

**Prayer for a new Bishop**

*As soon as a bishop takes ill, or begins to approach the canonical retirement age of 75, it is wise to start asking the good Lord to provide the diocese with a holy and courageous replacement. Wiser still, start praying now!*

Eternal God and Father,  
our Good Shepherd and Redeeming Lord,  
in Your abundant Mercy give to Your Church  
in this diocese of .....  
a shepherd after Your own heart  
who will walk securely in Your ways,  
and who will with wise and loving care watch over  
the welfare of Your people.  
Do not look upon our sins, upon our apathy nor  
upon our lack of response to Your call,  
but look upon our great need for a bishop whose  
greatest desire is the salvation of souls and who  
wants the whole diocese to collaborate with him  
in bringing souls back to You and Your Mercy.  
Grant that he may be for us a fearless teacher of  
the truth, a tireless preacher of the Gospel, and  
wholeheartedly committed to doing Your holy Will  
and only Your holy Will.  
May he be a true father, inspiration and  
encouraging support to the priests, deacons and  
religious of our diocese.  
So may Your Church in our diocese be built up in  
love and Your holy name glorified; we humbly ask  
all this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.  
*Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Help of Christians, pray for us.*

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