

CHAPTER 4 PRAYER SERVICE

All: In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: God, come to my assistance.

All: Lord, make haste to help me.

Leader: Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Leader: You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb.

Group 1: You formed my inmost being;

you knit me in my mother's womb.

I praise you, because I am wonderfully made;

wonderful are your works!

Group 2: My very self you know.

My bones are not hidden from you,

When I was being made in secret,

fashioned in the depths of the earth.

Group 1: Your eyes saw me unformed;

in your book all are written down;

my days were shaped, before one came to be.

Group 2: Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Leader: You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb.

Pause here for a few moments of reflective silence.

Leader: God the Creator has loved each one of us into existence, knitting us together in our mothers' wombs. Let us give thanks for the gift of our lives and ask God to protect children who are unborn and vulnerable.

Reader: Our response will be, "Lord, hear our prayer."

For orphaned children throughout the world,

and especially those

who are abused or neglected,

that we might work to save them;

We pray to the Lord . . .

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For children who are unwanted by their parents,

that God grace might send others to love

and care for them;

We pray to the Lord . . .

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For every little child,

That we might accept and preserve each one

as a sign of the infinite love of God for us;

We pray to the Lord . . .

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For all unborn children,

that our love for them may keep them safe

until the joyous day of their birth;

We pray to the Lord . . .

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the Lord,
who rescues the life of the poor
from the power of the wicked,
might send an angel to guard and protect
all unborn children;

We pray to the Lord . . .

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: We offer up these prayers and petitions through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who is Jesus' mother and mother to us all, as we pray, Hail Mary . . .

All: In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.