

PRAYER COLLAGES

This prayer is based on a suggestion from *Be My Disciples*. This is a great Easter activity for the classroom, as a group, or at home. It is appropriate for all ages and grades.

CREATING THE PRAYER COLLAGES

1. Brainstorm with the children several themes or topics around which they can focus their prayer during the weeks of Easter. Themes or topics may include: peace, joy, love, new life, Church leaders, the world and its leaders, those in need, the intentions of the gathered community (themselves!), and the sick and those who have died.
2. When brainstorming as a group, list the ideas for all to see.
3. Distribute poster paper, glue or tape, scissors, and magazines that are filled with pictures of people in a variety of circumstances related to the listed themes or topics.
4. Have the children work in small groups, and assign each small group one of the prayer themes. Invite each group to make a collage about the prayer focus assigned to it. You may wish to play quiet instrumental music as the groups work on their prayer collages.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

1. When all have completed their collages, gather the groups around the prayer table, and ask the children to hold their collages high enough for all to see.
2. Offer a prayer, using the following or similar words:

**God of all,
you call us to pray for your people
throughout the world.
May these prayer collages remind us
to be faithful in prayer
during the Easter days to come.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

3. Conclude the prayer by inviting each group to lay its collage on or near the Easter prayer table. Sing an Easter Alleluia or a Prayer of the Faithful response such as, "O Lord, hear our prayer."
4. Throughout the Easter season, display one collage each week, and have the group pray for the people or situations represented by the "prayer collage of the week."