

## Prayer Service of Appreciation for Partners in Ministry

*(Could be adapted and used with groups in various ministries: education, PREP, pastoral, staff, volunteers, board members)*

**Call to Prayer:** \_\_\_\_\_ (*Name occasion*) provides a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the treasure of \_\_\_\_\_ (*school, parish, PREP Program, ministry group, etc.*) and to give thanks to all of the dedicated people who make it possible. The devotion and generosity of (*name groups*) cannot be measured. Through the years they have shaped minds and hearts, comforted the sick and elderly, served the poor and forgotten and faithfully shared their gifts and talents. Sharing in the call of the IHM Sisters to be “joyful bearers of God’s redeeming love,” they are an inspiration and source of joy to all of us. Thank you for bringing **LOVE, CREATIVE HOPE AND FIDELITY** each day to our ministry here at \_\_\_\_\_ (*place*) in so many ways.

**Presider:** We give thanks to God every time we think of you.

**All:** Which is constantly in every prayer. Glory be to the Father....

**Opening Hymn:** “*We are Called*” (David Haas) Verse 1

**Antiphon:** “Love never says ENOUGH!” (*St. Alphonsus Liguori*)

**Pray in Unison:** *Prayer of St. Teresa of Avila*

Christ has no body but yours  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours  
Yours are the eyes with which He looks  
                  compassion on the world.  
Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good,  
Yours are the hands, with which He blesses all the world.  
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,  
Yours are the eyes, you are the body.  
Christ has no body now but yours,  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes with which He looks  
                  compassion on the world.  
Christ has no body now but yours.  
Glory to the Father...



**Reading:** Ephesians 3:14-21     “*May Christ dwell in your heart.*”

**Sung response:** *Rejoice and be glad. Blessed are you. Holy are you.  
Rejoice and be glad. Yours is the Kingdom of God.*

**Intercessions:**

**Leader:** Heavenly Father, we lift up all our \_\_\_\_\_ (*teachers, staff, colleagues, partners, stakeholders, etc.*)

in prayer. Recalling the virtues of the IHM charism, we thank You for the many ways they bring the love of Jesus to those to whom we serve or share ministry.

**Response:** *We praise and thank You, Lord!*

- ❖ We give thanks for the **LOVE** demonstrated by our \_\_\_\_\_. Through their caring ways, their prayers and self-sacrifice, we are invited to respond with generous and grateful hearts, and so we pray:
- ❖ We give thanks for the **CREATIVE HOPE** of our \_\_\_\_\_. Imitating their trust in God and our community here at \_\_\_\_\_, we believe that we can successfully meet life's daily challenges, and so we pray:
- ❖ We give thanks for the **FIDELITY** of our \_\_\_\_\_. Through their example, we are reminded of the fidelity of the Apostles and their fidelity to Jesus and so we pray:
- ❖ We give thanks for the **JOYFUL SERVICE** of our \_\_\_\_\_. By their witness of dedicated service to others, we are inspired to want to do the same, and so we pray:

**Closing Prayer:** God of Boundless Love, thank you for blessing our \_\_\_\_\_ with a passionate spirit to live the virtues of **LOVE, CREATIVE HOPE AND FIDELITY**. Give them the graces they need to continually proclaim the Gospel message in the Spirit of Jesus, the Redeemer. Help them and all of us to always radiate joyful service with compassion for all God's people. Amen.



***Thank you for being  
“joyful bearers of God’s redeeming Love”!***