

Liturgy Elements for Dedicating Hunger Action Month Gifts

Litany to Conclude Hunger Action Month

Leader 1: 40 million children, adults, and senior citizens in this land of plenty struggle every day to have enough food to eat. What are God's people to do?

Leader 2: "Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land." (*Deuteronomy 15:11*)

People: God of justice, forgive us for forgetting to think about others. Forgive us for forgetting that all we have comes from you. Unclench our fists and awaken our hearts so we may be your generous people. Give us the will to open our hands to the poor and to our needy neighbors.

Leader 1: "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." (*Luke 3:11*)

Leader 2: God supplies abundantly! More than enough food is available to feed those who don't have enough to eat.

People: God of creation, our land is filled with an abundance of food, yet some are still hungry. Give us grace to share, willingly and joyfully, with your hungry children across our land. Let us be an obedient and faithful people who meet the needs of the poor.

Leader 1: "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food...?"

Leader 2: Jesus, were you the woman who waited my table? Were you the man I walked by without seeing? Are you a child in my neighborhood who goes to bed hungry?

Leader 1: "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." (*Matthew 25:37,40*)

All: Loving God, You care for all creation and command us to care for the poor of our nation and world. Open our eyes to recognize the needs that are before us in the lives of the poor, open our ears to hear the cries of your hungry children, and restore our will to respond. May we remember that the service we give to others is service given to your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication for Hunger Action Month Gifts

Lord of all life, Lord of the earth and all that is in it, maker of all, provider of food and nourishment, we know your will is for all your children to share in your abundance. We know your will is for each person in our country and our world to have enough to eat. Your word says that every good gift and every perfect gift comes from you. We dedicate the abundance you have shared with us which we are returning to you, for your use, so that all may be fed and your Kingdom may come near. In the name of your son Jesus, who fed the multitudes, we pray. Amen.

NOTE: Please count the funds remitted via coin boxes and other checks and cash, allowing an extra week or two for all coin boxes to be returned, then send a single check from your congregation for the total amount given to further the Society of St. Andrew's work to:

3383 Sweet Hollow Road • Big Island, VA 24526
Please mark "Hunger Action Month" on the memo line.