



Prayer Before a Crucifix

A candle or vigil light is lit before the crucifix; with the electric lights turned off, the natural light of a candle aids concentration on the action of prayer. If at all possible, the entire family is present and participates. At the beginning or end a hymn could well be included—providing a setting that will be cherished in most family groups.

**O good and dearest Jesus,
I kneel before your face.
With all my heart
I ask you
to place in my heart
more faith, hope and charity.
Give me a true sorrow for my sins
and a strong will to do better
With great sorrow and grief
I look upon your five wounds
and think about them.
Before my eyes are the words
that the prophet David said of you,
O good Jesus:
*"They have pierced my hands and feet
They have numbered all my bones."***