



Family Thanksgiving Celebration

To Use At Home

Family Feast of Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is the time when more families come together than on any other day during the year. It is truly a holy family-time. A time when we put aside our daily distractions to celebrate our common gratitude for God's generosity. Often "family" expands beyond the bonds created by blood, marriage and adoption to include others about whom we care.

This family prayer service is intended to help families celebrate Thanksgiving by focusing on Jesus and living out our baptismal call in service to others. It is suggested for use before or at the start of dinner.

Family Prayer

Parent or Grandparent -

We come to our table to celebrate this Thanksgiving Day, with joy and gratitude for the good food and drink with which we are blessed today, for the people who helped prepare it and for all of God's gifts to us.

Another Family Member Reads -

Jesus is our light and our salvation. May this light burn brightly in our hearts and around this table today and at all our family meals. (candle is lighted by oldest person present)

- We give thanks for all the many gifts we have received.
(Each person is invited to share one thing for which s/he is grateful.)
- Let us remember those who today are lonely, hungry or homeless.
- We pray for the men and women who are risking their lives that we might live in freedom.
- We remember our world community; may we work together for peace and justice.
- We gratefully remember too, our family members and loved ones who are not here with us and celebrate the gift which they have been to us.

Blessing

Lord of ages past and to come, bless our home. Help us to see You present in each other and in all who enter through our door.

Come, Lord of gifts,
Bless all of us and the food we are about to enjoy.
Let us thank the Lord today and every day!

All toast: "Happy Thanksgiving".

