

WE BELIEVE

Jesus teaches his followers how to pray.

Jesus is the son of God. Jesus is divine because he is God. He is also Mary's son. Jesus is human like us in every way except he is without sin.


Jesus had to learn how to walk, talk, read, and write. Mary and Joseph also taught Jesus how to talk to God in prayer. **Prayer** is listening and talking to God.

Jesus prayed in the **synagogue**, the gathering place where Jewish people pray and learn about God. Jesus also worshiped in the Temple in Jerusalem. Other times he went off by himself to pray. Sometimes he prayed with his family or his disciples.

The disciples wanted to learn how to pray as Jesus did. One day they said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray." (Luke 11:1) So Jesus taught them this prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
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. Amen.


This prayer is the Lord's Prayer. We also call it the Our Father. It is the greatest example of prayer for the Church.

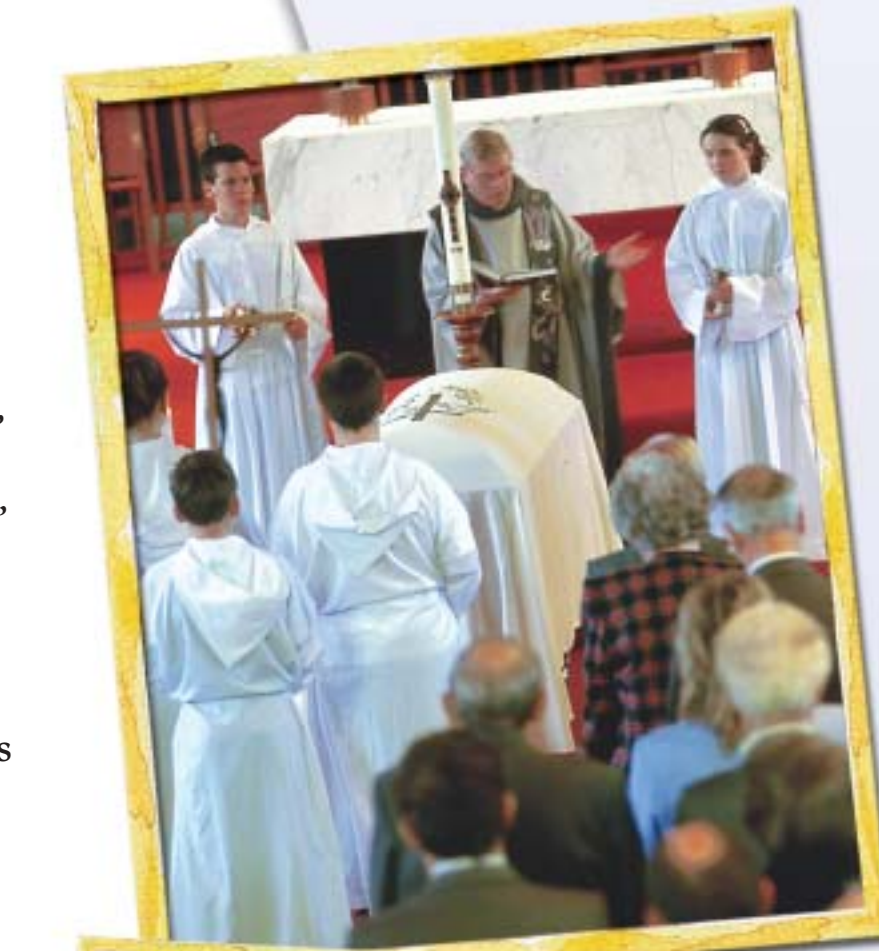
 Use your own words to tell what we pray for when we pray the Lord's Prayer.

We can pray with others or by ourselves.

We often come together to worship God. We gather with others to celebrate the **liturgy**, the official public prayer of the Church. Each celebration, such as the Mass and the sacraments, is an action of the whole Church. Together as the Church, we worship the Blessed Trinity. We pray with Christ and with the whole Church, the Body of Christ.

Sometimes we pray alone just as Jesus did. We call this personal prayer. We can pray at any time and in any place. We can pray prayers such as the Our Father and the Hail Mary. We can also pray with our own words. God listens to us when we pray. He knows what we need.

 Draw one way your family likes to pray.



Key Word

prayer (p. 253)

synagogue (p. 253)

liturgy (p. 251)