

Year of St Francis Prayer Trail: Giving thanks for our family, friends and neighbours.



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Saint Francis encouraged people to think about relationships with one another, placing God and love of neighbour (others) above material items: **'being more' rather than 'having more'.**

People who are thankful for what they have are happy. Think of people who you are thankful for.

You might want pupils to draw or list these people. Why are you thankful for them?

Listen to the message St Paul gave to the Philippians about being thankful.

As you listen, what words stay in your mind?

Is there a message that speaks to you?

You may wish to add words to your picture or list. (You may want to read the scripture twice)

Show a gentle attitude toward everyone. The Lord is coming soon. Don't worry about anything, but in all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking him with a thankful heart. And God's peace, which is far beyond human understanding, will keep your hearts and minds safe in union with Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4: 5-7*

After listening to St Paul's words, look at your picture or list of the people you are thankful for.

How will you show them you are thankful for them?

Add your ways to your pictures or list.

Read the quote. Ask pupils to think about the words..... How will they give thanks?

'When I look at my family and friends, I see God's love all around me. I can't help but give God thanks.' *Daily Bible Verses.*

In silence, give thanks for the people on your list. You may wish to say quietly,

"Jesus, thank You for _____. Help me love them like You do."

Thank you Lord for the people who care for us.

Help us to notice their kindness.

Teach us to love like Jesus — with patience, kindness, and joy. **Amen.**

Stay with us Lord on our journey.

St Francis of Assisi. **Pray for us.....**

Send: How are you going to show the people who help you, who love you that you are thankful for them? Find a way to do this over the next few days.

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