

THE PRAYER OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL LAW SOCIETY

Almighty and Everlasting God bless, we pray Thee, Christ's Holy Catholic Church, that is, the whole congregation of Christian people dispersed throughout the whole world and especially the Church of England:

And we pray for the ministers of God's holy word and sacraments, as well archbishops and bishops as other pastors and curates, for chancellors, registrars and all ecclesiastical lawyers, that all and every one of them, in their several callings, may serve truly and diligently to the glory of God and the edifying and well governing of His people, remembering the strict and solemn account that they must one day make when they shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ:

And, that there may never be wanting a succession of persons duly qualified to serve God in Church and State, we implore Thy blessing on all institutions of religious and useful learning, especially upon this our Society, that in all places of education true religion and sound learning may for ever flourish and abound.

We ask these and all other mercies in the name and for the sake of our only Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

A NOTE BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SOCIETY

We are members of a law society but also of an ecclesiastical society. We meet and talk and write to each other in the name of Christ and to enlarge and extend and enrich the work of His Church. So, rightly, we worship together at our conferences when we meet as a body and on those occasions remember, in prayer, our Society and its work. The General Committee, at its meeting on 4 June 1992, agreed that, for the sake of order in our common worship, we should adopt and use a settled prayer. The prayer agreed upon is printed above. It has been, as will be seen, adapted from the bidding prayer which appears in Canon B 19 of the Canons of the Church of England.

Quentin Edwards.