

In this week of prayer for Christian unity, I'd like to begin today with the prayer that all Christians share and pray together, the Lord's Prayer in which He showed us how and for what we should pray. And especially this year, as we agreed, chosen theme for our common reflection and prayer for unity is one of the phrases, petitions, from the Lord's Prayer itself: Your Kingdom Come. For each other, and in the name of all, let us now join our hearts and prayers in praise to Our Father in Heaven

MUSIC 'Pater' [Stravinsky: 'In Quibus... 2<sup>d</sup>']  
'Your kingdom come' → may your reign of peace, justice, truth and fellowship <sup>Lord,</sup> be established in each of us more deeply, among us more widely, between us more effectively as your life grows in us. May our faith in you, our hope in your word, make us each more sensitive to others, instruments of your rule in the life of the world. May we praise and give glory to you with one heart and voice, and be for others bearers of your love, mercy, saving grace and peace. As we pray together in the words you taught us, Lord, let us give our best efforts to the service of your kingdom. ('Your kingdom come': the words of the Lord's Prayer have always been a source of meditation, reflection and prayerful praise, for Christians of all ages and times. We still have, from many of the Fathers & Doctors of the Church, their preaching and writing about those words: and among today's spiritual writers too you'll usually find somewhere their thoughts on this prayer of all Christians. For today, I'd like to share with you a paraphrase of some words of both St Teresa of Avila and St Cyprian, representatives of quite different

traditions and spirituality in the Church. QQ Brev. Wk 13 Wed. p 256

- St Teresa. Now let's again pray in music that same prayer, Our Father  
MUSIC: (Mass of St Francis 2<sup>d</sup>)

And finally, to St Cyprian: QQ Brev. Wk 11 Wed. p 201