

We Pray as Jesus Taught Us



Prayer

Jesus, you teach us so many things through your words and actions. Help us learn to pray as you taught your disciples. Help us to pray through the words of the Our Father. Amen.



Write the missing words in the Our Father prayer.

Our _____, who art in _____,

hallowed be thy _____;

thy _____ come,

thy _____ be done

on _____ as it is in _____.

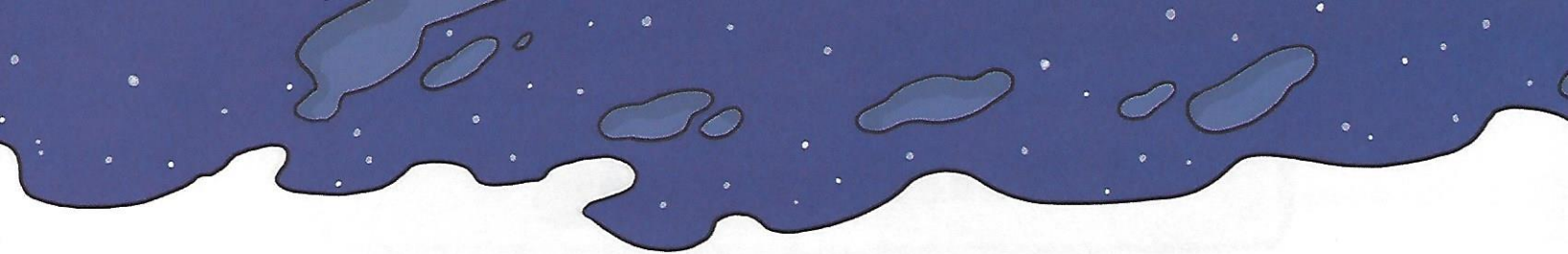
Give us this day our daily _____,

and _____ us our trespasses,

as we _____ those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into _____,

but deliver us from _____. Amen.



Number the parts of the Our Father in the correct order. The first one has been done for you.

_____ thy Kingdom come,

1 Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;

_____ thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

_____ and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;

_____ Give us this day our daily bread,

_____ and lead us not into temptation,

_____ but deliver us from evil.

Family Page



Background Focus

Prayer is an essential part of a life of faith, and the Catholic Church has a rich tradition of prayer and a variety of forms and expressions that can guide us in this area. As people learn differently, it is also true that they are likely attracted to and utilize some forms of prayer more than others.

Children seem to be natural pray-ers and are generally open to the variety of prayers that we might introduce them to. Using this time of curiosity and openness to expose them to different ways of praying can prepare them for a rich journey of prayer throughout their lives.

This chapter focuses on the prayer Jesus taught to his disciples, the Our Father. Learning the words and meaning of the Our Father can help children participate more fully in the Mass and have yet another prayer option for their personal prayer lives.



Family Strategies

It is important to build in family prayer time to demonstrate the importance and beauty of prayer in our lives. Incorporating traditional and spontaneous prayer before meals, car trips, sports games, etc., can help children see that prayer is not something we do only on Sunday. If you are unsure of how to do this, reach out to others to learn how to build a prayer life with your family in fun and creative ways.



Family Activities

- Learn or create hand motions that you and your child can do together as you say the Our Father.
- Watch the following YouTube video together: "Lord's Prayer Drama" (8:51). Talk about how it is important to listen to the words we pray.
- Read together the Featured Story on page 1460 in *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 6:9–13). Invite your child to tell you what he or she remembers about the meaning of this Scripture passage.

Pray It!

Pray this prayer together as a family, beginning and ending with the Sign of the Cross.

Dear Jesus, you taught us how to pray with the words of the Our Father. Help us to pray this prayer at Mass, at home, and wherever or whenever we want to pray. Amen.

