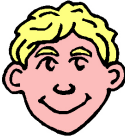


PARISH OF KILCONRIOLA AND BALLYCLUG

PRAYERS FOR CHILDREN



A NOTE FOR PARENTS

You want your child to learn new skills and to learn more about life and the world. Hopefully you will also want them to learn how to pray and to make prayer part of their growing up experience. One of the promises that parents make at baptism is to engage in prayer.



This booklet of prayers has been produced by the parish as a resource for parents and children and to encourage prayer within the family. The best encouragement for any child is for a parent to share in using the booklet.

Even if up till now you have given little thought to prayer please consider this as a starting point - another learning experience for you and your child.

**THIS PRAYER BOOK
BELONGS
TO**



MY PICTURE

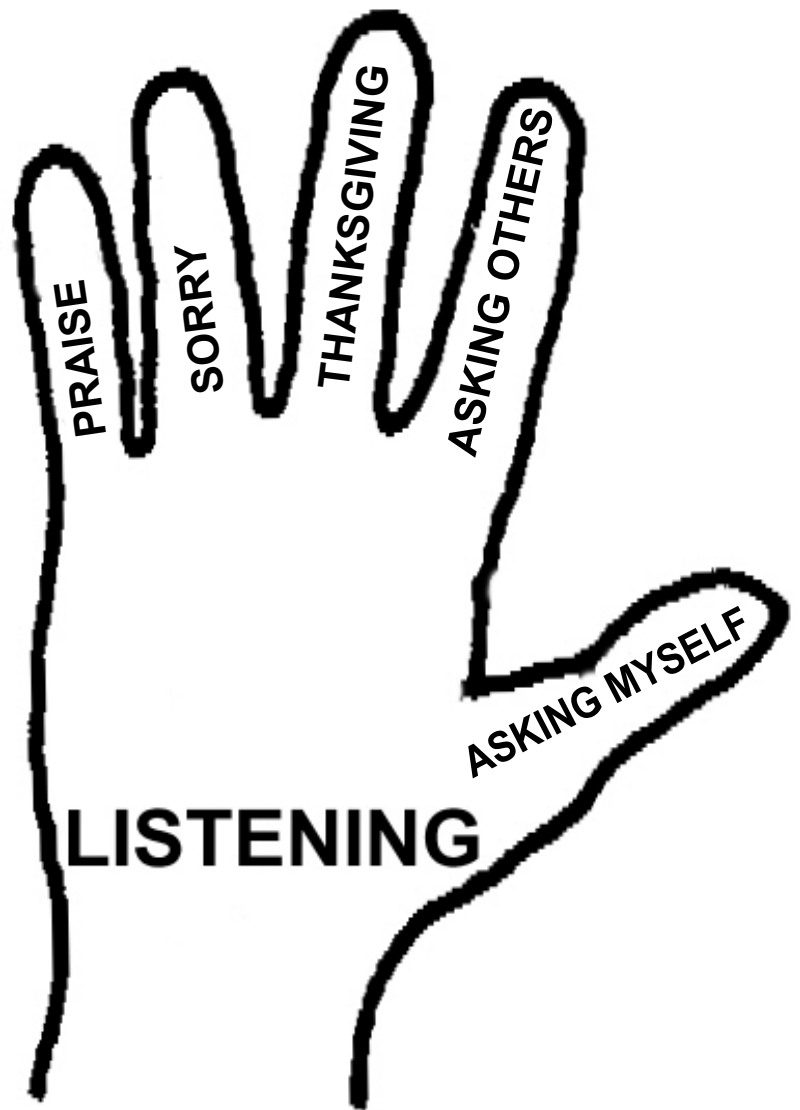
MY FAMILY

Prayer is spending time with God. I want a friendship with God - so I spend time with him - just as I do with other friends. I chat away and of course I have to listen. And so my prayer brings me closer to God.

I think it's good to have a special place to pray and a special time to pray. Of course I can pray anywhere and anytime.

Just as I am always spending time with my friends it is good to spend time with God every day.

When I am talking to God I usually want to ask him to help me and other people. I know I should think how great he is and praise him. I do say thank you but often forget to say sorry. Most of all I find it hard just to be quiet and listen.

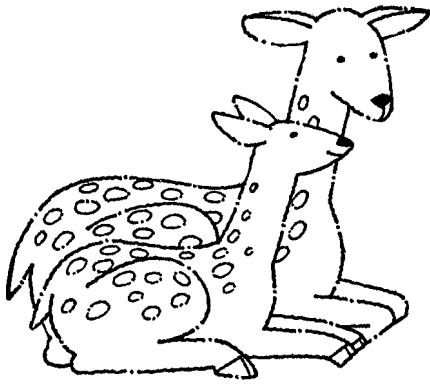


Please God help me to pray.

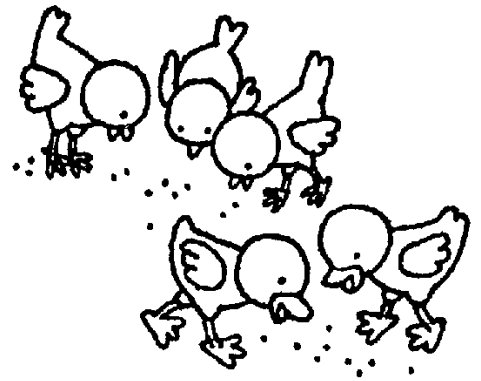
PRAISE PRAYERS

Our God

Lord God, what a great big world you have made: towering mountains, deep oceans, billions of stars and vast forests and deserts. You have painted the world with beautiful bright colours. You have filled it with all sorts of animals, fishes and birds. And then

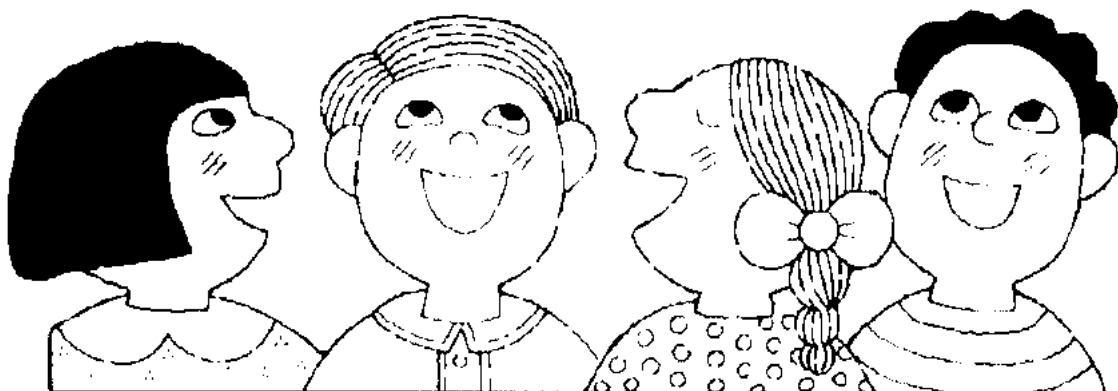


all of us in all the countries of the world - so many different faces and coloured skins. You have made everything. You are amazing! We praise you always.



Amen.

Lord, we want to tell you how wonderful your world is! You think of everything! There is food for us to eat, water for us to drink, coal, oil and gas to keep us warm, air for us to breathe, people for us to love. Lord God, loving God, thank you!



Before the watches,
before the clocks,
before time itself,
 there was God.

Before the people today,
before the people of
yesterday,
before the first people on earth,
 there was God.

Before the mountains and the seas and the plants,
 there was God.

Before the earth and all the stars and the planets,
 there was God.

Before there was anything at all,
Before there was even a beginning,
 there was God. Blessed be God.

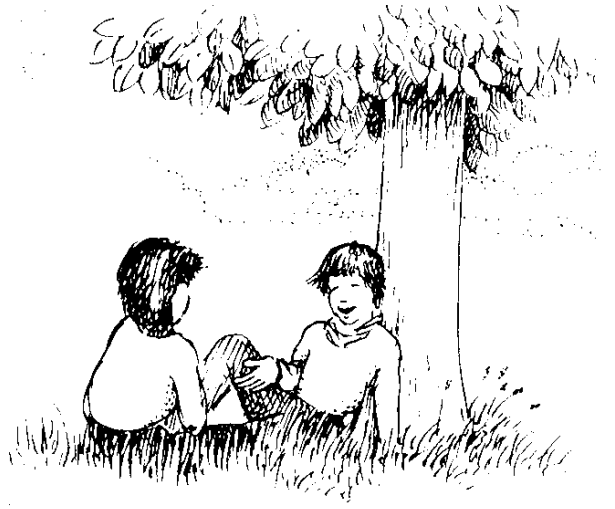
Lord, if we could describe you easily with words,
then you wouldn't be God.

If we could put you into a little box of words,
then we would be greater than you.

But you are greater than anything we can imagine.

We can only say you are like something else:

like the sun with all its warmth and light and strength;
like the king in the past - full of majesty and power,
but, best of all, like a father - full of love and concern
for his children.



Jesus we praise you

You came right down to earth to share in our lives

You taught and healed and helped so many people

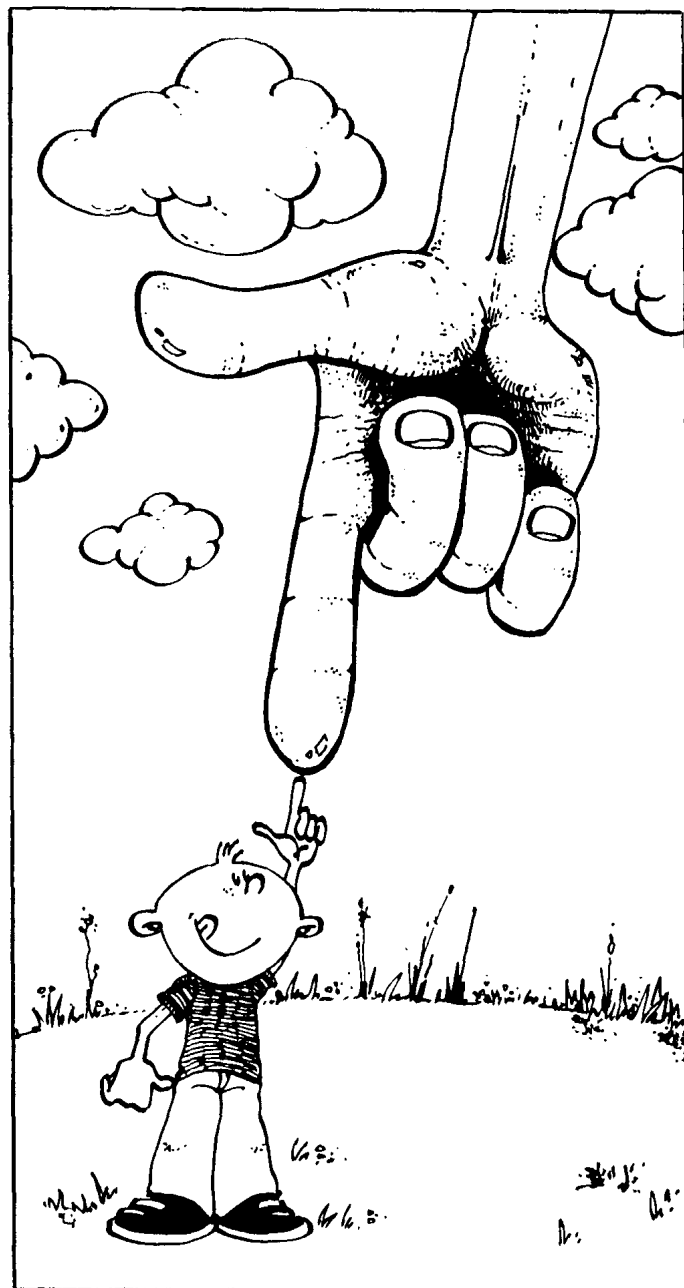
You showed us the Father's love

And you loved so much that you gave your life on a cross

Above all we praise you that you overcame all the badness

That you are alive and now our best friend.

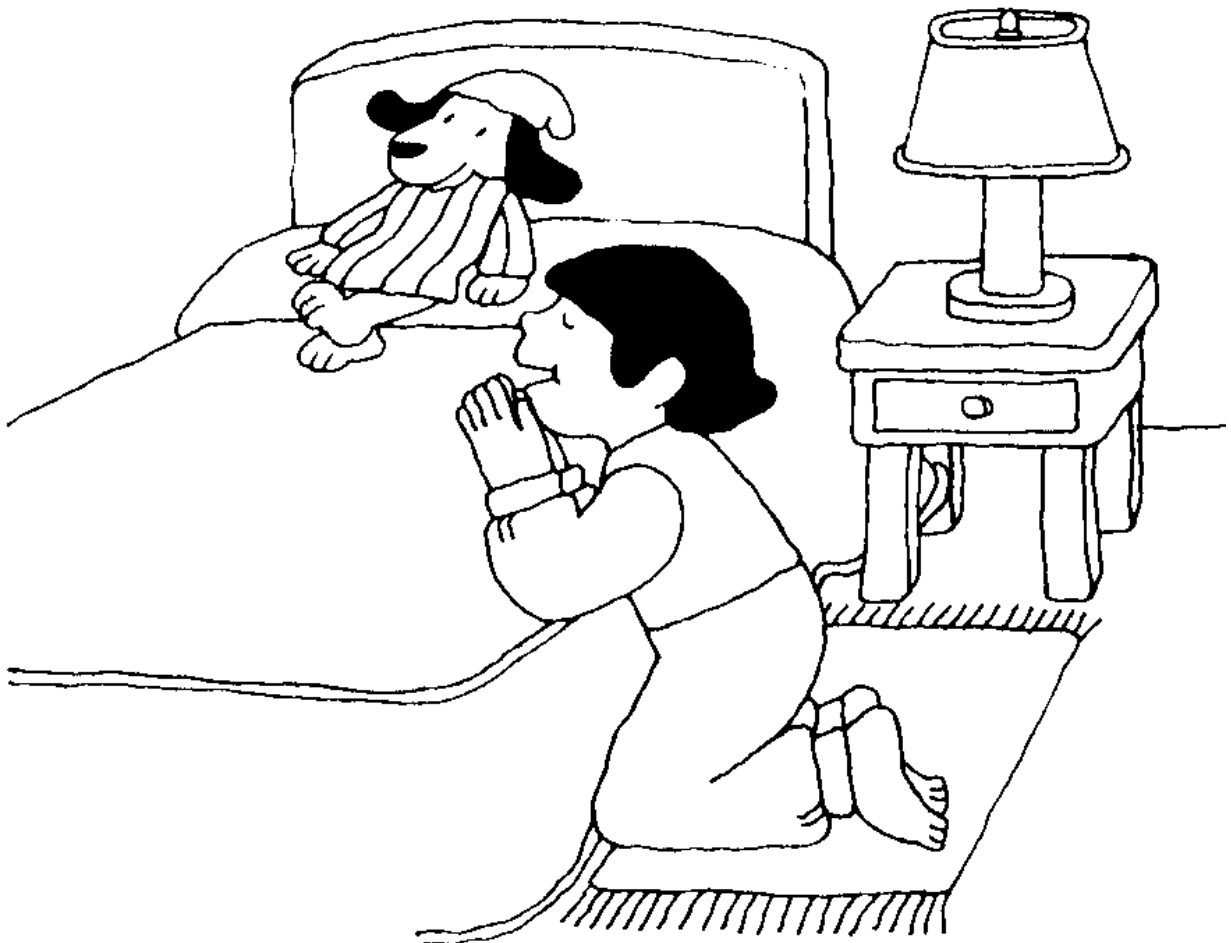
Praise to you Jesus. *Amen.*



SORRY PRAYERS

Father in heaven, please forgive me for the wrong things I have done: for bad temper and angry words; for being greedy and wanting my own way: for making other people unhappy. I am sorry; please forgive me through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Father God, sometimes we hurt people, we say words that hurt them or we do things that hurt them. Jesus tells us that when we are sorry you forgive us. We are sorry; please forgive us and help us not to be hurtful again. *Amen.*



Dear God, I'm sorry for being cheeky and not doing as I am told. Please help me to be good and not to hurt other people. Thank you for my family and friends and help me to think about other people before I do things that might upset them. *Amen.*



Dear God, please keep me from being grumpy and help me not to sulk. When someone shouts at me help me not to shout back. When some one hits me help me not to hit back. In the name of the Lord Jesus. *Amen.*

Lord Jesus, sometimes it's much easier to tell lies, especially to get us out of trouble. Please help us at these times to be brave and own up. *Amen.*

THANK YOU PRAYERS

God

When I wake up in the morning thank you God for being there: when I come to school each day thank you God for being there: When I am playing with my friends thank you God for being there: and when I go to bed at night thank you God for being there. *Amen.*

Lord God, thank you for making the world;
Thank you for sending Jesus to show us what you are like and how much you love us;
Thank you for your Holy Spirit who is alive in the world today, helping people to live in your way of love.
Thank you for being a great and loving God through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Jesus



Thank you God our Father for giving us Jesus. When he lived here on earth he showed us how we should live and he helped many people. Now he is our best friend and he has promised that he will always be with us and there to help us. May we be a good friend to him and try to please him each day. *Amen.*

Church

Thank you God for the family of the church: for the church I belong to and the friends I have there: for the people who teach me about you and the organisations I can enjoy. Thank you also that there are friends of Jesus all over the world and that we can pray for each other and help each other. *Amen.*

Homes

Father God, thank you for my home where I feel warm and safe, where I am well fed and can have a good



sleep, where I can watch television and play games, where I can share with the rest of the family and with my friends.

Thank you for all who look after me and my home. May my home always be a happy place,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

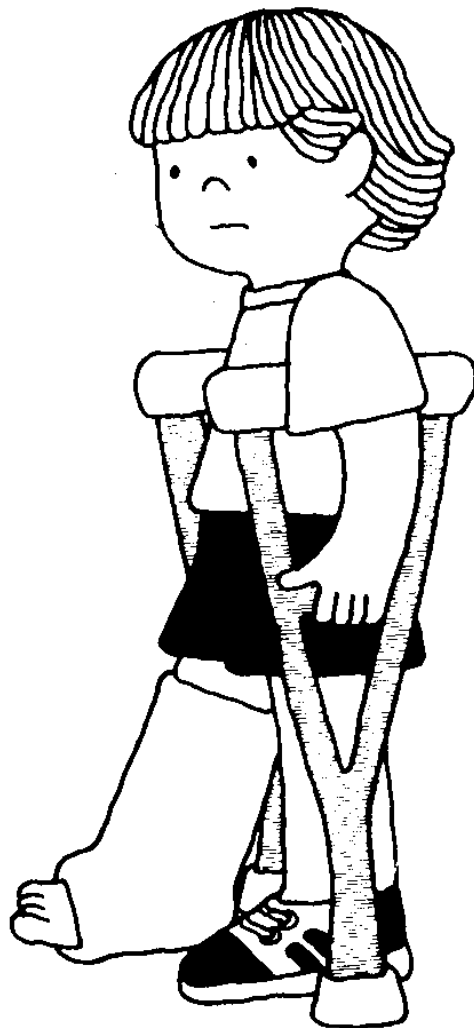
School

Father God, we thank you for school: for my teachers and helpers: for my lessons and the interesting things I discover for myself: for all the things around me in the classroom: for the friends I make and the games I play. Help me to enjoy my days at school and to learn well.

Amen.

Health

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for making me. Thank you for all my many parts even if they don't always work perfectly. Thank you for the health I do have and for my heart to love others. Thank you for making me special. *Amen.*



Dear Father God, I thank you that I am able to see - please help those who are blind. I thank you that I am able to hear - please help those who are deaf. I thank you that I am able to speak - please help those who are dumb. I thank you that I am able to run and play - please help those who are sick or handicapped. *Amen.*

Friends

Good friends, kind friends, loving friends, helpful friends. Friends at school, friends at church, friends at home, friends on holiday. Thank you God for all our friends. *Amen.*

Thank you heavenly Father for my friends: for the rough and tumble we have together, the good ideas we share, the places we go, the meals we eat in each others' houses, and the



television programmes we watch together. In Jesus' name. *Amen.*

Thank you, God for friends.

Thank you for fun and games and parties.

Thank you for my best friend.

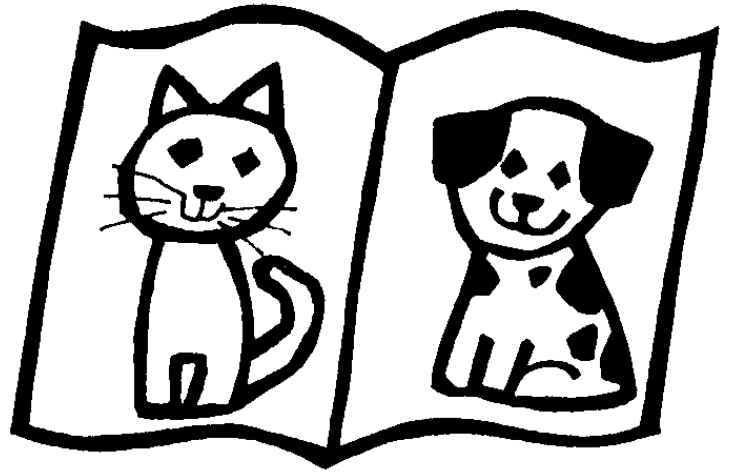
Help me to be a good friend and keep my promises.

Help me to be friends even with those I don't like much

Because you love us all. *Amen.*

Pets

Lord Jesus, thank you for my pets and for all the enjoyment they give to me and the family. Bless all animals, especially those that are not cared for as well as they should be. Help me to realise that you made all living creatures and so I should treat them well. *Amen.*



Television

Lord Jesus, thank you for television. It can be exciting and such good fun. It can bring to me people and places from all over the world. It can give me ideas for things to do and to make. Thank you for my favourite programmes and thank you for all the fun and learning I get from watching T V. *Amen.*

Clothes

Thank you God for all my clothes: for all the different things I wear that keep me warm and make me look well. Thank you that when they are old and worn I can go to the shops and get bright new clothes. Thank you and help me to remember that some children in the world have very few clothes to wear. *Amen.*

ASKING PRAYERS

For others

Our world

Father God, you made a world full of beautiful and useful things, and you want us to help to look after them. We are sorry that people spoil your world by carelessly throwing away rubbish, and by wasting the food and water that other people need. Help me to be unselfish and to keep your world tidy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

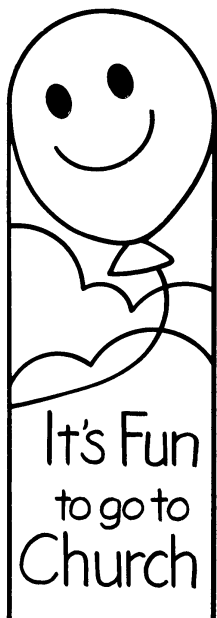
Our friends

Father we like having friends. It would make us very sad if no one wanted to be our friend. Help us to remain true to our friends and help us to notice anyone on their own and try to make friends with them. *Amen.*



Our Church

Father God, bless our Church family. Help us to worship you and to work for you - together. May we try to please you in everything that we do. May we all want to grow in our friendship with Jesus and may we encourage each other along the way. Help us to be a happy family as we do your work. We ask it through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



Our play

Dear God, when we are playing games please help us to be fair and not to cheat. Help us not to mind too much when we lose, and not to grumble when we think the game is unfair. Teach us to be ready to join in to please our friends, even when we don't feel like playing ourselves. For Jesus' sake. *Amen.*

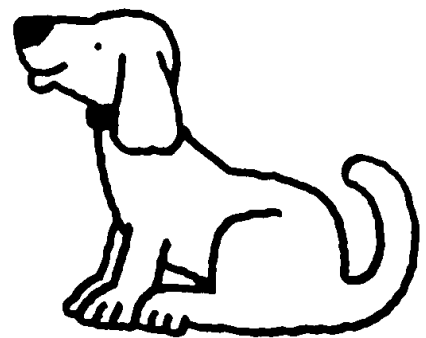
O God our Father, may we play together well. Help us not to be jealous or spiteful, not to argue or quarrel, but to find happiness in helping one another. For Jesus' sake. *Amen.*

Our teachers

Dear God I pray for the teachers in my school who give so much time and thought to the children. Help us all to behave in a way that makes it easy for them to teach and easy for us to learn. For the Lord's sake. *Amen.*

Our pets

Dear God some of us have pets. It's great fun to have a pet, to stroke him, to play with him, to show him off to my friends. I do try to look after him but sometimes I forget, sometimes I am tired and sometimes I have other things to do. I am sorry. Help me to remember that you want me to care for him because he belongs to you as well. May I always try to be a good friend to him and make him happy. *Amen.*



Our neighbours

Dear Heavenly Father, please take care of children who cannot see, cannot hear, cannot speak, cannot walk: children who are sick, children in hospital. Bless those who look after them and help me never to be unkind to children less fortunate than myself. *Amen.*

Heavenly Father, bless those who starve while we have plenty to eat; those who are homeless while we lie safely in bed; those who have no clothes while we throw clothes away. Help us to care for those less fortunate than ourselves and to do all we can to help them, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



Dear Heavenly Father, please take care of children, wherever they live, who do not have clean water, enough food, good homes, proper schools, doctors and hospitals. Bless those who work for them and seek to help them. Help us to

share with others the good things we enjoy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ASKING PRAYERS

For myself

God, my heavenly Father, thank you for making me me. Thank you that I am special in your eyes. Thank you that you love me and that I will be always under your care. Help me to be the person you want me to be - to try to please you in everything I do. Even when I do wrong help me to know that you will set me right again. ***Amen.***

Please, Heavenly Father, help me to live like Jesus. I want to please you but I cannot without your help. Please keep me from doing wrong and make me able to do what is right. In Jesus' name. ***Amen.***



Day by day, dear Lord of thee three things I pray: to see you more clearly, to love you more dearly, to follow you more nearly, day by day. *Amen.*

Lord through this day,
In work and play,
Please bless each thing I do.
May I be honest, loving, kind,
Obedient unto you. *Amen.*



Lord Jesus help me always to tell the truth. When I'm talking about other people don't let me tell lies or say things which I don't know are true and when I'm talking about interesting things don't let me exaggerate or make up things. Please help me to stick to the truth. *Amen.*



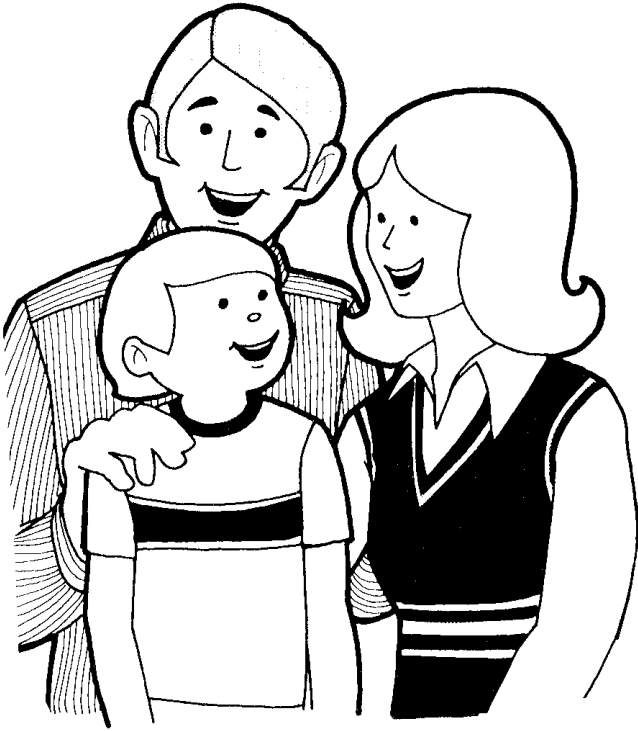
FAMILY PRAYERS

Dear Heavenly Father, you make us to live together in families - mums, dads, brothers, sisters, grannies and grandpas, uncles, aunts and cousins. Please take care of my family. Help us to live together happily and to share with each other, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



Lord Jesus you grew up in a family. Thank you for my family, that they love me and make me feel special. I enjoy being together as a family - shopping, playing games, doing homework, watching television. I look forward to parties and special meals, to family outings and visits from grandparents. Especially I like going away on holiday.

Help me always to remember those who can't enjoy these things and who have no family. *Amen.*



Thank you God for my mummy and daddy and for all the love they show me. Thank you that they work hard to earn money for the food I eat, the clothes I wear and the toys I have. Thank you for the way they look after me cooking my meals, washing my clothes,

bringing me places and caring for me when I am ill. Please help them to know that I am thankful for all they do. For Jesus' sake. *Amen.*

Please God be with my brothers and sisters. May we try to help each other and to share the things we have at home. If there are times when we fight help us soon to make up. Help us to get on well together and so to please our parents. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



Dear God, thank you for granny and grandpa. Help me to always respect them as they have so much experience of life. I learn so much from them and hope they enjoy me coming to visit. Watch over them and keep them safe. In Jesus' name. *Amen.*



Grandparents are such kind people: they come to stay with us, they take us for rides and walks, and they bring us special treats. They always seem to understand us. Thank you God for our grandparents. *Amen.*

GRACE

Thank you God for happy hearts
For rain and sunny weather
Thank you God for this our food
And that we're here together. **Amen.**

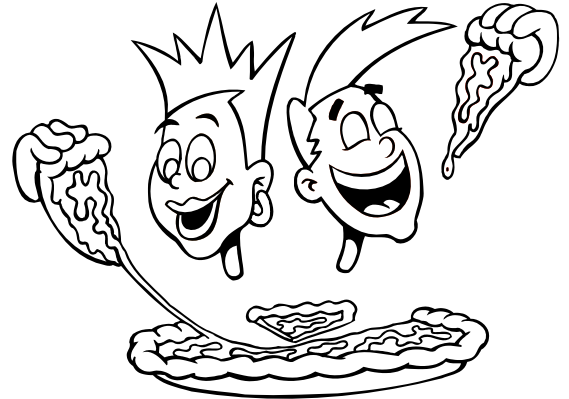
Thank you for the food we eat
Thank you for the friends we meet
Thank you for the birds that sing
Thank you Lord for everything. **Amen.**

We sit down and together say
Thank you for our food today. **Amen.**



God is great, God is good
Let us thank him for our food
By his hands we are fed
Let us thank him for our bread. **Amen.**

Good food
Good meat
Good Lord
Let's eat. **Amen.**



God our Father, Lord and Saviour
Thank you for your love and favour
Bless this food and drink we pray
And all who share with us today. **Amen.**



ST PATRICK'S



ST COLUMBA'S



BALLYCLUG

