

The Eucharistic Prayer

This is a great prayer of thanksgiving spoken by the priest on our behalf. He greets us at the beginning of it in the usual way of **'The Lord be with you'** and we respond: **'And with your spirit'**, then we have a change in the last line. When the priest has invited us to give thanks, our response is: **'It is right and just'**. Saying this helps us to recognise that giving thanks is something we are all called to do, because God has done so much for us, has given us so much and goes on helping and rescuing us every day of our lives.

Read this story from the Gospel of Luke which tells us something about saying thank you.

"One day when Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem, ten lepers came out from a village to meet him. They stood some distance away from him and called out, 'Jesus! Master! Take pity on us!'

When Jesus saw their suffering he said, 'Go and show yourselves to the priest.'

The lepers set off and on the way they realised that their leprosy had disappeared and they were cured!

As the others ran to find the priest, one of the ten went back to find Jesus. He threw himself down before him, praising God at the top of his voice and thanking Jesus for his kindness.

'Were there not ten cured? Where are the other nine?' Jesus asked. 'Yet only one has bothered to thank God for his goodness.' Then he said to the man, 'Now go and see the priest, your faith in God has made you well.'"



- *What did the man do when he found himself cured?*
- *What did Jesus say to him when he came back?*
- *How do you think Jesus felt when the others did not say thank you?*
- *To whom do we say thank you? For what do we give thanks?*
- *Have you ever forgotten to say thank you to someone?*
- *How do you feel when someone does not thank you?*

Talk to your children about what they heard in the story.

Perhaps you could make up a litany of praise and thanks to God with your child/children. What might you include?