

God calls us to be a praying people, and so we pray;

God of our parents and grandparents,
God of our children and grandchildren,
we thank you.

We thank you for all of your gifts to us;
gifts of wonder, life, beauty, friendship, shelter and daily bread.

We thank you for the faithfulness and hope of covenant love wherever that is found;
love that is steadfast and true;
love that is tender, fair and joyous;
love that builds partnerships, marriages
and families in a world where lives are lived apart.

God of justice,
your gracious love in Jesus Christ brings healing, forgiveness, and new life.
Let us live in the promise of his resurrection!

God of all mothers and fathers,
God of the mentors and faith leaders who have walked with us
and guided us on our spiritual path;
we thank you.

God of all sons and daughters,
help us to remember that every friend we now cherish
was once a stranger, and that in Christ our friends become sisters and brothers.

We offer prayers of intercession and concern
for all who need your love and our support;
for mothers and fathers who struggle to raise children in the midst of poverty,
unemployment, loneliness, racism or illness.

Today we pray for those who are dear to us;

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We pray for those whose names are on our prayer list....
We pray for Jean Nykyforuk who is feeling better and resting at home.

God of all consolation, our hope for the earth made new.
We pray for families who endure the pain of death, separation or divorce
made even more difficult in these days.

We pray for all who suffer the violence of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse.
By your grace, free people from this hurtful past and damaging cycle.
Bless every child, O God.

And we pray for ourselves....it hasn't been easy for over a year now.
We pray you will encourage us and steady us as we stay on the path, your path.
Bring us patience and calm when we think we can't wait anymore.
Help us to treat one another with love and care.

We pray your love is there
bringing us faith when we feel lonely,
sustaining us through the hard places in life,
challenging us when we are content with second best,
encouraging us to share our troubles,
reminding us to be gentle with ourselves,
reaching out to those we love,
bringing peace when we feel afraid.
We thank you for these gifts.

India and Brazil especially, need your help right now. Support and encourage those
who are working hard to save lives in unimaginable conditions. For the hundreds
of sick and dying and their families, we pray your strength and love will hold them fast.

And we have joy in our lives in the midst of hard days. We celebrate with those
who are having a birthday, anniversary, graduation, and other occasions for
singing with masks on! We celebrate each unique person with love and laughter.
We rejoice and give you thanks.

Fill each of our lives with your love.
We pray all these things, in the holy goodness of your names.
And we say;

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy names.
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.
For thine is the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.