

Prayer for Holy Thursday
& Sri Lankan New Year Day - April 14, 2022

Today we celebrate Holy Thursday which is also known as Maundy Thursday of Holy Week. It is the day of the Last Supper when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and established the ceremony known as the Eucharist. The night of Maundy Thursday is the night on which Jesus was betrayed by Judas in the Garden of Gethsemane. The word Maundy is derived from the Latin word "command" and refers to Jesus' commandment to the disciples to "Love one another as I have loved you." Also, today, members of our community who are of Sri Lankan Heritage usher in their New Year. Also known as Sinhala-Tamil New Year Day, it bears the tradition of letting go of past resentments and welcoming new beginnings with hope and love. Let us pray that all the people of Sri Lankan heritage in our school, our communities and around the world are blessed with the peace and love that Jesus commanded of us on the first Holy Thursday.

O God of love,
giver of concord,
through your only Son
you have given us a new commandment
that we should love one another
even as you have loved us,
the unworthy and the wandering,
and gave your beloved Son for our life and salvation.
Lord, in our time of life on earth
give us a mind forgetful of past ill-will,
a pure conscience and sincere thoughts,
and hearts to love one another;
for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.