



What is the Church?

Parent Leaflet: Unit 2

We are People who Pray



Main Themes

The children, with their catechists, are thinking about the fact that the People of God gather each Sunday to pray.

They are being asked to think about the different kinds of prayer that we use in Church:

- ♦ Prayers of sorrow
- ♦ Prayers of petition
- ♦ Prayers of praise and thanksgiving

They are being asked to reflect on the special prayer of the Church family - the Our Father.

They are considering some of the things that the Holy Spirit prompts us to pray for.

They are also being asked to think about other places and different ways in which they can pray when they are not in Church.

From Your Child's Worksheet

The Holy Spirit helps us to pray...

For the Sick



For ourselves
and the things
that we need

For those in charge
of our country



For those who
have died

For all who are
suffering in
the world

*Listen for prayers
like these when you
are at Mass*

For our families
and people who
help us

As well as praying in Church...

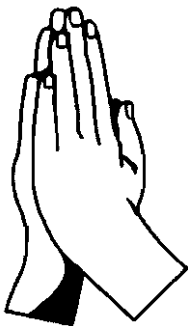
We can pray at h _ _ _ and at s _ _ _ _ _

We can pray with our f _ _ _ _ _ and f _ _ _ _ _

We can pray on our own.



When we pray...



We can use prayers that we are given or our own words

We can pray out loud or in silence

We can kneel, or stand up, or sit down

We can pray through music, movement, gestures

We can draw or paint a picture to show what we are praying about

We can pray to God every day about everything

What You Can Do To Help Your Child

Recognise and make use of the opportunities for prayer in your family life:

Talking with your child

Saying thank you to God at the end of the day

Recognising the good in others during the day

Making up a prayer

Come to Mass each Sunday so that your child has the opportunity to recognise the variety of ways in which we pray during Mass.

Encourage your child to keep, value and use the Prayer Card presented to them.

Pray the Our Father together regularly:

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.

Help your child to complete their worksheet - especially the last page, where you can help them to think of people to pray for and to write their own prayer.

Please keep your child's worksheet safe, so that they can bring it back to the next meeting with their catechist.

The Mass is Prayer

We gather as the People who Pray

"If we gather as we ought - singing together, being silent together, responding together - we will be a community praying, and know that we are such."

(Cardinal Bernardin, *Guide to the Assembly*, page 10)