

Series on the Mass, Part 59: The Libera Nos, Part 1

April 25, 2021

The prayer after the Our Father develops the last petition of the Our Father. This prayer looks to the evils of the past: our sins and the consequences of these sins, which remain even after the sins are forgiven. This is where penance and prayer is needed to correct these bad inclinations. We look to the evils of the present, which are our sins that have not yet been confessed and forgiven and also the temptations that we are subject to in daily life. We look to the future, beginning from the end of Mass and onward, whereby we could be subject to any number of evils.

One of the marks of Catholic piety is to turn to the saints and particularly the Blessed Virgin Mary for assistance. This prayer first turns to Our Lady, then Ss. Peter and Paul, St. Andrew, and all the Saints. This is a sign of humility, to turn to others for help and, by it, we show that we believe in the supernatural life, thus strengthening our supernatural hope.

We realize our sinfulness and ask those who have been purified or, in the case of Our Lady, have never been sullied by sin, to help us present our demands to Almighty God. We ask for peace from Our Lord, the King of Peace, so that His reign of peace can begin in our hearts and spread throughout the world from there. We can only spread peace to others if we have it in the first place and we will only have peace in our hearts if we have peace with God. Thus, the importance of regular confession and devout prayer mentioned earlier.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Rev. Charles Van Vliet, FSSP
Pastor, Regina Caeli Parish*