

# Parish Meeting Prayers

For use in November, 2021

## Introduction

Leader Our lives are filled with uncertainty. When all is not clear, responding with calm and trust in God's care benefits everyone.

## Opening Prayer

All Faithful God, when we are tempted by troublesome times—negative news and “the sky is falling”— help us turn to you for reassurance and trust. Keep us at peace, able to share that peace with our families, friends and co-workers. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

## Word of God Mark 13: 24-32

Reader A reading from the Gospel of Mark (Pause for silent reflection)

*Optional* Discuss these questions in two's or three's. *The reading is on the reverse side.*

1. What helps you to stay positive when confronted with negative news or personal trials?
2. What suggestions do you have for dealing with those who emphasize “the sky is falling”?

## Response (Taken from Mk 13:24-32)

Side 1 “Know that he is near, at the gates.”

Side 2 May we grow in trust and the peace that comes from firm faith.

Side 1 “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.”

Side 2 No matter what fears bombard us, we can rely on the promises of God.

Side 1 “But of that day, no one knows ... only the Father.”

Side 2 The message is clear: no panic, just trust in God's care.

**Petitions** Individuals add intentions to remember here.

## Closing Prayer

All God our Father, when doubts and concerns weigh us down, be our strength and security. Help us to grow in trust and enjoy the peace you have promised us. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Mark 13:24-32***

Jesus said to his disciples:

“In those days after the tribulation  
the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from the sky,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

“And then they will see the ‘Son of Man coming in the clouds’  
with great power and glory,  
and then he will send out the angels  
and gather his elect from the four winds,  
from the end of the earth to the end of the sky.

“Learn a lesson from the fig tree.  
When its branch becomes tender and sprouts leaves,  
you know that summer is near.  
In the same way, when you see these things happening,  
know that he is near, at the gates.

Amen, I say to you,  
this generation will not pass away  
until all these things have taken place  
but my words will not pass away.

“But of that day or hour, no one knows  
neither the angels in heaven nor the Son,  
but only the Father.”