

## The Lord's Prayer

### Part 1 I Open My Heart

Jesus taught us to pray by the example he gave. He often went off alone to pray by himself, and he also prayed with his disciples. Jesus prayed in the Temple, in the mountains, in the garden, and on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus always made time for prayer, listening to his Father and the Holy Spirit.

Write a prayer to God that you can pray today, by yourself or with a friend. Make up movements to go with your prayer. Share your prayer with a partner.

Shepherds' Field, Bethlehem



A white rectangular box with a light blue border, containing a writing area for a prayer. The box is decorated with green crosses in the corners and has several horizontal lines for writing.

## The Lord's Prayer

### Part 2 We Come Together for Prayer

**Leader:** Jesus, you taught us to call God “our Father.”  
You promise us that God always hears our prayers and  
knows what we need.

**Reader 1:** Jesus “was praying . . . ,  
and when he had finished, one of  
his disciples said to him, ‘Lord,  
teach us to pray’” (Luke 11:1).

**Reader 2:** Jesus, you taught us to  
pray to God as our loving Father.  
Let us pray in the words that Jesus  
taught us:

**All:** Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

**Leader:** Father, hear our prayers.  
We trust in your love for us.  
We know that you always help  
us with our needs.

**All:** Thank you, Lord, for teaching us to pray. Amen.



*Sermon on the Mount, by W. J. Makowski*

## The Lord's Prayer

### Part 3 I Cherish God's Word

Before he chose his Apostles, Jesus “departed to the mountain to pray, and he spent the night in prayer to God” (Luke 6:12).

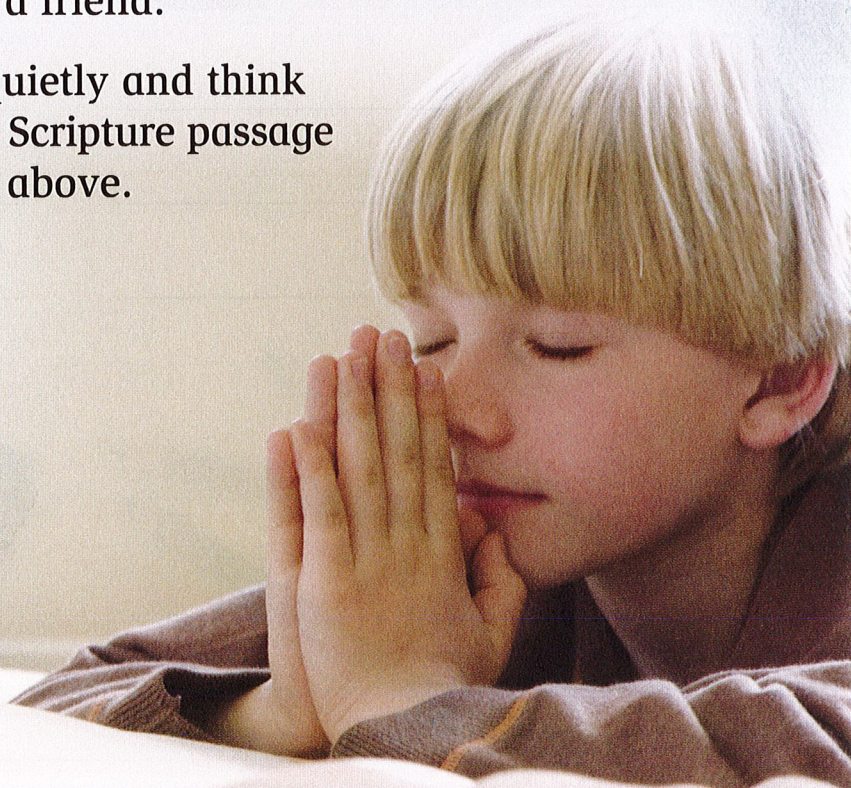
**READ** the quotation from Scripture. Read slowly. Pay close attention to what you are reading.

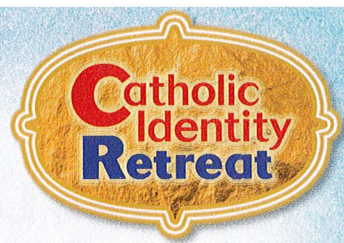
**REFLECT** on what you read. Think about:

- Why do you think Jesus prayed all night?
- When have you prayed about something over and over?
- What are some times when you need to pray?

**SHARE** your thoughts and feelings with God in prayer. Speak to God as a friend.

**CONTEMPLATE**, or sit quietly and think about God's Word in the Scripture passage from the Gospel of Luke above.





# The Lord's Prayer

## Part 4 I Value My Catholic Faith

When we pray, we ask God to care for our needs and the needs of all people. Work with a partner and look at each photo below. Talk about what the person in each photo might need. What do you think the person would pray for? Write this on the lines under each photo.



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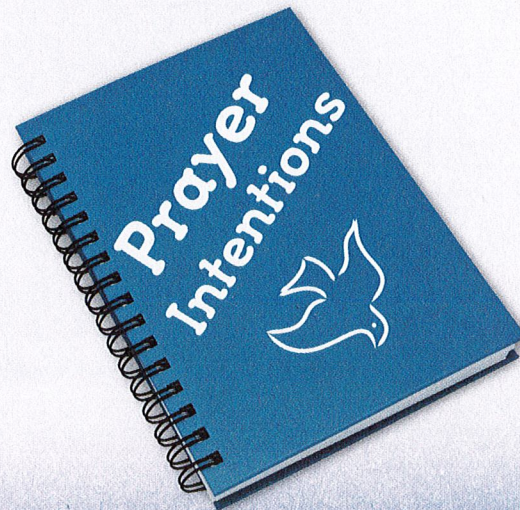
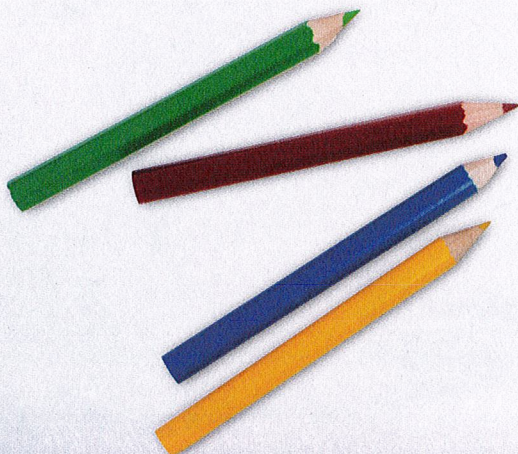
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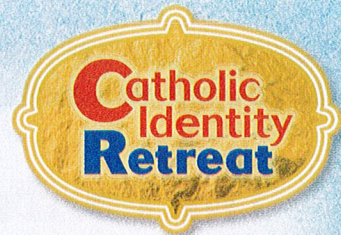


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## The Lord's Prayer

### **Part 5** I Celebrate Catholic Identity

In the Lord's Prayer, we pray, "Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." In these words we pray that people will live as God wants. They will love God and each other.

We can share God's love at home with our families. Draw one way you can share God's love at home.



## The Lord's Prayer

### Part 6 I Honor My Catholic Identity

**Leader:** Jesus teaches us to pray to God as our Father.

Jesus asks us to remember that we are God's children. We can trust God our Father with all our needs. Let us pray the Litany of God the Father. A litany is a prayer made up of short titles for God, Jesus, or Mary or other saints. After each title, we pray a short response.

God the Father, Maker of heaven  
and earth,

**All:** Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** God the Son, Savior of  
all creation,

**All:** Have mercy on us.

**Leader:** God the Holy Spirit, Divine  
Love among us,

**All:** Have mercy on us.

**Leader:** Holy Trinity, one God,

**All:** Have mercy on us.

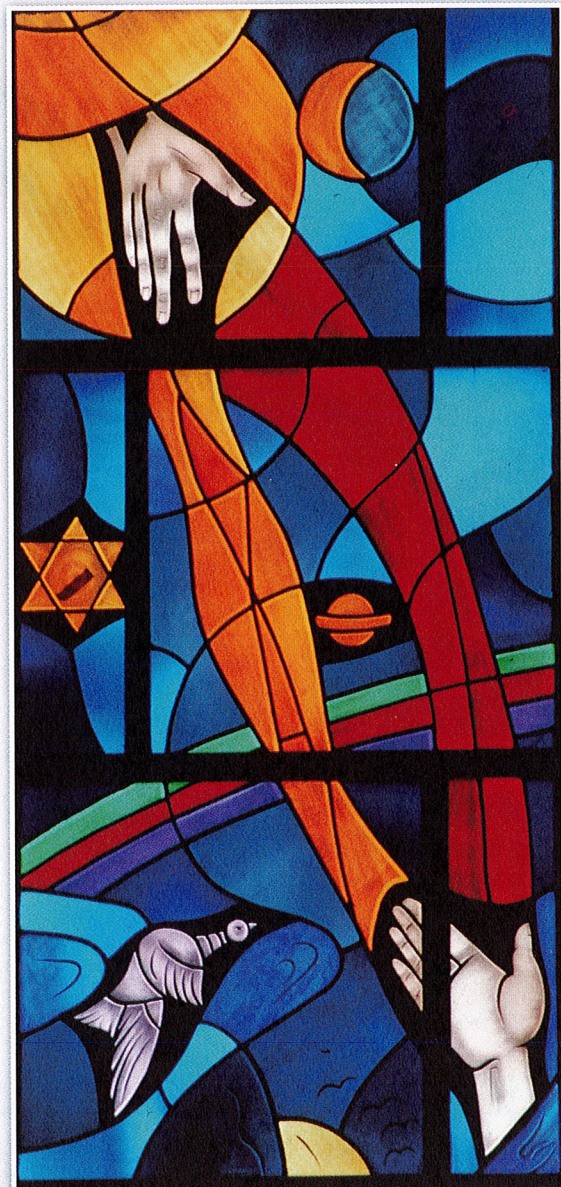
**Leader:** The Father, First Person of  
the Blessed Trinity,

**All:** Hear us and bless us.

**Leader:** Our Father in heaven,

**All:** Blessed is your name. Amen.

(By Philip Neri Powell, OP)





# Bringing the Retreat Home

## The Lord's Prayer

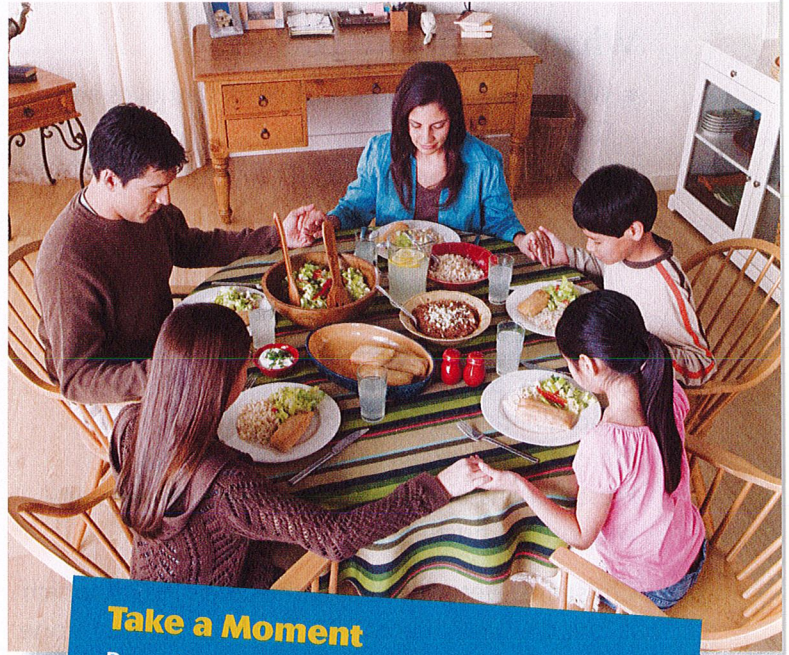
### Retreat Recap

Review the pages of your child's *Celebrating Catholic Identity: Prayer* retreat. Ask your child to tell you about the retreat. Talk about the Lord's Prayer:

- Jesus showed us how to pray by his example.
- Jesus taught us to pray.
- Jesus taught us to call God our Father. He gave us the Lord's Prayer, also called the Our Father.

### Our Father, Hear Our Prayer

In Part 6 of your child's retreat, your child prayed using a litany of God, our loving Father. Extend this litany as a family. Take turns adding titles for God that have "Father" in them. Also add titles for Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Write these down and then pray them together.



### Take a Moment

Pray the Our Father together at mealtime or before bedtime. You may wish to review Chapter 24 of *We Believe* Grade 2 for further understanding of what each petition of the Our Father means.

## Our Litany

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### Family Prayer

Pray together this prayer to God our Father.

**F**ather,  
keep before us the wisdom and love  
you have revealed in your Son.  
Help us to be like him  
in word and deed,  
for he lives and reigns with you and the  
Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever.  
Amen.

*(From Morning Prayer, Liturgy of the Hours)*

For more resources, see the *Catholic Identity Home Companion* at the end of this book.

# Why We Believe As a Catholic Family

## What if someone asks us:

- What beliefs and practices do all Catholics and Christians share?
- Why must we work toward Christian unity?

The following resources can help us to respond:

Catholics are Christians, and the Catholic Church works with other Christians to bring together all Christians. Some of the other Christian denominations include Orthodox Christians, Episcopal Christians, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, and Baptists. Our work toward unity with other Christians is called *ecumenism*.

Christians everywhere pray the Lord's Prayer, which is found in Matthew 6:9–13. The Lord's Prayer is one of several things Christians have in common. For example, all Christians are baptized. All Christians believe in and follow Jesus. Christians believe that God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Christians also believe that Jesus is both divine and human, that Jesus died for our sins and rose again from the dead, and that the Holy Spirit inspired the Bible.

## What does Scripture say?

Jesus said, "I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me" (John 17:20–21).

"I urge you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree in what you say, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose." (1 Corinthians 1:10)

As Catholics we believe that "the one Church of Christ . . . subsists in the Catholic Church, which is

governed by the successor of Peter and by the Bishops in communion with him, although many elements of sanctification and of truth are found outside of its visible structure. These elements, as gifts belonging to the Church of Christ, are forces impelling toward catholic unity" (*Dogmatic Constitution on the Church*, 8).

Each year in January the Church celebrates the Week of Prayer for Christian unity. We pray that all Christians may be one.

## What does the Church say?

"Christ always gives his Church the gift of unity, but the Church must always pray and work to maintain, reinforce, and perfect the unity that Christ wills for her." (CCC, 820)

The Church is "the one Body of Christ on earth to which all should be fully incorporated who belong in any way to the people of God" (Second Vatican Council, *Unitatis Redintegratio* (Decree on Ecumenism), 3).

"When we have become, not many members, but one spirit, then . . . 'God may be all and in all.'" (Saint Ambrose, one of the Church Fathers, about A.D. 337–397)

## Notes: