

Family Page

This week Paul tells us: "Present your needs to God in every form of prayer...." Here is a family prayer service that can be used any time just by selecting the prayer form suitable for the family's needs. This service can be used over and over again.



explaining GOD'S WORD

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) † Matthew 21:33-43 † October 4, 2026

Family Prayer

Leader: Lord Jesus, hear our prayer of (praise, petition, thanksgiving, contrition).

All: Rejoice in the Lord always.

Leader: Lord, you are the cornerstone of our faith.

All: Rejoice in the Lord always.

(Select prayer form according to the family's needs.)

A Prayer of Praise: God, we praise you for all you have done. Our hearts sing out with joy when we see the beauty of the things of this world.

B Prayer of Petition: God, we turn to you now in our special need *(mention petition)*. We know that you will hear us and answer us.

C Prayer of Thanksgiving: God, we thank you for hearing our prayer *(mention special blessings)*. We will remember your kindness always.

D Prayer of Contrition: God, we love you. We are deeply sorry for times when we have failed to show our love. Forgive us and fill our hearts with the joy of reconciliation with you.

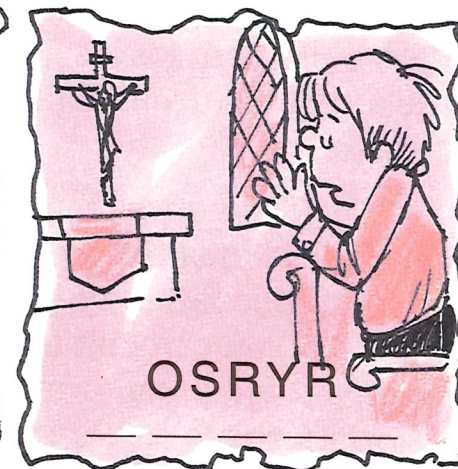
Leader: God, bless our family always. Help us to come to you often in prayer and petition. Hear our prayers and grant us peace and love within our home. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus, who is the cornerstone of our faith.

All: Amen



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Prayer Is Talking to God



After you have read this bulletin, unscramble the words to learn the four kinds of prayer pictured here.

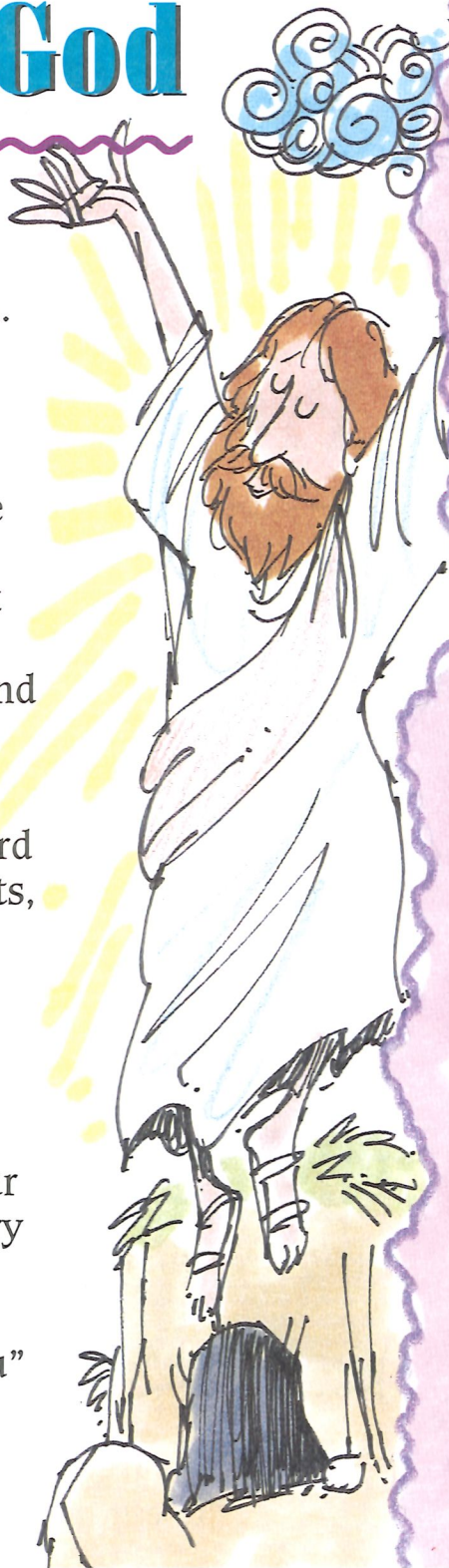
Jesus Is Truly God

Jesus tells a story about a man who owned a vineyard, a garden where grapes were grown.

The owner rented his vineyard to some farmers in exchange for a share of their grapes. But the farmers killed the workers who came to collect the owners' share. So the owner sent his own son. Surely, they would not kill his son! They would — and they did!

Jesus tells this story about himself. The owner of the vineyard is God. First God sent the prophets, but the people killed them. Then God sent the Son, Jesus. Just like in the story, the people killed the Son of God.

BUT! Jesus rose from the dead! He is as near to you as your mother or your father or your very best friend. You can talk to him any time — when you are sad or when you want to say "I love you" or "thank you" or "I'm sorry." Jesus is with you always.



4 Ways to Pray

Paul told the people of Philippi that Jesus died to bring you peace. This is a happy message! Paul says, "Present your needs to God in every form of prayer..." Here are four ways to pray. Can you write a prayer to fit each special form?

1

Prayer of Petition

(To ask God's help)

Here is a special kind of prayer when you need God's helping hand. For sickness, worries, fear, and care, ask God, who's promised to be there.

2

Prayer of Praise

(To give praise to God)

When you look upon a bright sunrise or birds that scoot across the skies; when dancing flowers catch your eye, praise God for every new surprise.

3

Prayer of Thanksgiving

(To give thanks to God)

For food on the table, rest at night, for health and happiness and sight, for families, feelings, fun, delight, thank our God, who does it all right.

4

Prayer of Contrition

(To say I'm sorry to God)

"I'm sorry," two wonderful words to say, when you've done something wrong or gone astray. Remember, when you're sorry for what you've done, to forgive is the reason God sent the Son.