

Thanksgiving Day (Fourth Thursday in November)

When all have gathered at table, the following prayer and song may be used. An extended table blessing follows on the next page.



Lord, we thank you
for the goodness of our people
and for the spirit of justice
that fills this nation.
We thank you for the beauty and fullness of the
land and the challenge of the cities.

We thank you for our work and our rest,
for one another, and for our homes.
We thank you, Lord:
accept our thanksgiving on this day.
We pray and give thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord.
R/. Amen.

An appropriate song such as “Now Thank We All Our God”
(page 60) may then be sung.

EXTENDED THANKSGIVING TABLE BLESSING

On Thanksgiving Day, families and friends gather to give thanks to God for the many blessings we have received. In sharing our abundance, it is most fitting to remember those who do not have the basic necessities of life.

When all have gathered at table, they make the sign of the cross.

Leader: God has filled us with every good thing.
R/. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Then the Scripture is read:

Listen to the words of the Letter of St. Paul
to the Colossians:

3:12-17

Brothers and sisters:

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one Body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

(The family's Bible may be used for an alternate reading such as 1 Corinthians 1:3-9.)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

After a time of silence, the leader prays:

Lord, we thank you
for the goodness of our people
and for the spirit of justice
that fills this nation.
We thank you for the beauty and fullness of the land
and the challenge of the cities.
We thank you for our work and our rest,
for one another, and for our homes.
We thank you, Lord:

(Pause for those gathered to offer their prayers of thanksgiving.)

For all that we have spoken
and for all that we keep in our hearts,
accept our thanksgiving on this day.

Keep us ever mindful of those who lack the necessities of life
and make us generous in sharing all that we have.

We pray and give thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord.
R/. Amen.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader concludes:

May God bless the food and friendship that we share
and fill our hearts with gratitude and generous love.
R/. Amen.