

Year of Prayer, Penance and Reparation

(Prayer for Family Meal and discussion questions)

Leader: Almighty and loving God, we lift our hearts and minds up to You as we gather for this meal. We thank you for the gift of food, family and friends. Place in our hearts the desire to make a difference to our families, in our community, in our country, and to the many cultures and peoples worldwide. Give us balance in times of distraction and uncertainty. Help us move toward our goals with determination and always with an abundant sense of humor. Thank you for food in a world where many know only hunger; for our faith in a world where many know fear; for friends in a world where many know only loneliness; for healing for those who have known abuse.

(Pause for a moment of silent reflection)

All: Bless us O Lord, and these Your gifts which we have received from Your bounty through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Discussion questions for the meal

Baptism of the Lord:

What does my baptism in Christ mean to me/to us?

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time:

What gifts do I/we recognize in my life/our family and how may I/we place them at the service of others?

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time:

How have I/we experienced the Word of God being fulfilled in my life/our lives?

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Are there areas of conflict in my life/our lives? How do I/we address conflict?

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Where in my life/our lives do I/we hear the call of God?

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

What are actions that I/we can take to align myself/ourselves to the Beatitudes of Jesus?

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

How do I/my family follow Jesus' command to "bless those who curse you?"

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In what areas of my life/our lives are good fruits being born?

Prayer at the end of the family meal)

Leader: We give you thanks Almighty God, not only for the food we have shared, but for the love we have shared as a family. May the souls of the faithful departed through Your mercy, rest in peace. Amen.