### Reflections for the Seventh Sunday of Easter

Ages 5-6

John 17:11b-19

**Invitation to Prayer** 

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Listening

## I PRAY FOR MY FRIENDS

## Loving



You can pray for your friends, too.
Think of a friend who might need your prayers.

## Prayer

God, please keep my friend safe from harm. Amen.

# Living

- Hang your picture on the refrigerator or in your room to remind you that Jesus is praying for you to be safe. Pray for a friend you want Jesus to protect.
- Talk with your family about safe places and places that are not safe. Listen to them about keeping safe.

#### Ages 7-8

## John 17:11b-19

## **Invitation to Prayer**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## Listening



I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one.

John 17:15

## Loving

This is the prayer Jesus said to his Father just before he returned to heaven. He cared about his friends.

## Prayer

Jesus, I ask you to keep my friend safe. Thank you for caring about us and praying for us.

## Living

- Talk with a family member about anyone who is having a hard time, and pray for them with the prayer you learned in class.
- Talk with a family member about ways to keep safe.
- Draw a picture of Jesus praying for his friends.

#### **Reflection for the Seventh Sunday of Easter**

#### **Ages 9-11**

## John 17:11b-19

#### **Invitation to Prayer**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### Listening

I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one.

John 17:15

### Loving

This is the prayer Jesus said to his Father before he returned to heaven.

Imagine you are among his friends as Jesus prays to the Father for you. Are you sad to know Jesus will be leaving you? Are you encouraged to know that he has asked the Father to protect you from the Evil One? Do you have times when you are tempted to stray from the truth, or go your own way, or listen to someone who puts you in a harmful situation? Can you take comfort in this prayer Jesus said? Do you have any friends who you want to pray will be safe from harm or from the temptation of the evil one?

### **Prayer**

The Lord's Prayer

# Living

Say a prayer and write an action you will take for a friend's safety.

- Prayer: Jesus, protect my friend, \_\_\_\_\_ from all harm. Help me to encourage him/her to do what is right.
- Action: Each time that you say the Our Father this week, pause at the last sentence: "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." Reflect on the things that tempt you into doing what is wrong. This prayer line asks you to rely on God to save you from temptation.

### Reflection for the Seventh Sunday of Easter

#### Ages 12-14

# John 17:11b-19

#### **Invitation to Prayer**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### Listening

I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one.

John 17:15

### Loving

This is the prayer Jesus said to his Father before he returned to heaven.

Imagine you are among his friends as Jesus prays to the Father for you. Are you sad to know Jesus will be leaving you? Are you encouraged to know that he has asked the Father to protect you from the evil one?

Next imagine you are praying for your friends. Say the Our Father slowly, pausing between each petition. The first two petitions praise God. The last three petitions are a good way to pray for your friends. Meditate on these three petitions:

- Give us this day our daily bread.
- Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
- Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

## **Prayer**

The Lord's Prayer

## Living

Say a prayer and write an action you will take for a friend.

- Prayer: Jesus, protect my friend, \_\_\_\_\_ from all harm. Help me to encourage him/her to do what is right.
- Action: As you say the Our Father this week meditate on the last three petitions. Pray for your-self, your family, and your community.