

## PRAYER FOR THE YEAR OF THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

**JESUS**, yours is the name above all names;  
We offer you our heartfelt praise and gratitude.  
Deepen in us an abiding reverence  
For your Holy Name.

**Jesus, Saviour**, heal the wounds within  
That our sin and fear have inflicted.  
Set us free from all that hinders us from  
Rejoicing in your boundless love  
And sharing your goodness with others.

**Jesus, Friend**, draw us ever closer to you.  
We entrust all we carry in our hearts  
To your abundant mercy.

**Jesus, Lord**, pour out  
The Holy Spirit upon your people  
That our lives may overflow with your grace,  
Our days be filled with your love,  
And all our actions shine with your light.  
Amen.

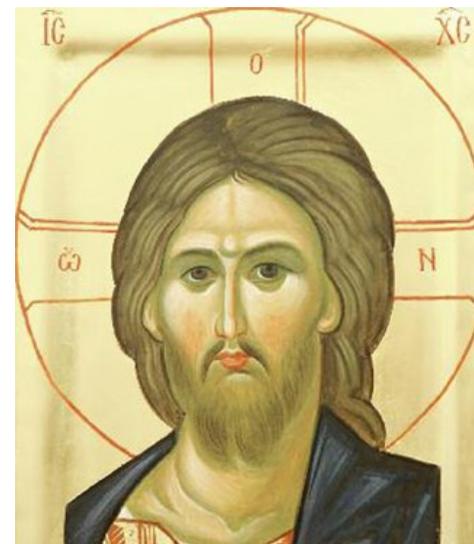
**"Whatever you do, whether in word or deed,  
do it all in the Name of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks to God the Father through Him." (Colossians 3:17)**

*Reflections on Franciscan Spirituality*  
Communications Committee  
Franciscan Province of Ireland  
[www.franciscans.ie](http://www.franciscans.ie)



WWW.HOLYNAME.IE

## Year of the Holy Name of Jesus 2014



"I will do whatever you ask in my Name." (John 14:13)

"In the name JESUS the Church finds her whole good. It is the divine name which alone brings salvation "for there is no other name under heaven given to us by which we can be saved" (Acts 4:12). Whoever calls with faith on the name of Jesus can have an experience similar to those who sought to touch Jesus, "for power came forth from Him and healed them all" (Luke 6:19). Let us learn lovingly to repeat the Holy Name of Jesus, invoking the name of Jesus with adoring love, putting it at the centre of our prayer. Let Mary put on our lips and impress on our hearts this most holy Name from which comes our salvation."

Blessed John Paul II

The Lord grant you peace!

"At the Name of JESUS every knee shall bow..." (Philippians 2:10). The Holy Name of Jesus has been venerated since the beginning of Christianity. Such reverence has been a strong element in Franciscan prayer and ministry stretching back to the time of St Francis.

We are told of St Francis that "the name of Jesus was always on his lips, as the spring of radiant love that filled his heart would gush forth." In the 15<sup>th</sup> century St Bernardine of Siena spread devotion to the Holy Name throughout the Church.

The year 2014 commemorates the centenary of the renewal in Ireland of devotion to the Holy Name initiated by the Franciscan Family in 1914. The aim of the Year is simple - to foster a renewed reverence and devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus, and in so doing to deepen personal love of the Lord Jesus and faithfulness to His Gospel.



Pronouncing the Holy Name of Jesus with love and trust is the shortest of prayers. In a busy world we can find ourselves in difficult situations unexpectedly. The Name of Jesus can be a source of comfort and support when all else fails. For those struggling with addictions it is a powerful help when temptations are strong.

We can practice praying continually the Jesus Prayer, that beautiful prayer of the heart: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner." May the Holy Name of Jesus be everywhere praised and glorified. And may it continue to be a source of peace, protection and blessing for our families, our communities and our country.



## JESUS

Glorious name, gracious name,  
Name of love and of power!  
Through you sins are forgiven,  
Through you enemies are vanquished,  
Through you the sick are freed from their illness,  
Through you those suffering in trials  
Are made strong and cheerful.  
You bring honour to those who believe,  
You teach those who preach,  
You give strength to the toiler,  
You sustain the weary.

St Bernardine of Siena, Apostle of the Holy Name

**Explanation of IHS:** The Holy Name of Jesus appeared in the earliest Christian manuscripts in Greek in abbreviated form, using the first two and last letters of the Name of Jesus in Greek. Later this was transliterated into Latin or English characters as IHS, often understood as an abbreviation for *Jesus Hominum Salvator* (Jesus Saviour of Mankind). It was the Franciscan Saint Bernardine who depicted the Holy Name superimposed on yellow rays, representing Jesus the Sun of Righteous shedding His grace and light on us.

Check out the dedicated website [holyname.ie](http://holyname.ie) for various resources including prayers, meditations, Scriptures,

