

DOMINICANA

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PRAYER TO ST. DOMINIC, THE PRIEST

*BL. JORDAN OF SAXONY**



BLESSED FATHER ST. DOMINIC, holy priest of God, beloved Confessor, renowned preacher, a man of the Lord's own choosing: In your day you were pleasing and beloved of the Lord above all others—glorious in your life, teaching, and miracles. We rejoice to have you as our gracious advocate before the Lord God.

I cry to you from out of the depths of this vale of tears, because among all the saintly elect of God I venerate you with particular devotion. Merciful Father, assist, I pray, my sinful soul—so destitute of all grace and virtue, so covered with the stains of many sins and vices.



Come to my wretched and unhappy soul, thou happy and blessed soul of the man of God, whom divine grace has endowed with such blessings. Not only has it raised you to happy peace, quiet rest, and heavenly glory, but by your praiseworthy life it has drawn uncounted others to the same happiness. It has incited them with your sweet admonition, has instructed them with your winning teaching, and has aroused them with your fervent preaching. Then be attentive, Blessed Dominic, and bend a merciful ear to my pleading voice.



Turning to you, my poor and needy soul falls at your feet. So far as in humble mind it can, it sluggishly struggles to place itself before you. As in living death, my soul strives with all its power to pray to you. It begs, through your powerful merits and

* Translated from the *Libellus Precum* S.O.P. By Adrian M. Wade, O.P.

virtuous prayers, that you will kindly restore it to life and health, and fill it with the ample gift of your blessing.

For I know, truly know, that you can do it. I am certain of it. From your great charity I am confident that you desire this. I hope from the immense mercy of the Saviour that you can bring about before Him whatever you wish.



I rely, too, on your great familiarity with Jesus Christ, so loved by you, whom you chose out of ten thousand. It is my hope that He will deny you nothing. Rather, that whatever you desire you will obtain from Him. For though He is the Lord God, yet He is your friend. What could He deny to you who put all else aside and did not hesitate to give yourself and all you had to Him. This is why we speak as we do; this is why we venerate you so.



In the full flowering of your manhood, you dedicated your virginity to the radiant Spouse of all virgins. White-robed from Baptism's sacred font, adorned by the Holy Ghost—you vowed your soul in chaste love to the King of kings.

After long training in the combat of the regular life, you set your heart on a still higher goal. You grew from virtue to virtue, you went always from what was merely good to what was better. You offered your body as a living victim, holy and pleasing to God. Formed in the divine plan, you consecrated your entire being to God alone. Undertaking the way of perfection, you left all things and, naked, you followed the naked Christ—preferring heaven's treasures to those of earth. Denying self vigorously, you manfully took up your cross and strove to follow in the footsteps of our Redeemer as your true captain.



This strong love of yours burned with heavenly fire and godlike zeal. With all the fervor of an impetuous heart and with an avowal of perfect poverty, you spent your whole self in the cause of the Apostolic life. To further this work you established the Order of Preachers, guided from the beginning by counsel from on High.



You brightened holy mother Church throughout this world

of men with your glorious merits and example. At last you left behind this bondage of the flesh. Taken up into heaven's army, you rose to the heights of glory.



So now I pray that you, who desired the salvation of the human race with so much zeal, will come to my aid and to the aid of all those I hold dear. I pray, too, for all mankind: clergy, people, religious women.

After the blessed Queen of virgins, you are my sweet hope and solace—before all other saints. You are my special refuge: bend favorably to my aid. You are the one to whom I fly. You alone do I dare approach. I place myself at your feet—I invoke you as my patron—I implore you—devoutly I commend myself to you. I pray you kindly and favorably to receive and keep, protect and help me. Thus may I merit by your intercession to obtain the grace from God I desire—to find mercy—and to attain to salvation's remedy now and hereafter.

O Blessed Dominic—Master—renowned Captain—loving Father!
So may it be. So let your prayers obtain.



Then come to me, I pray, and to all who call on you. Be truly for us the LORD'S OWN as your name implies, the watchful keeper of His flock. Keep and govern us always, who are committed to your care. Correct our ways and reconcile us with God. Then, after this our exile, joyfully present us to the blessed Lord, God's dearly loved Son and our Saviour Jesus Christ—whose honor, praise, glory, unutterable joy and eternal happiness, together with the glorious Virgin Mary and the whole company of heaven's citizens, endures without end, forever and ever. Amen.