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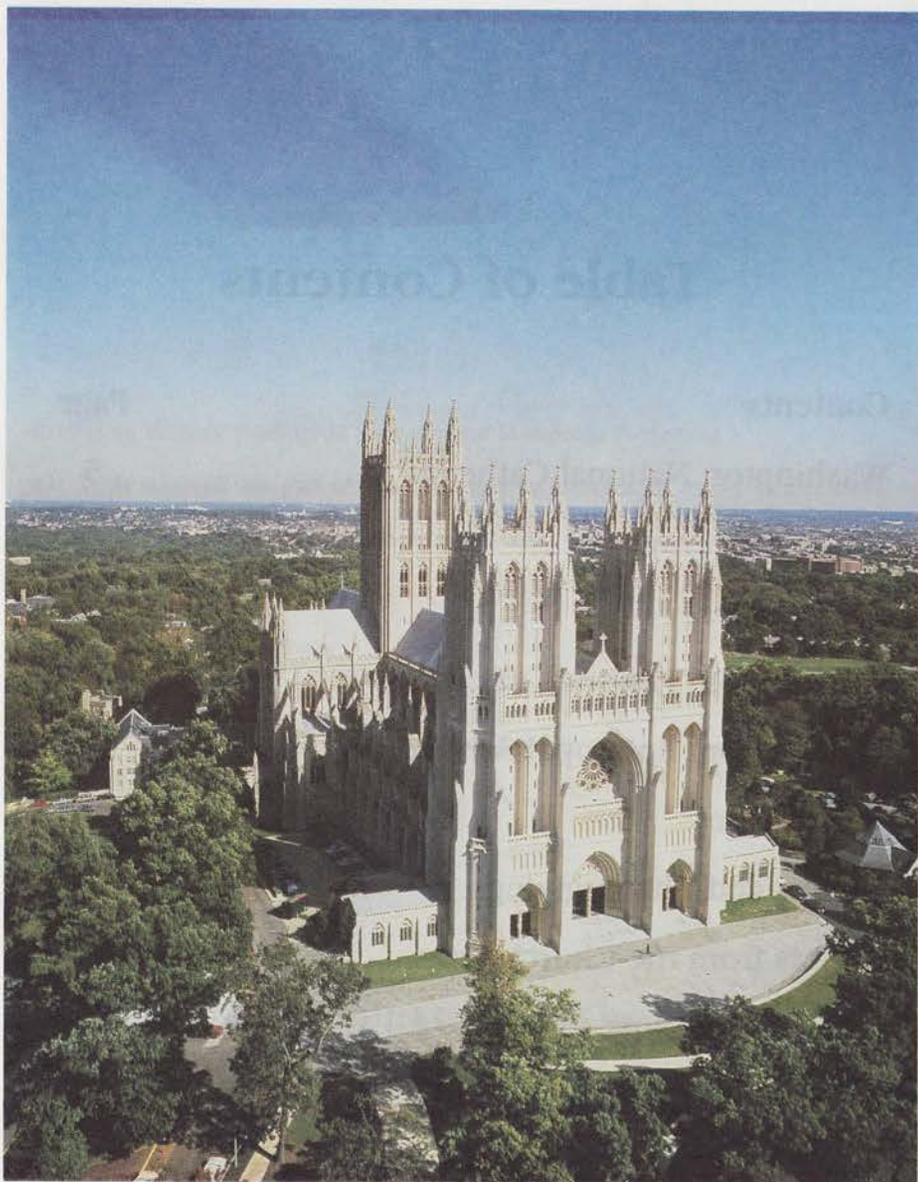
**Chalice Year—Primary, Unit IV**

# THE CHURCH PRAYS



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The National Cathedral is a house of prayer  
for all people.

## Washington National Cathedral

The pictures in this book are from the Washington National Cathedral of the Episcopal Church.

The real name of this beautiful house of prayer is The Cathedral Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul. It is built on Mount Saint Alban, and it looks out over the whole city of Washington.

People from all faiths and denominations are welcome to visit the Cathedral and to worship in the great nave or in one of the several chapels.

The building was completed in 1990 after eighty-three years of construction. It is made of stone and is the sixth largest cathedral in the world.

The Cathedral is one-tenth of a mile long, and it has more than two hundred stained glass windows. The largest window is 26 feet wide. The average piece of stone weighs 300 pounds.

The prayers in this book are from *The Book of Common Prayer*. We hope you will have a chance to visit the National Cathedral and join in the prayers of the Church.

—*The Editors*

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

—*Contemporary version,*  
*page 364*

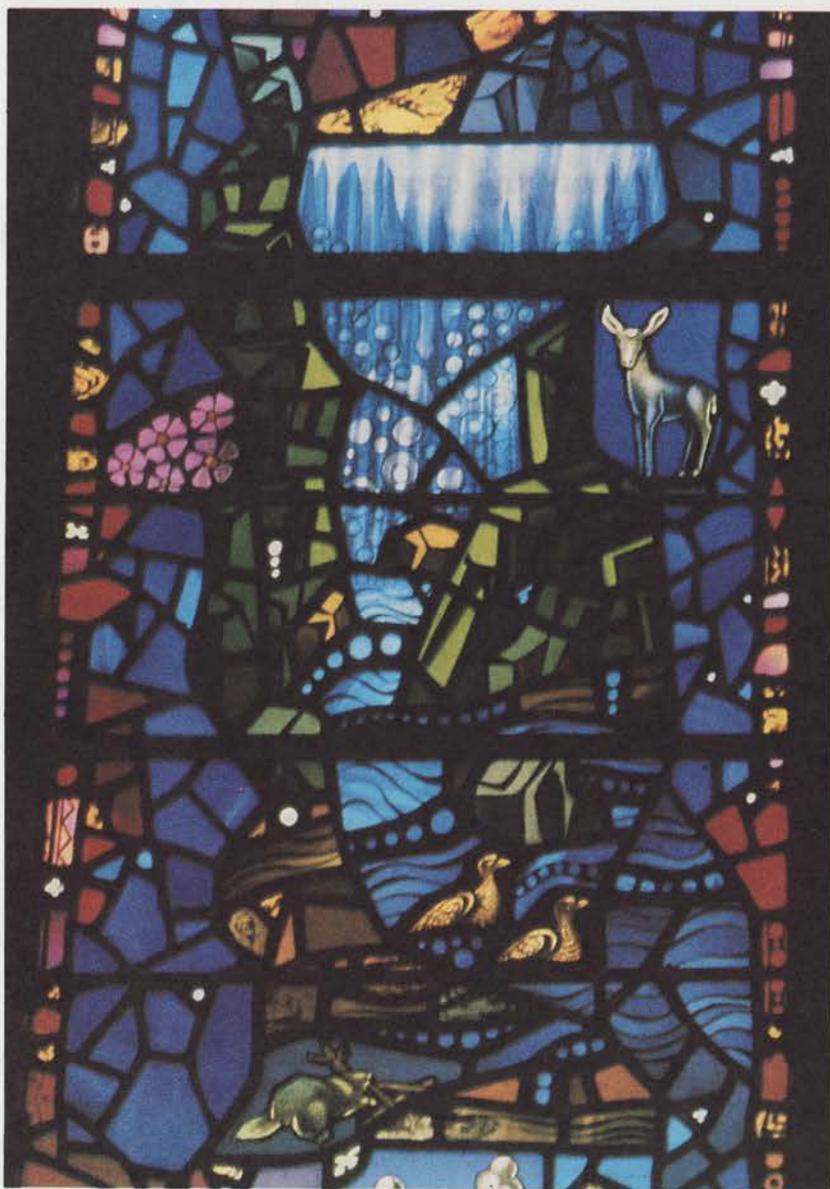
## Daily Prayers

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Morning Prayer II, page 100*

Heavenly Father, send your Holy Spirit into our hearts, to direct and rule us according to your will, to comfort us in all our afflictions, to defend us from all error, and to lead us into all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Noonday, page 107*



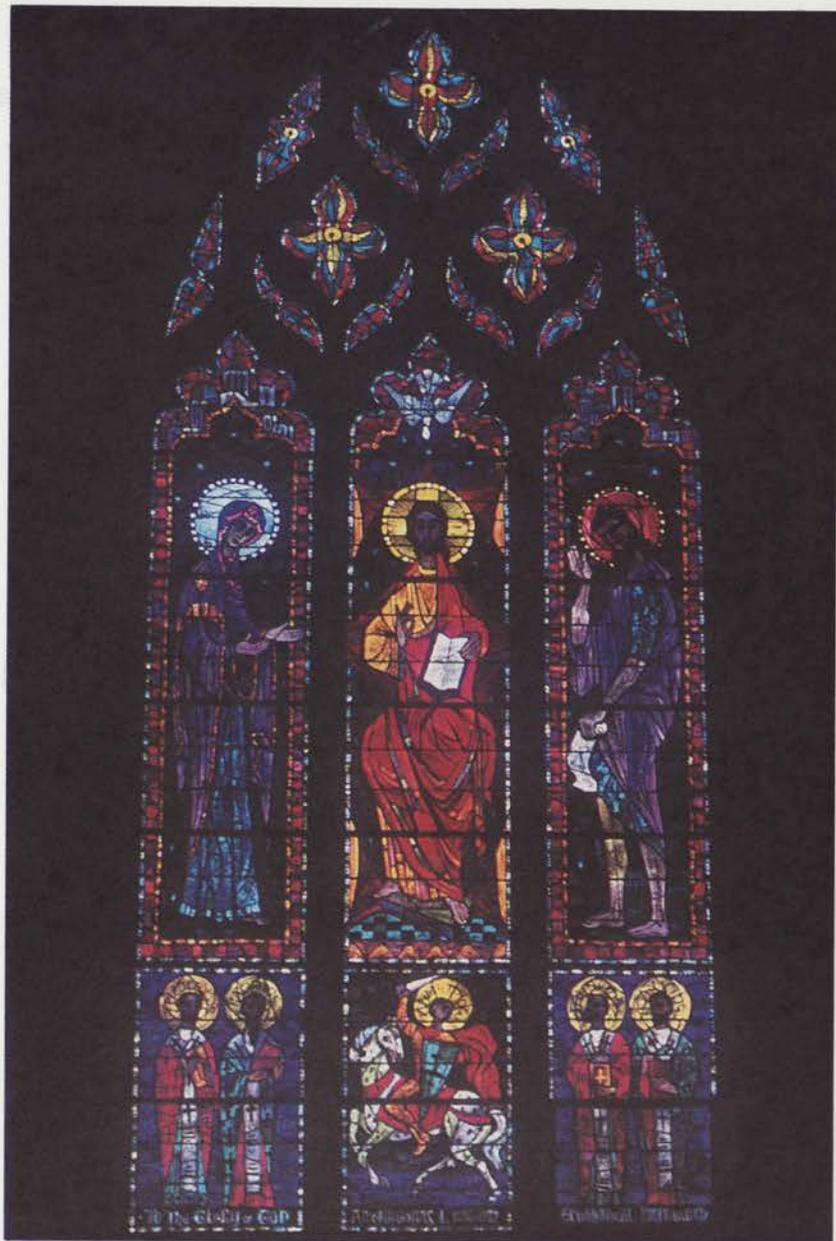
Lord God, you keep us safe.  
Help us to serve you. Amen.

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. Amen.

—*Evening Prayer II, page 124*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

—*Compline, page 134*



O God, fill us with your love and keep us well.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Prayers from Pastoral Offices

O God, the source of all health: So fill my heart with faith in your love, that with calm expectancy I may make room for your power to possess me, and gracefully accept your healing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Ministration to the Sick, page 461*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies and giver of comfort: Deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn; that, casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Burial II, page 505*

## For Ourselves and Others

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray you, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

—*A Prayer of Self-Dedication, Prayers, page 832*

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*For those we Love, Prayers, page 831*

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

—*Morning Prayer II, page 79*

## Prayers from Episcopal Services

We pray to you, Lord Christ.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the Day of your Coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all the members of your Church in their vocation and ministry, that they may serve you in a true and godly life, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

For our Presiding Bishop, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons, that they may be filled with your love, may hunger for truth, and may thirst after righteousness, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

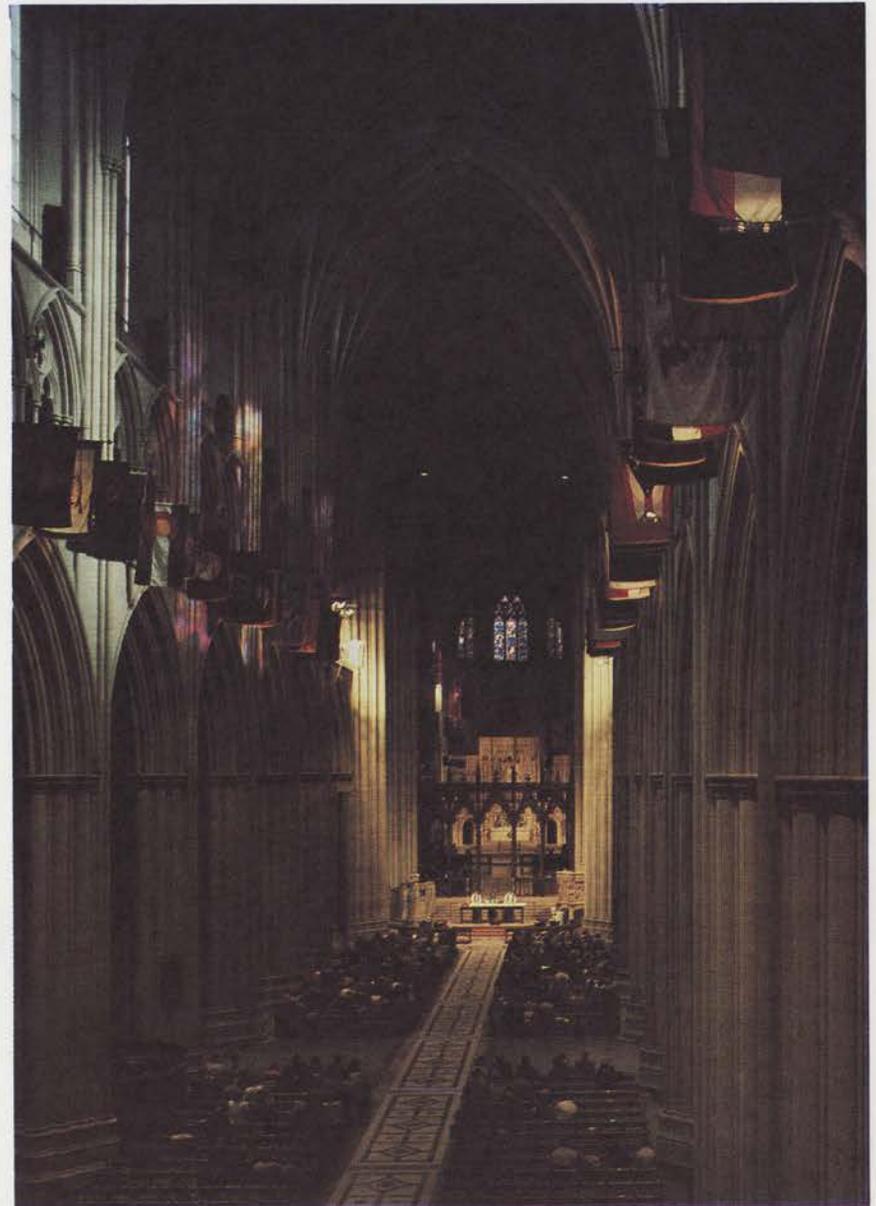
—*Litany for Ordinations, page 548*

Everliving God, strengthen and sustain us, that with patience and understanding we may love and care for your people; and grant that together they may follow Jesus Christ, offering to you their gifts and talents; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

—*New Ministry, page 560*

Lord Jesus Christ, make this a temple of your presence and a house of prayer. Be always near us when we seek you in this place. Draw us to you, when we come alone and when we come with others, to find comfort and wisdom, to be supported and strengthened, to rejoice and give thanks. May it be here, Lord Christ, that we are made one with you and with one another, so that our lives are sustained and sanctified for your service. Amen.

—*Consecration of a Church, page 568*



Lord Jesus Christ, be close to us when we pray.  
We praise you and give you thanks. Amen.

## The Psalter

Hear my teaching, O my people;  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.  
I will open my mouth in a parable;  
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.  
That which we have heard and known,  
and what our forefathers have told us,  
we will not hide from their children.  
We will recount to generations to come  
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord,  
and the wonderful works he has done.

—*Psalm 78:1-4, page 694*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.  
Know this: The Lord himself is God;  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;  
his mercy is everlasting;  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

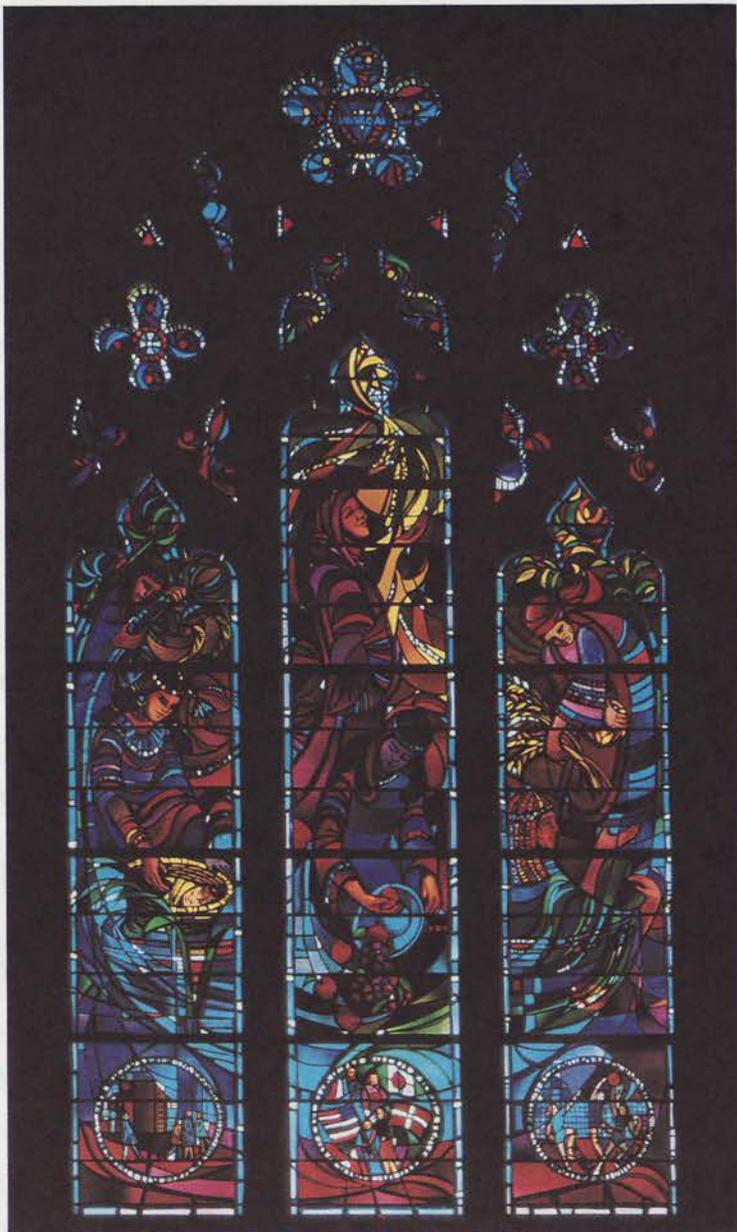
—*Psalm 100, page 729*

The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.  
He revives my soul  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's  
sake.  
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of  
death,  
I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.  
You spread a table before me in the presence of those  
who trouble me;  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.  
Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all  
the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

—*Psalm 23, page 612*

Praise the Lord, all you nations;  
laud him, all you peoples.  
For his loving-kindness toward us is great,  
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures for ever.  
Hallelujah!

—*Psalm 117, page 760*



Lord, we thank you for all people who love and serve you. Amen.

## Prayers and Thanksgivings

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*For Schools and Colleges, Prayers, page 824*

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes all understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*For a Birthday, Prayers, page 830 (adapted)*

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant us that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

—*A Prayer attributed to St. Francis, Prayers, page 833*

Bless, O Lord, your gifts to our use and us to your service; for Christ's sake. Amen.

—*Grace at Meals, Prayers, page 835*

Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

—*For Peace Among the Nations, Prayers, page 816*

O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth; deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*For our Enemies, Prayers, page 816*

O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

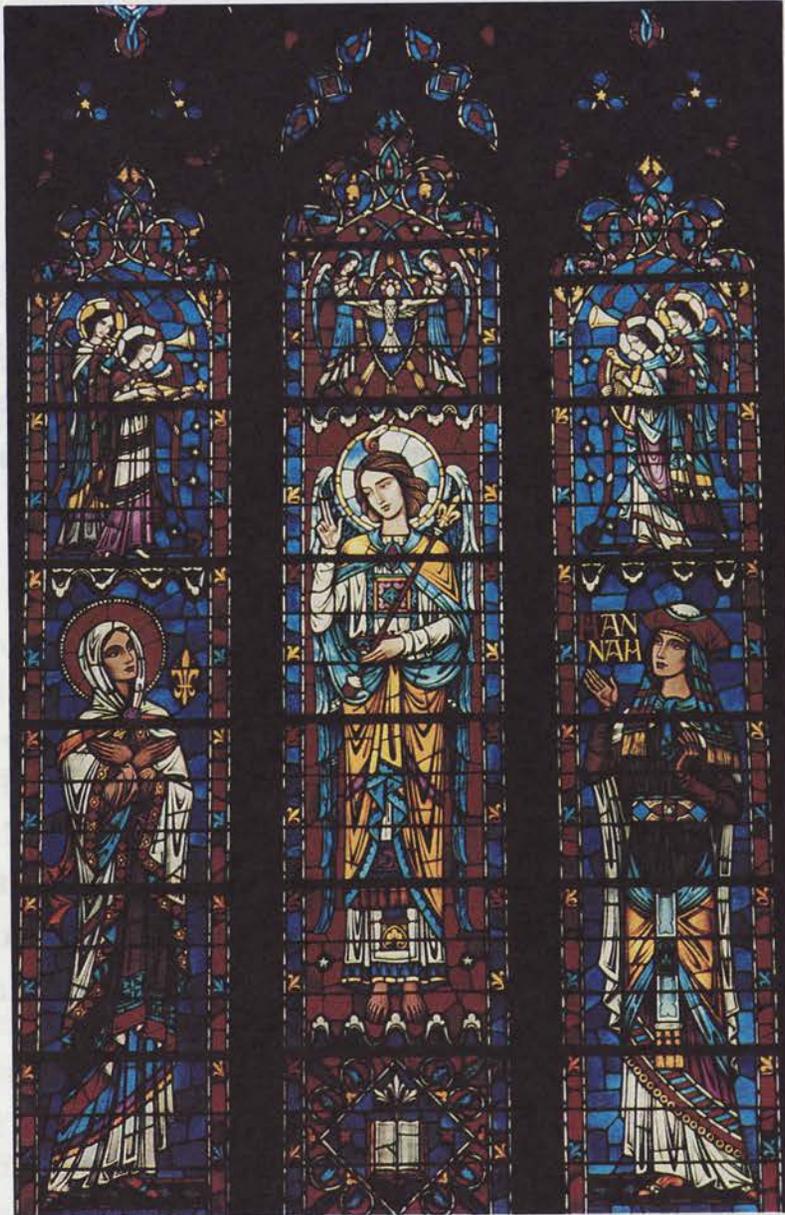
—*For Church Musicians and Artists, Prayers, page 819*

O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*For the Diversity of Races and Cultures, Thanksgivings, page 840*

We give you thanks, most gracious God, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers; for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers. We praise you for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity. Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation, to the honor and glory of your Name, now and for ever. Amen.

—*For the Beauty of the Earth, Thanksgivings, page 840*



O God, your Son Jesus Christ  
brings light into the world. Amen.

## Prayers from the Church Year

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

—*Fourth Sunday of Advent, page 212*

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

—*Christmas Day, page 212*

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

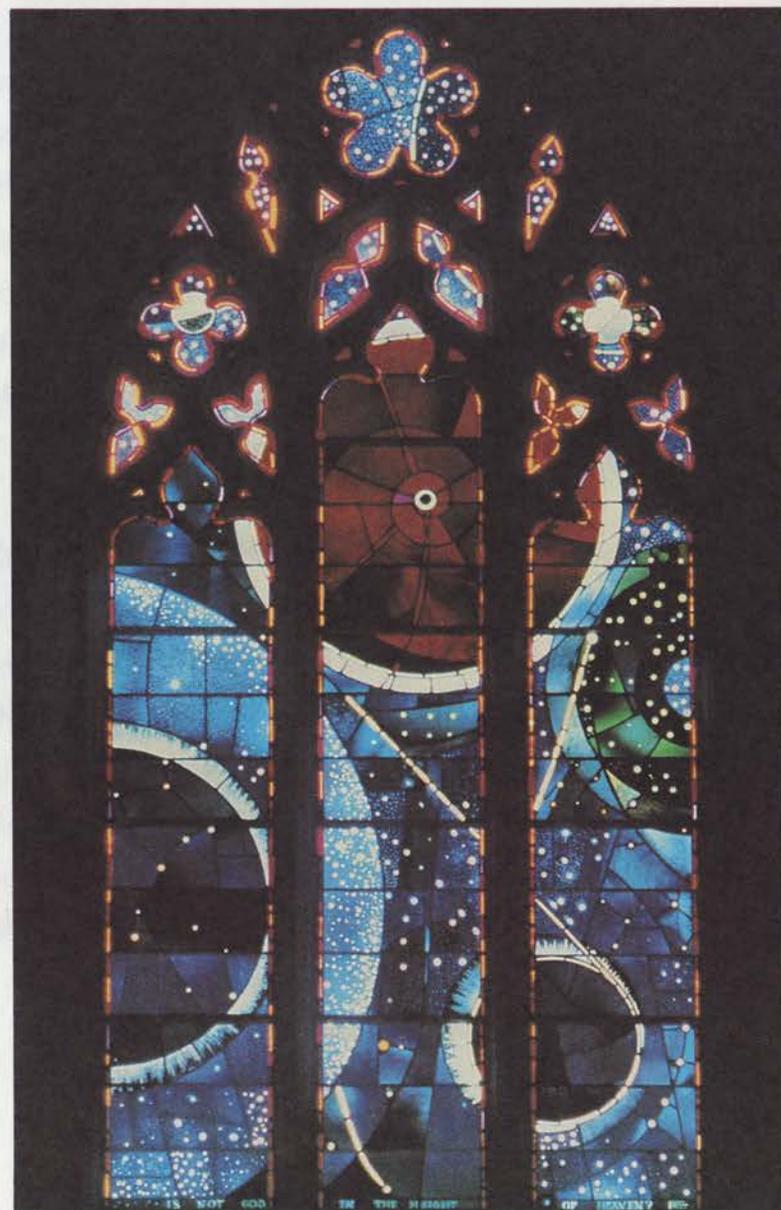
—*The Epiphany, page 214*

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

—*Fourth Sunday in Lent, page 219*

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

—*Easter Day, page 222*



O God, we praise you for the wonder and beauty of the skies. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## Collects for Saints

O God, you have taken to yourself the blessed Virgin Mary, mother of your incarnate Son: Grant that we, who have been redeemed by his blood, may share with her the glory of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

—*Saint Mary the Virgin, page 243*

O God, who from the family of your servant David raised up Joseph to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and the spouse of his virgin mother: Give us grace to imitate his uprightness of life and his obedience to your commands; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

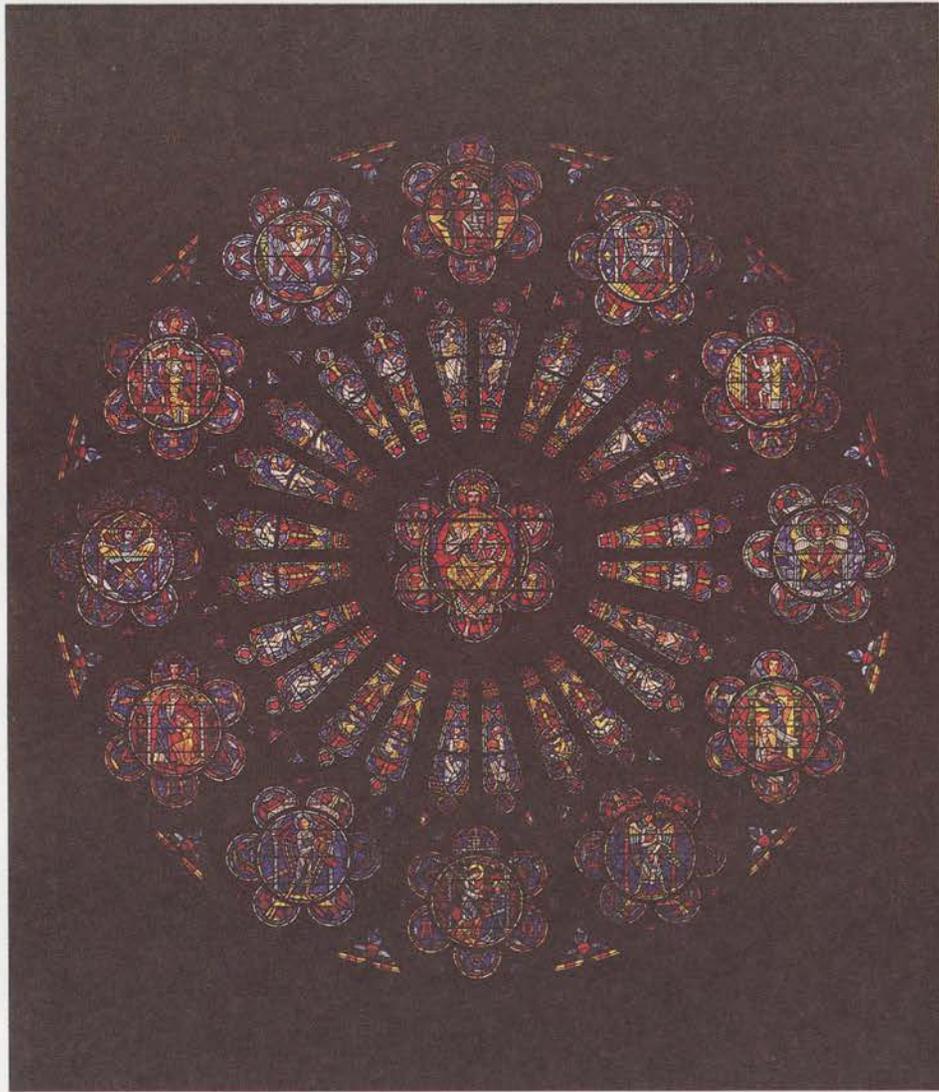
—*Saint Joseph, page 239*

Almighty God, whose blessed Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of body and of mind, and called her to be a witness of his resurrection: Mercifully grant that by your grace we may be healed from all our infirmities and know you in the power of his unending life; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

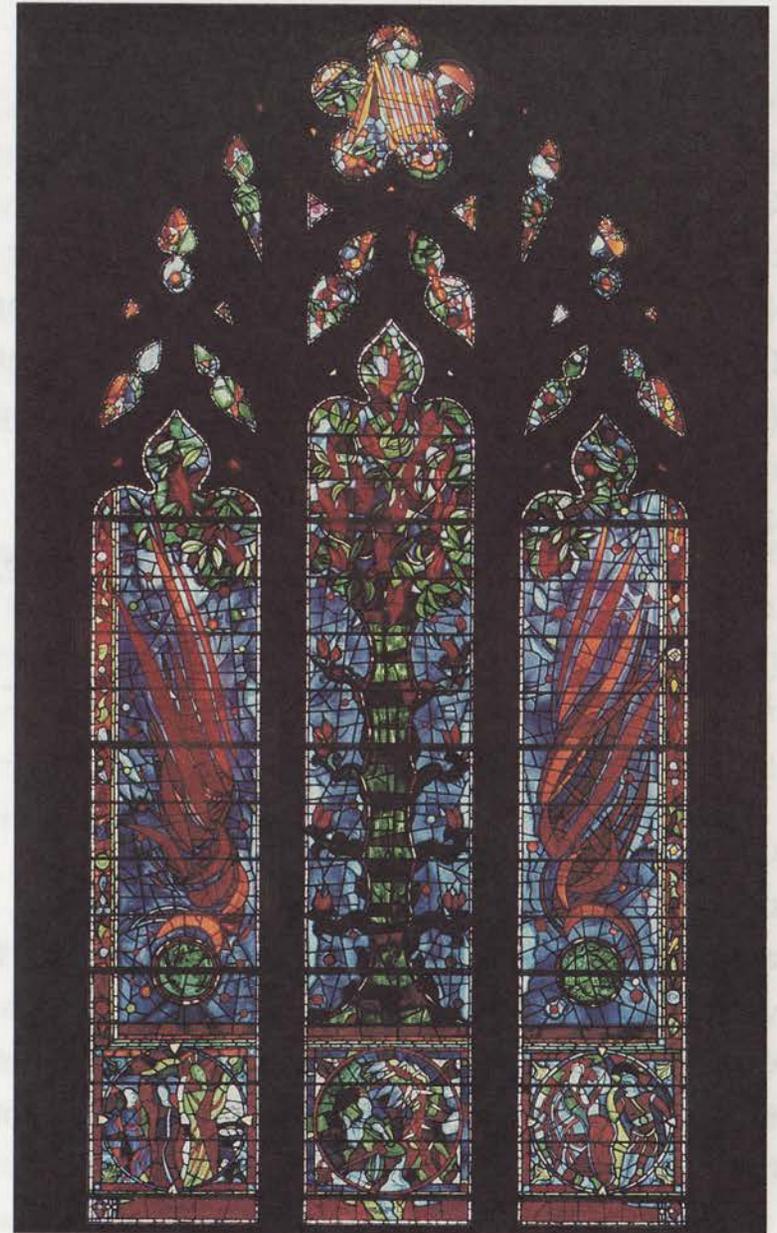
—*Saint Mary Magdalene, page 242*

Almighty God, whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you by their martyrdom: Grant that your Church, instructed by their teaching and example, and knit together in unity by your Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, which is Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

—*Saint Peter and Saint Paul, page 241*



Dear Lord, you are with us wherever we go.  
We give you thanks and praise. Amen.



Lord God, we lift up our hearts  
to you each day. Amen.

## Prayer for Pentecost

O God, who on this day taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: Grant us by the same Spirit to have right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

—*The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday, page 227*

## Prayers for the Season After Pentecost

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

—*Proper 9, page 230*

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

—*Proper 10, page 231*

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

—*Proper 25, page 235*

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

—*Proper 28, page 236*