

A still life arrangement of autumn harvest produce on a windowsill. In the center is a large, round, golden-brown cornucopia overflowing with small, round fruits. Below it sits a large, ribbed pumpkin. The windowsill is covered with various items: several bright orange carrots, a green apple, a red apple, a yellow pear, a bunch of purple grapes, a corn cob, and some leafy greens. To the right, there is a small vase with dried wheat stalks and more autumnal foliage. The background features a window with a dark metal lattice pattern. The overall lighting is soft and warm, creating a cozy autumn atmosphere.

Harvest Thanksgiving

Opening Prayer

God of the heavens and earth we thank you for the richness of harvest time and for food. May the fruitfulness of this time make us thankful for your constant love and care for us. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen



Giving Thanks for the Harvest

The harvest is almost complete. Across the land fruits, vegetables and grains have been harvested in gardens, fields. We have received the richness of God's bountiful harvest.

God has given us much to be grateful for.

We are thankful for all our produce even if it does not seem much or plentiful.

The season is over and we return the earth to rest to prepare to be fallow until our next season of planting and expectation.



God's abundance

'You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

You crown the year with your bounty; you wagon tracks overflow with richness.

The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy.

The meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valley's deck themselves with grain, they should and sing together for joy.'

Ps 65:10-13



Luke 13:18-20


One day Jesus was trying to find a way to teach his followers about the Kingdom of God. He said, “What is the Kingdom of God like? What can I compare it to? He thought for a moment and then he told this very short story/parable. “The Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed which a man took and threw into his garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air sheltered in its branches.”

The Gospel of the Lord



We thank you Lord – A litany of thanks....

- Let us give thanks to God our Father for all the gifts we have been freely given. *We thank you Lord*
- For the beauty of creation, in earth, sea and sky. *We thank you Lord*
- For all those who tend the land and sea, our farmers, fishermen and all who bring food to our tables. *We thank you Lord*
- For the food and drink we share in our homes with our families and visitors. *We thank you Lord*
- For the health to work and the time to rest. *We thank you Lord*
- For all these we are thankful for God's richness and the harvest we benefit from daily. *We thank you Lord*
- We thank you Lord



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;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Matthew 6:9-13

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Let Us Pray....

- FINAL PRAYER Lord, we thank you all of creation, for food and vegetables, for trees and flowers, for fish and animals. Above all we thank you for the gift of people. May we always remember that what we have, comes from you. May we have generous hearts that share and respectful hearts that care for all you have entrusted to us. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Some Extra Resources to celebrate Harvest moments

- Five Finger Prayer
- Scripture Readings suitable for prayer services and private prayer
- Two versions of Prayers of the Faithful
- A resource page to suggest ways to create a harvest prayer space @ home or @Church.
- Other ideas for celebrating Harvest with the wider community
- All available (& more) on www.dublindiocese.ie

Five Finger Prayer – Giving Thanks for Harvest

The five finger prayer. Counting off on your fingers give thanks for:

1. God the giver of life
2. For those who brought in the harvest from land and sea
3. Food processors who add variety and longevity
4. Distributors and retailers who make it available
5. The person who shopped for and cooked the food.



Create a Harvest Prayer Space @home @Church

HARVEST

Home

Choose a place to create your prayer space, such as the centre of your kitchen table. At meal times invite anyone at the table to say one of Grace before meals, traditional, or one of the alternative ones.



Parish

If your Church has an established prayer space – with a 'kitchen table' near the sanctuary or somewhere else in the Church you can enhance the items above with other symbols of harvest. (This space may also be located somewhere else in the Church)

For more resources visit: www.missionministry.ie