

The Lord's Day Celebration

(This celebration is performed before Saturday dinner. The head of the household leads the ceremony. The wife or assistant lights the candle and reads the meditation prayer.)

Lighting of the Candle

Assistant: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

All: All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that has been made.

In Him was life, and the life was the light of the world.

All: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Heavenly Father, in honor of your Son, light of the world and author of life, I am about to kindle the light for the Lord's Day. On this day you raised your Son Jesus from the dead and began the new creation. May our celebration of His resurrection this day be filled with your peace and heavenly blessing. Be gracious to us and cause your Holy Spirit to dwell more richly among us and Transfiguration Catholic Church.

Father of mercy, continue your loving kindness toward us. Make us worthy to walk in the way of your Son, loyal to your teaching and unwavering in love and service. Keep far from us all anxiety, darkness and gloom, and grant that peace, light, and joy ever abide in our home.

All: For in you is the fountain of life, in your light do we see light. Amen

The assistant lights the candle and prays with hands raised over it: Blessed are you, Lord our God, who created light on the first day, and raised your Son, the light of the world, to begin the new creation. Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe, who has taught us to kindle the light for the Lord's Day.

The Blessing of the Meal

The Leader prays: Brothers and sisters, this is the Lord's Day

All: Let us welcome it in joy and in peace.

Today we set aside the concerns of the week that we may honor the Lord and celebrate His resurrection. Today we cease from our work in order to worship God and remember the eternal life to which He has called us.

All: The Lord himself is with us to refresh and strengthen us.

Let us welcome the Lord among us and give Him glory.

All: Let us love one another in the Lord.

May the Holy Spirit be with us, to deepen our devotion to the Lord and to increase our zeal for the way of life He has given us.

The Reading of the Word

(Leader or designated person reads the Gospel for the Lords' Day)

Leader: Let us praise God and thank Him for the blessings of the past week -- for health, strength, and wisdom; for home, love, and friendship; for the discipline of our trials and temptations; for the happiness that has come to us out of our work. Let us thank Him this day especially for the great blessings He has bestowed on us in Christ. From His fullness we have all received grace upon grace. We who were dead through sin have been brought to life together with Christ and raised with Him and made to sit in heavenly places with Him.

Lord our God, you have brought us into the rest of Christ. Now we live with Him through the Holy Spirit, and we look for the day when we will dwell with Him in your everlasting kingdom.

All: Bless us, Oh Lord...Amen