

# Prayers for Bread for the World Sunday

by Edith Avila Olea

## Opening Prayer

God, our creator, we give you thanks for every breath of life and for every gift that comes from your abounding grace. Grant that we might share these gifts with our brothers and sisters near and far. May we so trust your grace that we give generously to those who are in need. Lord, we ask you to hear our prayer. **Amen.**

## A Responsive Prayer

We pray for all your children here and across the world. We pray especially for children who are hungry and scared. May we learn to be good stewards of the gifts you have given us so that no child feels the fear of hunger.

**We call on your abounding grace. Oh God, hear our prayer.**

We pray for families here and across the world. We pray especially for families who are persecuted by violence or forced to flee by natural disasters. We pray for their protection and security.

**We call on your abounding grace. Oh God, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those who feel abandoned and for all those who hunger for love. May we see the face of God in every human being we encounter. May we bring light and love to their fear and longing.

**We call on your abounding grace. Oh God, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the salvation of the earth. We pray for the protection of this world against climate change. We recognize that, in protecting our home, we are protecting the most vulnerable among us.

**We call on your abounding grace. Oh God, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all the leaders of this world. May your Holy Spirit dwell within them and guide their deliberations and decisions. May our leaders honor the dignity and well-being of all people in our own country and abroad.

**We call on your abounding grace. Oh God, hear our prayer.**

We pray for each other as members of the one human family you have created. In moments of doubt and fatigue, may we surrender to your love. In moments of joy and gratitude, may we praise the name of him who is the source of that love, Jesus Christ.

**We call on your abounding grace.  
Oh God, hear our prayer. Amen.**

*Edith Avila Olea is the Justice and Peace Associate Director for the Catholic Diocese of Joliet in Illinois. She is a recipient of Bread for the World's 2019 Rev. Arthur Simon Award for Faithful Service to End Hunger. In 2015, she received the Cardinal Bernardin New Leadership Award for her work to fight poverty and injustice through community-based solutions.*



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## Offering of Letters

As part of your Bread for the World Sunday celebration, you may want to conduct an Offering of Letters—taking time to write brief letters to your representative and senators in Washington, D.C. Your letters can be written to urge Congress to accelerate progress on global nutrition, to address the root causes of migration, or to reform our criminal justice system—all critical to ending hunger and poverty in the United States and abroad. For sample letters and more information, visit [bread.org/sunday](https://bread.org/sunday).

## About Bread for the World

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. God's grace in Jesus Christ moves us to reach out to our neighbors—whether they live next door, in another state, or on another continent. Bread for the World's work is made possible by contributions from individuals and churches. We invite you to join us by visiting [bread.org/join](https://bread.org/join) or calling 800-822-7323.



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