

THE LORD'S PRAYER (OUR FATHER): TEXT, LATIN ORIGINAL, AND THEOLOGICAL EXPLANATION

The Lord's Prayer (Our Father) is the only prayer given to us directly by Jesus Christ during the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 6:9-13). It stands as the ultimate pattern of Christian prayer, containing the fullness of theology and trust in the Father.

1. The Canonical Text of the Lord's Prayer (King James Version)

"Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen."

2. The Latin Original (Pater Noster)

"Pater noster, qui es in caelis, sanctificetur nomen tuum. Adveniat regnum tuum. Fiat voluntas tua, sicut in caelo et in terra. Panem nostrum quotidianum da nobis hodie. Et dimitte nobis debita nostra, sicut et nos dimittimus debitoribus nostris. Et ne nos inducas in tentationem, sed libera nos a malo. Amen."

3. Explanation of the Seven Petitions

Each of the seven petitions of the Lord's Prayer holds deep spiritual significance:

- 'Our Father which art in heaven': We recognize God as our common Father, declaring our heavenly inheritance.
- 'Hallowed be Thy name': We pray that God's name is glorified through our righteous lives and good works.
- 'Thy kingdom come': Seeking the indwelling of God's grace and Holy Spirit within our hearts in this life.
- 'Thy will be done...': The expression of our complete submission and trust in His divine providence.
- 'Give us this day our daily bread': The Greek word 'epiousios' (supersubstantial) refers both to physical daily food and to the spiritual Food—Holy Communion.
- 'And forgive us our debts...': The spiritual law of mutual forgiveness. God forgives us only as we forgive others.
- 'And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil': Requesting spiritual protection from trials and the evil one.