

Chaplain Guidebook



**Rotary Club of Clemmons
Clemmons, North Carolina**

Chaplain

JOB DESCRIPTION

1. Pray for the club and members throughout the week.
2. Schedule weekly invocations, and email names to the President on Mondays.
3. Send sympathy, condolence, and congratulation cards to club family members.
4. Support the President as called upon.

Thank you for your interest in our invocations. We hope this is helpful to you.

Invocations

Prayer at Rotary International functions is intended to bind together all those present in a common concern. Unfortunately, group prayers, which begin and/or end with terms referencing only one faction of religious community can be divisive. Consider that members and guests represent all faiths.

Rotary Prayer Guidelines

Guidelines to follow when giving a public prayer:

- Use inclusive, non-sectarian prayers.
- Give those that are reluctant to offer prayer the opportunity to decline.
- Use terms that include all present.
- Consider alternatives like a moment of silence.
- Use common prayers to acknowledge divine presence and seek blessing, not to preach or testify.

Collection shared by Rotarians throughout Rotary International:

Jamestown, VA Invocation

Lord,
Please bless this food
on our dishes;
As you did,
the loaves and fishes
And like sugar in our tea,
May we, too, be stirred by Thee.

Edina Invocation

We thank You for this opportunity of Rotary fellowship and service.
We ask You to bless this food to our use ...
us to Your service . . .
and keep us ever mindful of the needs of others.

Walt Ellingson, Edina Rotary

Reading Us

Eternal God,
People will read me
Like a book today.
Please guide me
In everything I do and say
Amen.

FOUR WAY TEST

Oh Lord! In our daily application of the Four Way Test, grant us
The vision of Faith,
The inspiration of Hope, and
The blessings of Charity. Amen.

Al McCormick, St. Paul Rotary

Moravian Blessing

Come, Lord Jesus, our guest to be
And bless these gifts
Bestowed by Thee.
Bless our loved ones everywhere,
And keep them in Your loving care.

Surrounded in Rotary

With our friends beside us,
And no person beneath us,
With the bonds between us,
Our worries behind us,
Goals before us,
And no task beyond us,
We are thankful for our Rotary friends and the meal we are about to share.
Thank You, Shalom, Ah-men.

Chris Offer, Governor 5040

Four Way Test

O Lord,
in our daily application of the Four Way Test,
grant us:
The vision of Faith,
The inspiration of Hope, and
The blessings of Charity.
Amen.

Al McCormick, St. Paul Rotary

St. Theresa's Prayer:

May today there be peace within.
May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.
May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.
May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love
that has been given to you....
May you be content knowing you are a child of God....
Let His presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the
Freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of you.

ROTARY WHEEL

Almighty God
We give you praise for the Rotary wheel.
You created each Rotarian to be the spokes of service.
As the wheel turns, we leave the blessings of compassion throughout our community.
Please uplift all that we do to make a significant impact.
And may the wheel of Rotary roll on.
Amen.

Scottish Table Invocation

Some have meat and cannot eat,
Some can eat and have no meat,
We can eat and we have meat,
For this we thank You.
Amen.

Bobby Burns , Gaylord Rotary

Greater Service

We come here together that we might be of greater service to our community.
Keep us open so we may listen, share and affirm.
Bless this time, food and fellowship together
that we might go forth resolved to put Service Above Self.
Amen.

E. Richard Engstrom, Jr., Fairmont Rotary

Dear Lord,
We at Rotary have been blessed greatly.
We enjoy relative success, our business and profession.
We enjoy each other in fellowship and feast, and give thanks to the feast before us.
We also enjoy working together to promote service above self.
We give thanks for the wisdom of Paul Harris who founded Rotary and established a metric to measure our actions.
Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned ?
Will it build goodwill and better friendships ? Will it be beneficial to all concerned ?
We ask your blessings on our club leadership, on those who we partner with and on today's speaker (s).
For these and all our blessings we give heartfelt and humble thanks.
Amen.

Submitted by Jenny Braswell, Clemmons Rotary

This Invocation of Francis of Assisi, Madelia Rotary

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light, and
Where there is sadness, joy.

Five Steps to Build Peace

The fruit of Quieting our mind in *Silence* is meditation and prayer

The fruit of *Meditation and Prayer* is Faith

The fruit of *Faith* is Caring and Love

The fruit of *Caring and Love* is Service

The fruit of *Service* is **Peace**

(This meditation was printed on Mother Theresa's business cards.)

An invocation shared by Judy Freund at PETS 2008

Candle Invocation - Barbara Van Duyne

I light this flame to remind me

of the common bond I share

with all the living creatures of the earth.

May this small sun

warm my heart, renew my spirit.....

and bring me courage to be all that I was meant to be.

Alexandria Rotary

I am Your servant. My God! I have laid hold on the handle of Your grace, and clung to the cord of Your tender mercy. Ordain for me the good things that are with You, and nourish me from the table of Your bounty and the heaven of Your favor.

You, in very truth, art the Lord of the worlds, and the God of all that are in heaven and all that are on earth.

-Traz Akhavan, M.D., Alexandria Rotary

Great God, You have certainly been good to us. You have opened Your heart to us in love. May Your hand of mercy rest upon us and give us Your good gifts. Bless this food to our use, and our Rotary members in service to our community. We thank You for the visiting Rotarians and guests. May You lift their spirits and send them on their way with joy. Amen.

Reverend Paul A. Ranum, Alexandria Rotary

Is It The Truth?

O God of Wisdom, Light and Truth, help us to renew our dedication to truth in our personal and business lives. We trust your changelessness and reliability. Your truth undergirds the whole universe. O God, we honor you today by respecting truth wherever it is found; by speaking truth with integrity; and by practicing truth in all dealings. Enrich our friendship in Rotary as we share our time together today. Bless us as we serve. *Amen.*

Is It Fair to All Concerned?

O God, who claims all the children on earth to be your children, teach us to live together as brothers and sisters, members of a common family. Teach us to be fair to one another, trusting everyone with the same respect and dignity that are found in the noblest families. Let us reach out as friends to all with whom we do business, trusting them and encouraging their trustful response. You have blessed us with goodness and mercy far exceeding anything we deserve. Make us equally generous in all our dealings with our associates. Bless the time we spend together as Rotarians, and to you be the glory. *Amen.*

Will It Build Goodwill and Better Friendships?

O Lord, whose will it is that all your people should dwell together in harmony, we give you thanks for the opportunities we find in Rotary to widen our circle of friendship and goodwill. We are grateful for new friends whom we have come to know in this club and for the joys we have found in sharing our own friendship with others. Lead us daily to find new avenues of goodwill in our business and professional life. Give us patience in dealing with those who are sharp and bitter. Give us creativity in finding ways to express ourselves, which will build better relationships. And Lord, give us a sense of humor that we may not take ourselves too seriously. Bless this club in its activities and its outreach to our own community. May our world be a better place because we have been here. *Amen.*

Will it be Beneficial to All Concerned?

O God, who has compassion and concern for all people of every race and place, keep always before us, as Rotarians, that same loving concern. May it infuse our relationships with each other and with our friends and neighbors. May we extend it to all with whom we deal in daily business and social life. Whenever we sign a contract, establish a policy, or give an order, may the welfare of the other parties involved be taken into account. O Lord, in humble recognition of your abundant goodness to us, may we never permit selfishness and greed to control our affairs. Bless us as we gather today and may joy and peace be among us. *Amen.*
Stanley Borden, Roseville Rotary

Four Way Test

O Lord, in our daily application of the Four Way Test, grant us
The vision of Faith,
The inspiration of Hope, and
The blessings of Charity. *Amen.*

Al McCormick, St. Paul Rotary

Our Best Efforts

God of the Universe, since we are not conscious enough to fathom your ebb and flow, help us then to bring our best efforts to what we can know: to love our friends and family, to treat our employees and fellow workers fairly, to seek justice, to help those in need, to be the best that we can be, and to live by the Four Way Test of all the things we think, say or do:

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned? *Amen.*

Len Scheffler Rotary Club of Columbia-Northwest, Columbia, MO

Bidding to a 30-second Silent Prayer

Announce: *"I invite you to a 30-second silent prayer... Will you please bow your head with me?"*

- Let us pray silently together, each of us according to our individual beliefs.
- Let us offer thanks for our food, blessings for one another and for absent friends
- Let us seek to be a source of hope for those in need, and companionship for those who are lonely.
- Let us give gratitude for our opportunity to serve as Rotarians.
- Let the feelings of love, kindness, and a well-directed, yet gentle spirit always be reflected in our actions.

A 30-second pause followed by: "Amen."

Jim Gray

Life Service Not Lip Service

God of all, today we pray that we may receive your blessing because we are committed to be a real service organization to help humankind. May each of us, in our daily routine, come to know the joy of caring and sharing with others who are not as fortunate as we are. May our motto that includes serving, caring and sharing be for us life service not just lip service.

Amen.

Phil Morris, Furnitureland Rotary Club, High Point, NC

Service Above Self

May those assembled here today enjoy the many offerings of Rotary. May we abide by the rules we have established, those of trust, fellowship and ethics, and may we place service above self, in our daily endeavors. And may we always test ourselves and our efforts to be sure they are the truth, good for all concerned, of benefit to mankind, and provide peace and understanding. *Amen.*

Ken from Wisconsin

Always in Your Presence

Gracious God, as we gather together as Rotarians and friends, we acknowledge that wherever we go, we are always in your presence. We pray that our actions may reflect this awareness as we seek you and as we count our many blessings. In the weeks and in the months ahead, clothe our lives with charity, deepen our lives with loyalty, and hallow our lives with integrity. Help us to live our lives so that we may enhance the future of those whose lives we touch. May your radiant spirit guide us, and our loved ones, all of our days.

Amen.

A Strong Desire To Do Good

Lord of the Universe, you have given most of mankind a strong desire to do good, to be honest, to serve others, and to faithfully fulfill their obligations to their neighbors.

Help us, as Rotarians and humans, to do good.

Help us, as Rotarians and humans, to be honest and ethical in all our dealings.

Help us, as Rotarians and humans, to serve others.

And help us, as Rotarians and humans, to faithfully fulfill our obligations as neighbors to our community, our nation, and the world. *Amen.*

Joseph D. Coons, Bellingham WA

Individuality and Common Bond

Creator of all: It is good to recognize how different we are in our talents, our dreams, our backgrounds and our occupations. And it is good to know that when you created each of us, you broke the mold. No one is exactly like anyone else. Even our thumbprint and our voice track tell us how unique we are. Yet, we thank you that we can take these differences and mobilize them for the good of Rotary and our community. In our differences we can think the same thoughts and move together toward a common goal. Bless us as we meet together. Thank you for our individuality and also for our common bond. *Amen.*

Phil Morris, Furnitureland Rotary Club, High Point, NC

Guide and Direct Our Club

Creator and sustainer of all that is or will ever be, accept our thanks for this day and all its blessings. We ask that you guide and direct our club, its leaders and our actions. Grant that each of us may feel our responsibility to Rotary, to our community, to our country, and indeed to all countries and peoples. Bless our friendship today, and bless this meeting. *Amen.*

Mindful of Opportunities

As we gather here today as members of Rotary, we pray that we are ever mindful of opportunities to render our service to fellow citizens and to our community. Keeping in mind always the enduring values of life, exerting our efforts in those areas and on those things upon which future generations can build with confidence. Let us continue to strive to make a better world. *Amen.*

Serve Others, Serve God

Our God, we ask you to look upon us and grant us your love, your mercy and your understanding. Forgive us for anything you have seen amiss in us today. Put into our hearts the ideal of service; keep us alert to the needs of others; bless the work of Rotarians everywhere and let us remember that when we serve others, we serve you.

Bless and watch over those absent from us today. We thank you for all the good things you have bestowed upon us. We thank you for our club and this meeting. *Amen.*

Woodbury A. Palmen, Wabasha Rotary

Strengthen Us

We are not at all sure what tomorrow holds, but we are very sure who holds tomorrow. We thank you Lord for having called us to this community to live our lives and do our work with Rotary. Grant us the wisdom and the foresight to discern what is for our own betterment and the betterment of all humankind. Strengthen us in being a part of your power and influence. Prosper us in our calling, help us in our needs, guide us in our work as people pursuing peace. May peace and goodwill abide among us this day and always. *Amen.*

Good in the Worst of Us, Bad in the Best of Us

Thank you for our Rotary meeting, for everyone that puts something into it, and everyone that gets something out of it. We ask your blessings on this meeting and all who grace it with their presence. Lord, help us to be gentle with ourselves and one another, not expecting more than any of us can produce. We know there is so much good in the worst of us and so much bad in the best of us that it hardly behooves any of us to talk about the rest of us. Be with us this day and always by strengthening our belief in the ultimate triumph of truth and right. This prayer we make in the name of the way of truthful living. *Amen.*

The Rotary Wheel

Dear God, as we gather, let us be thankful for those dedicated to the principles of Rotary through their shining example of love, leadership and the gift of giving.

The spokes of the Rotary wheel are representative of the rules of pure conduct.

We pray justice will be their uniform length, wisdom the circle, modesty and thoughtfulness the hub in which the immovable axle of truth is fixed.

May the enduring spirit of Rotary inspire us today. *Amen.*

Privilege of Service

We are grateful, O God, for the privilege of offering ourselves for service. Give us open minds, a clear understanding and a steady purpose to make the most of our talents, and lead us into the fields of work where we can best serve you. *Amen.*

Peaks and Valleys

God of Creation: the paths of our lives are filled with peaks and valleys. When we are on the top of our peaks, we become so self-satisfied that we tend to ignore the things of importance. When we are in a valley, we feel a sense of abandonment and can focus only on what action lies directly ahead of us. Remind us, as you do in nature, that above the tree line the mountain-tops are barren and only in the valleys can we find the opportunity for true growth. *Amen.*

Ronald Hanson, Rotary Club of Cloquet, MN

Nothing Does Itself

Dear Lord, We honestly believe the purpose of each life is to make a difference that we lived at all. We also are aware that nothing does itself...

Someone has to do everything that is done, make everything that is made, and think everything that is thought. We know the next move is up to us, therefore, we pray for your divine guidance in our every thought, intention and action. *Amen*

Irish Prayer

As each of us give our own thanks according to our personal persuasions let us dwell on some thoughts that bind us together:

You've blessed us with friends and laughter and fun.

With rain that's as soft as the light from the sun.

You've blessed us with stars to brighten each night.

You've given us help to
know wrong from right.

You've given us so much please, Lord give us too, a heart that is always grateful to you." *Amen.*

An Irish Prayer. Tim Creedon PDG Rotary Club of Phoenix # 100, Arizona

For life,

for health,

and for the privilege of joining in this spirit of Rotary fellowship,
we are humbly thankful.

Thank You for the food of which we are about to partake;
bless it to our use and us to Your service.

Amen.

Ed Usem, Austin Rotary

As You are ever generous to us, O God,
providing for the needs both of our bodies and our spirits,
help us to be ever generous toward one another,
serving one another in Your name.
Amen.

Reverend Robert A. Morgan, Austin Rotary

Gracious God, as we reflect on the hope and renewal of this beautiful spring,
the meal that we have shared together,
the opportunities it offers us to help others,
let us add our voices to the words of the Psalmist who said,
"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!"
Amen.

Craig W. Johnson, Austin Rotary

I am growing older.
Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking that I must say something on every subject.
Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not
moody, helpful but not bossy. Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me
wings to get to the point.
Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people.
And give me grace, O Lord, to tell them so! Amen.

(Land O'Lakes Mirror January 1987)
I.J. Holton, Austin Rotary

Almighty God,
bless us that we might strengthen our hearts and minds,
Give us strength to serve wherever we're asked,
And grant through our faith in our friends,
and in You,
that our efforts will help us better our lives,
and through our lives, better Rotary.
Amen.

Bruce Bergstrom, Austin Rotary

Bless this food to our use,
and with the strength which it gives our bodies
may our spirits be strengthened to do things for others who need our help.
Amen.

George A. Haven, Chatfield Rotary

O Lord and Creator of us all,
Be with us each and every hour of this day.
May we so live that Your will may be done
and Your Kingdom established within our hearts.
Amen.

R.R. Anderson, Sr., Belle Plaine Rotary

ON THIS DAY

On this day, Lord, help us to Mend a quarrel,
Search out a forgotten friend, Dismiss a suspicion and replace it with trust, Write a letter to
someone who misses us, Encourage a Youth who has lost faith, Keep a promise, Forget an old
grudge, Examine our demands on others and vow to reduce them, Fight for a principle, Express
our gratitude, Overcome an old fear, Take a few minutes to appreciate the beauty of nature, Tell
someone we love them. Tell them again, and again. Amen.

From Success Unlimited, Bruce Hutchins, Bloomington Rotary

We thank You, O Lord, for the provisions You have set before us this day. Make us be aware of
each blessing, and help us to be faithful in giving thanks for them. Keep us alert to the needs of
those within our sphere of influence, and willing to be of help. Give us compassion and charity,
that we may be an example to humanity. Amen.

Fred Walton, Buffalo Rotary

Today as we meet in Rotary fellowship, we cannot help but be reminded of our innumerable
blessings, blessings which we all too often take for granted when we do so little to deserve them.
Bless us to Your service and this food as strength for our bodies.

Walt. W. Welchlin, Fairmont Rotary

O God, for the freedom of thought and peace, the love of friends and family, and the opportunity
for service through our Rotary Fellowship, we give You thanks. Bless this food for our use and
accept our gratitude for Your great gifts. Amen.

Reverend Gordon Patterson, Fairmont Rotary

O Lord,
keep us ever grateful for Your gifts of life, love, and service and guide us toward the fulfillment
of Your will.
Bless our fellowship and this food that through them we might honor You more
and serve society with greater conviction and affection.
Amen.

Reverend Gordon Patterson, Fairmont Rotary

Our Almighty God,
we thank You for the privilege in meeting in Rotary Fellowship.
We thank You for the privilege of living in this wonderful community.
Bless this food to our use. Amen.

Loren Aistrope, Fairmont Rotary

Lord, here we are from office, hospital, shop, bank, stores and school. Lord, thank You for the minds of all; thank You even more for those who use their minds. Lord, guide me to help all to better understand the mind You have given us to use, while we continue in search for better ways to use and understand the mind You have provided each of us. Amen.

Bill Johnson, Waco, Texas Rotary

God, we acknowledge that we are no longer green behind the ears, or innocent tender leaves in the woods of life.

Nonetheless, as long as we still take in sunlight and partake in the life sharing process, give us the grace to flutter faithfully in the winds of change, so that the whole network of family and community may be strengthened through us.

Keep us from becoming disconnected, dried out, crisp and brittle. Keep us fit for all seasons.
Amen.

Reverend James Lauer, Glencoe Rotary

For food and strength and every good, we give You thanks, O God. For friends and life and tasks to do, we give You praise, O God. Bless our fellowship here today, and help us as Rotarians everywhere to show ourselves understanding of each other, and ever eager to encourage peace and tranquility and goodwill among all people. Amen.

Reverend Lasse J. Stohl, Hopkins Rotary

Lord, We ask that You give us the ability to remember the "Right" things about our friends; we recognize that all too often we remember the two "Wrong" items and push aside and/or take for granted the ninety-eight qualities of the "good life" as shown to us by our fellow workers, our fellow Rotarians and society. We further thank You for allowing us to share fellowship with those present with us here today. Amen.

Chaplain John Graff, Janesville Rotary

God, we thank You for the gift of Your presence which brings meaning to our lives and lifts us beyond selfish and momentary goals. Let our Rotary fellowship reflect genuine respect and concern for one another. May our Club reach out to be of real service to the many others whom You love. Give grace to those who lead us and grant us all peace. Amen.

Reverend Charles O. Dundas, Le Sueur Rotary

Oh God! Your love is manifested to us in innumerable ways, and yet we are unwilling to recognize either You or Your gifts. Help us to find those areas in which we can honorably reciprocate Your love by doing services and deeds for others, which will bring us to a better awareness of why You have permitted us to live in this critical time in history. Help us also to acknowledge Your presence, thus making what we do more meaningful to Your Kingdom Building program and making us more responsive to Your call. Amen.

Ed Meierbachtol, Past District Governor, Le Sueur Rotary

Almighty God, we thank You for this opportunity to gather together with fellow Rotarians. We thank You for the food which has been prepared for us today, knowing that millions of people around the world go hungry each day. We ask You to bless these people, give them strength and courage to overcome their need, and somehow, we would hope that these hungry mouths could be fed, so that no one goes hungry. We also ask You for peace in the world, and for better understanding between, not only people of different nations, but between people in our own communities. Amen.

Reverend Charles O. Dundas, Le Sueur Rotary

God, who has given us all our senses: Help us
To hear the plea of our neighbors in need;
To see the loneliness which haunts them;
To smell the stench of poverty as well as the perfume of success;
To savor the cup of friendship, even at our expense;
To feel compassion for those You have instructed;
To touch my brothers and sisters with nothing less than love and compassion. Amen.

Arlen J. Foss, Madelia Rotary

Eternal and Everlasting God,
we who are committed to Service Above Self stand with bowed heads,
asking Your grace for the benefit of our great nation with all its problems.
For our beloved and beautiful homeland.
For Rotary, which does so much for our members and for humanity.
Bless this food to our use and us to Your service now and forever.
Amen.

Orris M. Johnson, Mankato Rotary

Almighty God

In whose vast creation we are a part

In whose service we find our greatest life,

By Your presence enrich our fellowship this day.

By Your inspiration increase our desire for greater usefulness to our community.

May Service Above Self be a motive, not a maxim, at the heart of all our work and worship,

And may gratitude for all Your mercies grace our lives and make us humbler but stronger people. Amen.

Reverend C. John Bates, Minneapolis Rotary

O Lord: In the words of the Psalmist, You have made us but little lower than the angels. The teachings of prophets and sages have illumined these words, so that we might know that our highest destiny is to live a life of service . . . service to the ideals of our faith, service to the welfare of our fellow beings.

Rabbi Herbert S. Rutman, Minneapolis Rotary

Almighty God, we confess that our conversation with You is often terse, telegram-like.

So today we ask for patience to listen for Your voice,

for a desire to know Your will, f

or the sense to expose our souls to Your truth.

Then our relationship to You will be more of worth than of words.

In Your name, Amen.

Dr. Paul H.A. Noren, Minneapolis Rotary

Almighty God,

We ask Your help to perform our duties in such a way that it will bring credit to You and us as Rotarians. Bless our absent loved ones as You determine they have need. Grant them and us abundant grace, and guidance that we may all be strengthened to be and to do as You would have us perform. Amen.

Lee G. Wahlberg, New Prague Rotary

Dear Lord, give us a good purpose in life . . . one we can be proud of and proud to have reported on. Let us not beat our head bloody and souls ragged seeking the impossible ... or let us not show weakness by giving up too soon . . . rather, let us say now and again, "Your will be done." Amen.

Roland D. Wilsey, Past District Governor, Roseville Rotary

O God, You accept us as we are. Help us to accept ourselves.

Examine our criticism, Lord, let it be used to build up, not to break down ...

perhaps to shake, but never to shatter.

Forgive our stooping and elevate our minds to greatness.

Amen.

Roland D. Wilsey, Past District Governor, Roseville Rotary

Almighty God,
We thank You for all our blessings,
for our lives,
our families,
our dear ones and our friends.
Help us to live by our respective faiths.
That the ideals of Rotary may be assured
and Your name glorified.
Amen.

Arthur C. Melamed, St. Louis Park Rotary

Almighty God,
Deliver us from fretfulness and self pity;
make us sure of the goal we cannot see,
and of the hidden good in the world.
Open our eyes to simple beauty all around us,
and our hearts to the loveliness hidden from us
Save us from ourselves,
and show us a vision of a world made new.
May Your spirit of peace and illumination so enlighten our minds
that all life shall glow with new meaning and purpose.
Amen.

Carroll Hurd, Past District Governor, St. Louis Park Rotary

For abundance beyond our deserving;
for blessings beyond our asking;
for a rich heritage of enterprise and freedom we are humbly thankful.
Give us Your blessing in understanding Your gifts and their use.
Amen.

Leonard Harkness, St. Paul Rotary

Almighty God,
Help us to see the many opportunities we have for the people in our community.
May we respond to these needs, and may our response flow from a deep love to You
who so regularly gives us this pleasant hour of fellowship,
and sharing with one another.
Amen.

Pastor G.B. Eschenbacher, Sauk Centre Rotary

When tomorrow comes,
this day will be gone forever,
leaving in its place something that I have traded for it.
I want it to be gain, not loss; good, not evil; success,
and not failure,
in order that I shall not regret the price that I have paid for it.

O. Walter Johnson, Past District Governor, Stillwater Rotary

When problems come our way,
help us to find solutions;
in times of doubt,
may we give assurance;
In time of need,
let us show love to all people as YOU have shown love to us.
Amen.

Gerry Bode, Wayzata Rotary

O God, who knows our downswings and our uprisings and understands our thoughts afar, Help us in Your holy keeping and guide our footsteps that we may not wander from Your truths into the paths of error. Keep us ever mindful of Rotary's Motto, "Service Above Self", so that by thought and action we may deserve the favor and carry on with joy and enthusiasm Your desire to have us better serve the people of our community.

James E. Keill, Winona Rotary

(Adapted from Psalm 148)

Blessed are You,
God of all creation.
Your sustaining spirit and love animates the entire universe.
In gratitude, we praise Your life-giving energy and presence.

Jane Stillman, Stillwater Sunrise Rotary

O Lord and giver of all good
we thank you for our daily food
May Rotary friends and Rotary ways
Help us to serve thee all our Days

Amen. "

We pray for the bifocals of faith so that we can see the concern of the moment right under our noses, but also see, further on, Your purpose, in working out Your plan, in the world You have made. We pray for the ability to see at close range -- our part, as a group to become solution-partners in the giving of time and effort and money, and we pray also for the ability to see clearly in the distance, those who are in partnership with us. May we look with new vision through these bifocals of faith and then act. Amen.

Phil Morris - Rotary Club of Furnitureland

Let My Eyes Be Opened

Let me awake and see the beauty that surrounds me all around.
Let me hear the singing birds make their wonderful sound.
Let me thank God for my health that has been good to me so far.
Let all my dreams come true when wishing upon a star.
Let me be thankful for friendship that was lovingly given me.
Let me never forget the caring that was made for me to see.

Betty Opheim, Fargo West Rotary, Fargo, North Dakota District 5580

The paths of our lives are filled with peaks and valleys. When we are on the top of our peaks, we become so self satisfied that we tend to ignore the things of importance. When we are in a valley, we feel a sense of abandon and again can focus only on what is directly ahead. Remind us, as You do in nature, that above the tree line the mountain-tops are barren and only in the valleys can we find the opportunity for true growth. Amen.

Ronald Hanson, Rotary Club of Cloquet, MN USA D5580