

Vicariate V Prayer for Ministry to our Communities (for Families)

We have been asked to pray together for our Families, our Catechists, our Catechetical Leaders, our Pastoral Staff, our Lifelong Faith Coordinators, our Vicariate V leadership, and the teams at the Archdiocese of Chicago Offices of Lifelong Formation and Parish Vitality & Mission. We ask you to join us in praying that as our families return to Faith Formation programs in our parishes, we may engage and support them, inspiring a desire for deeper relationship with Christ. Please pray also that the Holy Spirit will unify and strengthen each member of our team, from parish to Archdiocesan level, so that we can continue to spread the Good News of God's Love to our families and communities. May the Spirit – the Giver of Life – pour upon us the gifts of Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord; Enkindle in us the Fire of God's Love; and Renew the Face of the Earth!

Let us pray:

Come, Holy Spirit! Fill the hearts of your people!

Hear our cries – cries for healing, comfort, and peace.

Bring us together, Lord, in worship and in mission.

Your trinitarian nature – whose essence is Love – both creates and connects.

Our human nature – in your image, Lord –

compels us to connect with you and with one another.

Yet, we encounter obstacles along the way.

Help us, O Spirit of Wonder, to be creative

as we respond to the challenges before us.

May our churches provide shelter from the storms of

pandemic, fear, distrust, and division that roll through our world.

May our ministries be a source of welcome, understanding, and peace.

May we meet families where they are.

Help us to listen with our hearts so that we may respond in love.

Help us to trust in your goodness and rely on your strength,

even as we acknowledge and forgive our own weakness.

Above all, bless our efforts to share your message of love with our communities.

May our witness inspire your people to grow more deeply

in relationship with you and your church.

We ask this in your Holy Name.

Amen.

He remembers forever his covenant,

which he made binding for a thousand generations.

1 Chronicles 16:15