

Thanksgiving Day (Fourth Thursday in November)

Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers, revised edition pages 177-179

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.

All: Amen.

An appropriate song such as “Now Thank We All Our God” (*Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers, revised edition, page 60*) may then be sung.

Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices.
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers’ arms,
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

Extended Thanksgiving Table Blessing

Prayer Leader: God has filled us with every good thing.

All: 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.

All: 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 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.

All: Amen.

**All make the sign of the cross as the leader continues:
May God bless the food and friendship that we share
and fill our hearts with gratitude and generous love.**

All: Amen.