



# Current Issues in Prayer

July 2025

The Pope invites people of good will to come together and pray **that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.**



## Getting started:

I take some quiet time and allow God's presence to guide me in prayer. I reflect briefly on those paths that lift up my desire to give myself to those around me.



## Short story:

Without planning too much, I decided to spend the day driving to a favourite spot quite a distance away. I left without planning the route. As I came to the open countryside, I got lost. My mind had wandered off both because of the car-radio as well as my many thoughts about work and family situations, about my finances and other unresolved issues. And I looked around as I drove to glimpse some sign or someone from the area, to get back on track.



As I was doing this, it suddenly dawned on me how often I lose my way in my life in general. How often we get lost in superficial thoughts because of which we often miss the right path: thinking materialistically or wandering aimlessly within social media, advertisements, empty imaginations, roads that lead to discouragement, pride, strife and egoism. All we need is to be aware of our thoughts so as to direct them in ways that lead to life: truth, forgiveness, hope, faith – paths which might seem difficult to follow – yet they guide us to the right direction.

As I pondered, it also occurred to me to link the pathways that lead to life with the teaching of the Gospel. God's Word is certainly a guide to real peace and joy ... to life!



## Time to reflect:

Which were those circumstances that caused me to miss the way indicated by the Gospel? Then, what did I do? Did I turn to reflection and prayer in order to discern what I was to do? Did I think of someone who could help me get back to the Way of Christ?



## Let us pray:

Grant Lord, that through the Gospel, I may identify true paths that lead me to what is genuinely good and that fill my heart with the motivation to give of myself to others.



## Inspiration:

In the cross is the history of the world: grace and sin, mercy and repentance, good and evil, time and eternity.

*Pope Francis*



## Hands on:

I recognize that aspect of my life that separates me from the path of the Gospel and decide on stopping its negative influence on my life. In the process I pray for light from the Word of Jesus and seek to follow it.