

Graduate Liturgy at Home

As you gather as a family to celebrate your graduate, you may use this simple liturgy.

-Light a white pillar candle. Set the graduate's baptismal candle (or other white taper candle) down beside the pillar candle.

Reader: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Responsorial Psalm

Reader: The response is “**We praise you, Lord, for you have wonderfully made us.**”

All: “We praise you, Lord, for you have wonderfully made us.”

Reader: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit and when I rise up.
You discern my thoughts from far away.
You search out my path and know all of my way. **R.**

Even before a word is on my tongue,
O Lord, you know it completely.
You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me. **R.**

For it was you who formed my inward parts;
You knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. **R.**

My frame was not hidden from you when I was being made in secret,
Intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written all the days that were formed for me.
When none of them as yet existed. **R.**

Parents of Graduate (addressing graduate): At your baptism, you received the light of Christ and we promised to keep it burning brightly. (*Light Baptismal candle and give to graduate*) This is the light of Christ. The light of Christ is also the light of wisdom. May you grow in a wisdom that will lead to all that is good and true and also be a light of wisdom for those around you. The light of Christ is the light of love. Carry this light of love into the world wherever you may go especially where love is rare or absent. The light of Christ is the light of faith. It can illuminate every aspect of your existence. Spread the light of faith so that others may come to know Him.

You are a source of light to those who walk in darkness. Do not hide your light under the bushel basket. Shine your light for the whole world to see.

Intercessory Prayers

The Response is: “**Lord, hear our prayer.**”

Leader: For the Church, that the desire of its youth to see the Gospel message take hold in our world might help renew the faith fo God’s people everywhere. We pray to the Lord.

For young people, that their search for knowledge and truth through study, prayer and work will help bring about the truth and peace of God’s Kingdom. We pray to the Lord.

For young people who cannot go to school because of poverty, war or other circumstances. For greater opportunities to learn in safe and secure environment. We pray to the Lord.

For the gifts of friendship and community that we have found in our educational institutions. We pray to the Lord.

For our teachers, instructors and administrators who have taken part in the growth of our children, inside and outside of the classroom. We pray to the Lord.

For the parents, who continue to guide and nurture their children. We pray to the Lord.

For the graduates, may they the courage to share their God-given gifts and proclaim Jesus always. We pray to the Lord.

Gathering our prayers into one together we pray,
Our Father.....

Closing Prayer:

All: Blessed are you, Lord our God,
for you begin all things and bring them to conclusion.
At the dawn of creation you created all things
and place this earth under our care;
You sent your Son Jesus
to be the way, the truth and the life;
and through the gift of the Holy Spirit,
guide our way to the glory of your kingdom.

We praise you for (NAME);
you have guided (him/her) to this proud moment.
As we celebrate (his/her) graduation,
we ask you to continue your gracious guidance
in his/her life.

Open new doors and lead (him/her)
to marvel at the wonders of creation and life.
May your Spirit help (him/her) to see
(his/her) many gifts,
and teach (him/her) how to share these
in your Church and for the benefit of others.

Continue to bless our family and our children,
and grant that we
may always rejoice in your gift of love.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.