



## **FAMILY FEAST MORNING PRAYER**



**Dear sisters, Wish you all peace and joy this morning, in the name of our living God.**

**Mostly in every religion, entering into the house of God is something sacred and significant. The believers are asked to purify themselves through different rituals, before entering into Hindu temples, churches, mosques, Buddhist temple etc. In Bahai faith, Buddhism, Islam, shintoism and Judaism, a ritualistic washing of the parts of body or whole body denotes physical and mental purification. Hinduism suggests bathing of the entire body, particularly in rivers considered holy. The rituals like touching and sipping of pure water while reciting specific mantras, the application of a tilaka on the forehead and sprinkling of water over all the people participating and the items used are also common. For us Christians, in the third century onward, there are traces of a custom of washing the hands as a preparation for prayer and symbol of inward purity, on the part of all Christians. Dipping the fingertips in the holy water, and then making the sign of the cross, sprinkling of Holy water are some of the familiar forms of symbolic rituals.**

**Today we have gathered here, outside the chapel, to bring to conscious, the status of our own physical body, mental functioning, emotional and spiritual realms. As we move in line like pilgrims, making every step conscious towards the dwelling place of God, we also observe certain meaningful rituals. As we feel purified, we join the whole of creation in praising God, and we wish wellbeing and fullness of life for all the created beings.**

**I request Sr. .... to sprinkle Holy water on us, as a sign of purification. Thereafter at the entrance you will be welcomed with a Tilaka and a word of God.**

- **Sprinkling of Holy water**

**I now invite you to move in two line to the chapel, with deeper desire to present ourselves as whole and holy before God.**

**Sanskrit Chant.....Sarva Mangalam...**

- **Welcomed by a Thilaka of sandal paste**
- **Receiving word of God**

### **Introduction to Aarti**

**O God of the universe, here we stand before you in awe and wonder. You are our beginning and end. You fill the whole cosmos with your Holy presence and you are present in every particle that you have created with much love. You are our father, our mother and our everything. We believe in your life living presence, in**

**depth knowledge of us all and supreme power of love. Every fibre of our being long to rise up and pay homage to you, O God.**

**Aarti.....Sachithanda....**

- **Creator Spirit**
- **Introduction to occasion**
- **Song.....**
- **Scripture reading: I Corinthians 12:??**

**The Apostle Paul compares the church to a human body. Like a human body, the body of Christ is made up of many parts. Paul writes, “some of us are Jews, some are gentiles, some are slaves, some are free. But all are baptized into one body by one spirit and we all share the same spirit. Each part of the body brings a different perspective, a different understanding and has a different role to play. But no part can function on its own and all must work together to survive. The intricacies of every organ is marvellous and significant, so also every individual in a community. Even in the tremendous diversity of the body, by God’s power there is harmony and unity. In our differences we are called to believe in God’s power that we can fathom the bridging of our differences. We are committed to Jesus’ commandment to love one another. In Paul’s words, “The eye can never say to the hand, ‘I don’t need you, the head cant’ say to the feet, “I don’t need you”. Together we make the body whole. It is only when we consciously align ourselves to the greater purpose of our existence together, we can say we reflect the body of Christ. Though different, we mirror Jesus in our one common mission. Hence we can rightly say that we are called to celebrate communion in all the aspects. Jesus constantly tells to each one of us, “You are my hands, feet, eyes, ears and mouth through which I long to reach out to many. I need you, I need your heart I need all of you to make known the love of the Father to the whole nations and bring everyone to communion.**

**Let this moment of our payer, affirm our call to be another Christ to the world. In a symbolic manner, we shall now rejoin the missing body parts in the picture of Jesus, promising our faithfulness to be part of Him.**

#### **1. Heart**

**Lord, as we come before you with this heart, we promise to make your heart our own... to love every one like you and to feel with all those who are in great need of acceptance, understanding and compassion. Let your love flow through us.**

## **2. Eyes**

**Lord, as we come before you with these pair of eyes, we renew our desire to look at others as you would, to notice the reality around, to capture the goodness in everyone even in a worst sinner and to praise you always while relishing the beauty and harmony of the creation.**

## **3. Mouth**

**Lord, we stand in owe for granting us the wisdom and knowledge to preach you courageously. May we continue to be your mouthpiece even in the most difficult times of our mission.**

## **4. Hands**

**Lord, in your great design, you call us to do works of mercy and love. May our hands always move for the good of the other, bringing healing and comfort.**

## **5. Feet**

**Lord, make our feet strong to walk and work tirelessly for you and your people. May we always respect our mother and may our feet always lead us to familiar as well as unfamiliar shores of our life fearlessly.**

- **Song...Mere Jeenae Ka Maksat thu Hein.....**
- **Read aloud the messages we have received at the entrance**
- **Petitions**
- **Our father (holding hands)**
- **Concluding prayer**
- **Angelus**

**Sr. Jessy Mary Paul & Co.**



*Let the Peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.*

*Col 3: 15.*