

FORM OF PRAYER TO BE USED BEFORE AND DURING SYNOD MEETING.

Prayer for the Divine Blessing.

ALmighty FATHER, who in the beginning of the Gospel didst cause the Apostles and Elders to meet together under the guidance of Thy Holy Spirit; and hast promised, through Thy Son Jesus Christ, to be with Thy Church to the end of the world; Vouchsafe, we pray Thee, to be present with the Synod of this Diocese now about to assemble [*or now assembled*]; give unto them the spirit of wisdom, patience, love, and of a sound mind; and so direct, sanctify, and govern them that they may seek truth and peace; and that through them the saving Gospel of Christ may be more effectually preached and ministered; Thy dispersed sheep gathered into the fold, and Thy Holy Church established, strengthened, settled, united, and sanctified; through the merits and intercession of the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son our Lord.—*Amen.*

A Prayer for Unity.

O GOD, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Saviour, the Prince of Peace; give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions. Take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from Godly union and concord; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, and one Hope of our Calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may henceforth be all of one heart, and of one soul, united in one holy bond of Truth and Peace, of Faith and Charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—*Amen.*

A Prayer for the Divine Guidance of the Synod.

O MOST GRACIOUS LORD GOD, who by Thine only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and by Thy Spirit in His Holy Apostles, didst institute the sacred order of Bishops in Thy Church, to feed, to build up, and to govern; We humbly pray Thee to be assisting to those who are appointed to choose out one to serve in the office of a Bishop in this Diocese; and so to cleanse their hearts from all earthly and partial motives, and so to guide and direct their judgment, and overrule their designs and operations, that he whom they shall choose may be the best fitted, by piety, wisdom, and charity, by singleness of heart and earnestness of spirit, to enkindle amongst us a more living godliness, and to promote the extension, the purity, the unity and stability of thy Church, to the glory of Thy great Name, and the hastening of the perfect kingdom of our blessed Redeemer, through Him, who with Thee and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth one God blessed for evermore.—*Amen.*