

# Pastoral Prayer – Thank You for Life

God of creation, who made us in your image  
with strength, joy, and the ability to build relationships,  
we thank you for life:

for the ability to move hands and turn our heads,  
to pick up forks and read books,  
to look into the eyes of our neighbor,  
to taste food.

We thank you for our families and friends who support us.

We think about who is sitting around us,  
and we pray silently for the persons who are sitting  
in front of us (*pause*), behind us (*pause*), beside us (*pause*).

We remember and pray for those we love today.

*(Name specific requests here.)*

We pray for those who feel they have no worth,  
for those who struggle with decision making,  
for those whose lives feel dull.

We ask for healing for those in pain.

With your love, transform us.

We pray for our communities,  
for those who are looking for work,  
for those who need freedom from addictions,  
for families struggling to keep afloat in busyness or financial struggle.

*(Name other specific requests.)*

We pray for our world.

Move the hearts of leaders to make wise decisions  
that are in keeping with justice and mercy.

*(Name other specific requests.)*

Now we gather all our prayers together,  
the spoken and unspoken,  
and pray the prayer that Jesus taught us:

***Our Father...***

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