

A painting of a window with a vase of flowers. The window has several panes, some of which are covered with white fabric. A vase filled with various flowers, including a large yellow one, sits on a surface in front of the window. The background is a warm, reddish-brown color.

**O Lord Jesus Christ,
we pray for the
courage of our convictions.
It is so easy for us, Lord,
to put verbal faith in You
and so much more difficult for us
to translate words into deeds.
Your Word tells who we are,
and what we should do,
and most of the time we believe it
with all our hearts.
Yet, when the pressure is on us,
we forget and turn aside.
Yet we pray, Lord,
that we can learn to overcome this failing.
Help us, we pray, to learn
to carry Your teachings into our daily lives,
that we might become wise.
To do this we need courage—
courage to stand up
against all the things that come between
us and You,
courage to face these squarely
so we can overcome them,
courage to live according to Your Word.
Fill us with the confidence
that You will give us this courage,
so that our lives become
a continual quest for goodness.
In this way, Lord,
we take up our crosses to follow You,
whose courage is a constant inspiration.
Amen.**

Rev. Andrew Dibb