## Catholic Action - October

## The Lord’s Prayer (The Liturgy of the Eucharist portion of THE MASS)

## *Reader:*

*“The Lord’s Prayer was taught by Jesus in the Gospels (Mt 6:9-13; Lk 11:1-4) and has been used in the Mass throughout the centuries….The Our Father has traditionally been divided into seven petitions with the first three focused on God (****thy*** *name,* ***thy*** *kingdom,* ***thy*** *will), and the last four focused on our needs (give* ***us****, forgive* ***us****, lead* ***us****, deliver* ***us****).*

***Hallowed be thy name: …****This petition prays that God’s name may be hallowed, that God and his name may be recognized and treated as holy.*

***Thy kingdom come:*** *…This petition prays that God’s reign will be accepted throughout the world in all people’s hearts, beginning with our own.*

***Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven:*** *…In heaven, God’s will is obeyed perfectly. His name is hallowed and his reign is welcomed by all the angels and saints. We now pray that all on earth may worship God and obey his will in the same way.*

***Give us this day our daily bread:*** *…The mention of ‘daily bread’ in this petition refers to our daily needs….this petition also has Eucharistic overtones as the prayer for daily bread points to the Bread of Life we are about to receive in Holy Communion.*

***Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us:*** *Before receiving Holy Communion, we ask God to forgive our sins—to purify us so that we might be holy tabernacles for Jesus who will soon dwell within us….Similarly, before we approach the altar to receive Holy Communion, we are challenged in this prayer to forgive those who have sinned against us and to be reconciled with our brethren.*

***Lead us not into temptation:*** *…The biblical words express a request that God will not allow us to enter into temptation in the sense of giving in to it. It is a prayer that God would strengthen us to overcome the temptations we face.*

***Deliver us from evil:*** *…In this concluding petition, …we are asking that the Father deliver us from Satan, from all his lies, works, and entrapments.” #*

*Reflection (Do as a group):*

## • Take a few minutes to reflect on the “The Lord’s Prayer”.

## Did you hear anything in this passage that was new to you or elicited thoughts you would like to share?

* Is there one verse that struck a chord with you as it was read? Ponder why and share if you like?

*Leader: Let us all recite the Lord’s Prayer Together*

“Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil. Amen.” #(pg 123)

*#* *A Biblical Walk Through THE MASS, Understanding What We Say And Do In The Liturgy*, by Edward Sri, (published by Ascension, West Chester, PA 19380, 2011, 2017), pages 123 - 126