

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

The LITANY OF THANKSGIVING takes the place of the Homily and the usual Prayers of the Faithful.

The litany is to be read by the two Ministers of the Word on either side of the altar alternating from side to side and thus verse to verse ... pausing about five seconds between each verse.

Father will introduce the Thanksgiving Litany with a simple few words ... then the two lectors approach the microphones and the commentator will begin There will be a pause of 5 seconds between each Part of the Litany,

(FRIENDS, DO NOT ANNOUNCE THE PART NUMBER IN YOUR READING, PLEASE!!!!!!)

A) PART ONE (Commentator)

Thank you Father, for faith

* faith that allows us to see light
at the end of tunnels.

* faith that shines hope into
moments of desperation.

* faith that fills our hearts with understanding
and banishes the cold of grief.

* faith that allows us to accept the question of tomorrow
with the faith of yesterday, and the hope of Our Savior.

B) PART TWO (Lector)

Thank you Father for the past,

a time that allows understanding of the present moment.

* the past, filled with people,
people who made a difference in our lives.

* the past, memories of grandparents, and parents,
some known, some not, nevertheless, not to be forgotten as the
loving people who empowered us to become.

* the past, which has led to the present,
which open the doors on the possibility of tomorrow.

* the past, both pain and joy, the past
which supports exactly who we are this day!

C) PART THREE (Commentator)

Thank you Father for light,

light, to see the beauty of your creation.

* for the dark of night,
a soothing darkness, that brings rest and allows us to appreciate
the light.
* for the sunshine, the moonlight and the stars of sky,
all sources of hope and signs of **your** presence.
* thank you for the clouds,
without which we would not yearn for the sun,
without which the rains would not fall.
* thank you the wind and the breeze,
winds that tell us of the changes soon to come.

D) PART FOUR (Lector)

Thank you Father, for **hands**

* hands that reach out and
touch a person in need,
* caring and skilled hands that teach our
children,
* loving, elderly hands that have
loved and comforted families for years,
* capable hands of nurses, doctors
and other health care professionals that care for all who are
hurting.
* grimy hands that are to the tools of skillful
blue collar workers
* consecrated hands, blessed hands,
of our bishops, priests and deacons standing at altars,
bringing Jesus to us.
* Yes, Father, thank you for hands!

E) PART FIVE (Commentator)

Thank you Father, for faces

* relaxed ones that seem
to never have a care,
* distant ones that are
lost in thought,
* friendly faces with a
quick smile.
* caring faces, filled with concern
that are always there to give assistance.
* solemn faces, to share in our grief, glad faces
to share in our joy.
* tense but brave faces of our troops in far

off lands such as Iraq and Afghanistan.
* loving faces that will always be there,
always present for us with heartening warmth.

F) PART SIX (Lector)

Thank you Father for our **Feelings:**

- * feelings that express our emotions,
- * tears, shed in pain and in joy,
- * fatigue, well earned at the end of a long day of accomplishment,
- * strength, to meet life's problems, however bulky, cumbersome and prolonged.
- * forgiveness, which we all need at times, and which we should be quick to give.
- * Thank you Father for our free will, our faults, our fears, our failures and our frustrations.
- * Thank you Father for your forgiveness so freely offered to all who pursue it, no questions asked!

G) PART SEVEN (Commentator)

Thank you Father for the waters,

- * Thank you for the Sea, the Gulf, the Rivers, and the bayous.
- * Thank you for the peace that these waters bring to all who take the time to sit and lose themselves in their reflections.
- * Thank you for the abundance of wonder that is brought forth from them.
- * Thank you for the tranquil waters of the lazy day of sailing or the surf of a Holiday outing.
- * Thank you Father for the wonderful gift of nature, of which the waters of our area are but one gift.

H) PART EIGHT (Lector)

Thank you Father, for

- * the lazy and colorful bayous,
- * the faintly colored autumn foliage of South Louisiana
- * for fields familiar with

sugar cane, rice and other crops of our people,
* for the Atchafalaya, the Vermilion, the Teche and the
natural setting our land provides
for the wonders of who we are, a proud people,
living in a blessed place,
of a proud land!

I) PART NINE (Commentator)

Thank you Father for friends

- * friends that are always there when we are in need,
- * friends that make us feel at home among them,
- * true friends that share families, meals and time together,
- * friends that know when we are hurting, and allow our hurt
- * true friends that sense our love and don't question it,
- * friends that understand our "moods" and don't hold them against
us,
- * true friends who have become family to us,
- * faithful friends that we would never be able to do without.

J) PART TEN (Lector)

Thank you Father for Time

- * For the time that you grant each of us in life,
allow us always to use it well.
- * For those "times of our life", moments that define our joy, days,
minutes, hours that we will never forget for their joy.
- * For time spent with those loved, time spent in service to others,
time spent in prayer and time, simply, spent, being who we are.

K) PART ELEVEN (Commentator)

Thank you father, for

- * Service, unselfish and giving,
- * for the bravery of so many who have and still do
fight and die for our freedom.
- * for the nation that we call home,
- * for the brave soldiers who stand sentinel in foreign lands.
- * for the fire, police and EMS workers who protect our homeland,
and thus for the peace that exists in this church.
- * For the Peaceful transfer of power in our democratic nation.
- * Thank you Father for the diversity of our culture
in South Central Louisiana and the warm welcome given to new –
comers to our home and now their home.

L) PART TWELVE (Lector)

Thank you Father for Forgiveness

- * Absolution from you, our God,
who quickly forgives and restores us to the family.
- * Pardon from family,
for those times we have not truly been part of the "family!"
- * Forgiveness from friends, true friends,
who can wonderfully overlook the hurt we may have caused, and
thus we can reconcile, smile and embrace.

M) PART THIRTEEN (Commentator)

Father, on this Thanksgiving Day, 2008, we especially thank you

- * for the fellowship of a loving community,
- * for the challenges to each of us and as a Church parish that still
lie before us and motivate us,
- * for the presence of Your Spirit in our lives,
- * for the ability to reach out and make a difference ...
a difference in a world in great need of people,
people **willing to make a difference.**
- * and finally for faith, health, contentment, peace and love.

N) PART FOURTEEN (Lector)

Finally, father we thank you **for Love**

- * Your gift of love,
shared abundantly with each of us.
- * Your gift of love that enables us to live in a world
that sometimes seems so dark and bleak.
- * Your gift of love that allows us to reach out to others,
and whisper words of love and gratitude.
- * Your gift of love that allowed Jesus, Our Savior,
to freely offer himself up on the Cross
not out of command or responsibility but
out of love for each one of us.

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Thank you Father for mistakes

- * mistakes that are hard to accept,
- * mistakes that teach us so much, and Thank You Father for the opportunities to make things right again.
- * Thank you Father for your love and the constant Call to each of us to return to your side, much like the Prodigal Son of the New Testament.
- * Thank you Father for your Word, the Sacred Scriptures, **words** that are the foundation of our lives, days made brighter by Your Word, and the solitary moments with your word that hope is taken.