



Table Prayer Celebrating Holy Orders

Table Center

A candle and home cross or crucifix.

We Gather...

At this meal, we focus on the people in our lives who bring the light of Christ to us and to the world.

Light the candle.

Continue...

We pray in a special way for the men who live out their discipleship through the vocation of Holy Orders.

As we begin our prayer, we name those in our own faith community who serve Christ and the Church as brothers, deacons and priests. (Name aloud your parish's deacon(s) and priest(s).)

We Tell the Story....

Let us listen to the Word of God.

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lamp stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see

your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.
(Matthew 5:14-16)

We Bless Our Food...

We pray...

We gather at table to break bread and share our lives. We ask God's blessing on our meal. May it strengthen each of us to live as Christ's disciples.

We ask God's blessing on those in our community who are living the sacrament of Holy Orders. May our wondrous God, through his son Jesus and the Spirit, energize their ministry as they strive to proclaim the Gospel, and be living witnesses of Jesus' love and forgiveness. Bless this food before us, and all who gather around it. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our teacher and our Lord.
Amen.

We Go Forth...

Conclude by saying...

We leave the fellowship of this table to go forth in service to the Lord through our words and actions. Today we hold our ordained ministers in a special place in our hearts.

Pass the lighted candle from person to person. When holding the candle, each person pauses to pray for those exploring whether God is calling them to the ordained ministry, and that the parish's deacons and priests will make the Lord's light shine in the community.

After the candle has been passed to each person, end by saying...
Bless all of us as we go forth to love and serve the Lord.