, an important leader in the English Church, was put to death for refusing to recognize the king as head of the Church of England. God, help us to be like Saint Thomas More. Give us strength.

All: Saint Thomas More, pray for us.

Reader 5: Six hundred years before the birth of Jesus, Jeremiah proclaimed God's Word during a time of national turmoil and even disintegration. Yet Jeremiah trusted that God would remain faithful and would extend his covenant to the whole world. God, help us to be like Jeremiah. Give us trust.

All: Jeremiah, pray for us.

Reader 6: In 1962 Blessed John XXIII convened the Ecumenical Council known as Vatican II. Many remarked on his personal warmth and admired his holiness; people affectionately referred to him as “good Pope John.” God, help us to be like Blessed John XXIII. Give us goodness.

All: Blessed John XXIII, pray for us.



Reader 7: During the 1930s Dorothy Day cofounded the Catholic Worker movement, a network of charitable self-help communities for people who were burdened with poverty due to the Great Depression. God, help us to be like Dorothy Day. Give us concern for the poor.

All: Dorothy Day, pray for us.

Reader 8: While a prisoner at Auschwitz concentration camp during World War II, Saint Maximilian Kolbe volunteered to take the place of one of the ten men condemned to die in reprisal for another prisoner's escape. God, help us to be like Saint Maximilian Kolbe. Give us selflessness.

All: Saint Maximilian Kolbe, pray for us. All you holy people, pray for us! Amen.

