Almighty and Everlasting God,

we pray for His Holiness Benedict XVI, Roman Pontiff Emeritus,

who has taught us that God is love and that we are saved in hope.

We give thanks for his lifetime of service to the Church and for the example of his integrity and humility.

We pray in gratitude for his ministry as shepherd, guide and protector of the Church.

May your Holy Spirit bless him with peace and consolation as he turns to a life of prayer for the Church.

May he enjoy abundant blessings in this life and be strengthened in the knowledge of your love for him now and for all eternity.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ who said, “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.”

Amen.