

# Blessed Trinity Catholic Community + Spirit of Christ Mission



November 2024

## RITUAL DINNER AT HOME

Adapt this Prayer Service in whatever manner is suitable for your household.

Modeled on Sunday Mass, this ritual dinner at home is a way of “handing on the faith from generation to generation”...a way of bringing what we do at Sunday MASS to our table at home.

We are walking in the footsteps of those who have gone before us.

*This Sunday Dinner guide published in the October 27, 2024 bulletin is also available on line at [blessedtrinitymissoula.org](http://blessedtrinitymissoula.org) CLICK on the NOVEMBER DINNER AT HOME tab.*

**PREPARATION.** Plan on a special dinner. Set the table for a feast. PLACE AROUND THE TABLE PHOTOS OF DECEASED RELATIVES AND FRIENDS AS A CELEBRATION OF THEIR NEW ETERNAL LIFE IN HEAVEN. LEAVE THESE PHOTOS IN PLACE THROUGHOUT NOVEMBER.

### 1. Begin the Meal with this PRAYER FOR ALL SAINTS

**M**ASTER OF THE UNIVERSE, God of our ancestors who set their hearts on you, God of those who died in your peace, and God of those who won the martyrs crown: We are surrounded by these witnesses as by clouds of fragrant incense. In this age count us in the communion of all the saints; keep us always in their good and blessed company. in their midst we make every prayer through Christ who is our Lord forever and ever. AMEN.

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2. **THE GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12** Use this Gospel at each meal even though it is repeated.

3. **Acclaim the Gospel by singing an ALLELUIA!**

4. **Then someone at table reads the whole Gospel or just this portion:**

**J**esus began to teach them saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit.... Blessed are those who mourn....Blessed are the meek....Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for justice.... Blessed are the merciful.... Blessed are the clean of heart.... Blessed are the peacemakers; they will be called children of God. ....Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.”

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



### 3. Then REFLECTION FOR THE DAY

Let each person reflect for a moment and then respond to the following:

Remember all the photographs of deceased loved ones surrounding our worship space.  
How do you feel about being surrounded by those who have gone before us?  
Is someone from your family remembered there?  
What does it mean to have their pictures surrounding us at the Lord's Table?

### 4. Then SERVE DINNER. During the meal share some MEMORIES

#### Remember a loved one who has died.

Tell a story about the person, who he/she was, what she/he meant in your life  
*If you have a picture, pass it around or put in a place of honor on or near the dinner table. Place pictures of loved ones who have died around your dinner table, just like we have done in church. Leave them there throughout November. Pray for and with them each day.*

*Remember:*

**WE ARE SURROUNDED BY THE COMMUNION SAINTS;  
WE ARE WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US.**

### 5. AT THE END OF THE MEAL pray this blessing:

Eternal rest grant unto *(name or names of deceased)* and let perpetual light shine upon them;  
May he/she/they rest in peace. May his/her/their soul/s and the souls  
of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. AMEN



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