

The Diocese of Sodor and Man

Together making Christ visible

PRAYING IN FAMILY SERVICES (Some alternative ideas)

a. Prayers of introduction/opening Responses

1 We meet to give thanks to God for His goodness to us and to hear his holy word.
We come to pray for the world that God has given to us
and to ask His forgiveness for the times we let him down.
We come to receive His Spirit of love that we may work together and give ourselves
to Gods' service.

2

O Lord the world is yours. **You give it energy and life.**

Your goodness never ends. **You give us everything we need.**

3 Isaiah 40 v 28- 3

"The Lord is the everlasting God; He created all the world. He never grows tired or weary.
No one understands His thoughts. He strengthens those who are weak or tired. Even those
who are young grow weak; young men can fall exhausted. But those who trust in the Lord
for help will find their strength renewed. *They will rise on wings like eagles; they will run and
not grow weary; they will walk and not grow weak*

4

Heavenly Father we come bringing our praises and love to you.

**We come to hear your word, to pray for the world that you have given to us
and to ask your forgiveness for the times we let you down.**

**We pray that your Holy Spirit will fill our hearts with love , that we may always praise you,
Amen**

b. Prayers of Forgiveness/sorry prayers/time to reflect

1 We say sorry to God and ask His forgiveness

**We sing hymn 454 through twice as we think of the times we have let our God down.
(Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me)**

Jesus' promise of forgiveness.

2

Father God, we are sorry for the many times we let you down

Father forgive us.

We are sorry for the times that we think of ourselves first and let others down

Father forgive us.

We are sorry for the times when we think only about what we want, even when it hurts others and damages our world.

Father forgive us.

We are sorry that we don't live as Jesus showed us

Father forgive us and help us to be beautiful for you. Amen

3

Loving God we remember how you came to earth to show us how to love;

Yet often we let you down and do not to love one another.

Lord Jesus, we remember how you call us to follow you;

Yet often we do not seem to hear your voice.

Holy Spirit you guide us on the path of light;

Yet often we choose to walk in darkness

Father God, we know that we let you down in many ways,

Father forgive us,

and by your Holy Spirit help us to be born again to new life.

Amen.

4

Loving God we remember how you came to show us how to love;

Yet often we let you down and do not love one another.

Silence:

Lord Jesus, we remember how you call us to follow you;

Yet often we do not seem to hear your voice, and go our own way.

Silence:

Holy Spirit you guide us to make the right choices

Yet often we are afraid, and do what others want;

Silence:

Father God, we know that we let you down in many ways

Father forgive us,

and by your Holy Spirit help us to be more like Jesus

Amen.

Jesus' promise of forgiveness:

c. AFFIRMATION of FAITH / saying why we are here in church

We affirm our faith

**We believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life.**

**We believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature died upon a cross and rose again.**

**We believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world.**

**This is our faith, we believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit .**

2

We believe in God the Father, Who made the world.

We believe in Jesus Christ, his Son, who redeemed humankind.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God

3

We affirm our faith: (to the tune of all things Bright and beautiful)

Praise to God our Father, Praise Jesus -God the Son

Praise the Holy Spirit, Praise God the three in One

- 1 Oh God our loving Father, you love us each new day,
You lead us on life's pathway, through work and rest and play. chorus
- 2 Lord Jesus friend and helper, a human life you lived,
You faced life's joys and sorrows, to us new life you give chorus
- 3 And now O Holy Spirit, our praise to you we bring,
You help us grow like Jesus, and so to you we sing chorus

d. **PRAYERS**

Usually keep simple, praying for the World, Family, People in special need and Ourselves.

Sometimes use with hymn, O Lord hear our prayer

Bind us together Lord

Shalom my friend

I need thee every hour

Kum by yah my Lord

Be still and know that I am God

Hand prayer This prayer uses the hand, held high , as a visual image.

The thumb is closest to us, reminds us to pray for those closest to us, family and those sitting near us in church. The pointing finger reminds to pray for those who point the way, our clergy, teachers, children's and youth workers. The middle finger, the tallest, reminds us to pray for those in authority, leaders of the nation etc. The ring finger, a weak finger, reminds us to pray for those in need, the weaker members of society and the smallest finger reminds us to pray for ourselves.

The Blessing

May God the Father watch over us and bless us,
may the Lord Jesus smile upon us and be gracious to us,
and may the Spirit of God help us to live justly,
to love mercy, and to walk humbly with him,
all the days of our life.

Alleluia, Amen

The Dismissal

**Let us go out into the world
to live our lives for God,
to follow Jesus,
and to listen to the Holy Spirit as he guides us,
that we may know Jesus more fully
and live our lives for Him
filled with His Joy and Love.**

Amen

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