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Blessing of a Family

Used for 'blended' families, adoptive families, foster families, etc.

Created and compiled by

Rev. Diane L Dean & Rev beth Ann Suggs, ministers,
Unity Christ Church, Ventura, CA

We are gathered together today in the (names) home to acknowledge and bless this family. A family is an especially blessed union. Burdens are lighter because they divide them. Joys are more intense because they share them. Each individual of the family unit becomes stronger because each one can reach out and become involved with life in ways they dared not risk alone. You are agreeing to be a light and a strength to each other. You are agreeing to carry a part of each other's responsibilities. In fact, you are entering into an act of pure faith in which you give of yourselves to the utmost.

On Children

by Kahlil Gibran

Parenthood is more than the bringing of a child into this world, blessed as that event is. True parenthood consists in nurturing and loving a child so that the inherent beauty locked in its soul may come forth. You, as parents, have a supreme function: to love and nurture your children so that they may know the nature of Love, and have first-hand experiences of what Love really is. Always surround your children with loving thoughts and feelings for they will respond to your love. Just as they come to know you as their loving human father and mother, so will they one day come to know their inner true Source of all Life and Love.

You, children, also have a purpose in this family, to love your parents, each other and yourselves, and to learn that you are worthy and wonderful children of Light. Teach only love, for that is what you are.

This new family will now create its own token of unity. (invite family to weave, braid, or "Maypole" from special chosen ribbons, yars, etc, which has symbolic meaning for each member. While they are weaving congregation or guests if in the home sing "WEAVE". This should be an important ritual but with a quality of joy which the children bring. When the weaving is complete...)

Let us now bless the (family name) family with our Responsive Reading.

Leader: Blessed be this family of God.

Response: May they feel their kinship with the Spirit of the universe and their unity with all humanity.

Leader: Blessed be this family of love, which reflects universal love.

Response: May they feel the love others give them, the love they give to others, and come to know there is but one Love.

Leader: Blessed be this family of life, whose very being stems from Divine Expression.

Response: May life always flow easily within them and may they increase the movement of Divine Life within others.

Leader: Blessed be this family of wisdom, whose ever-expanding minds will touch the fount of knowing.

Response: May they learn to listen to the words and feelings of others, and to the voice of inspiration, for through these come understanding.

Leader: Blessed be this family of eternity, which has no Alpha and no Omega.

Response: May the path they walk always lead them to the highest pinnacles of life, love and wisdom; and may they guide others by the life they live.

All: Thank You, Spirit of Life, for another expression of Your eternal, loving presence.

We now bless the (family name) family. It is made holy by the presence of Infinite Life and Love, dwelling within and expressing through each member. Every person in this family is now dedicated to Infinite Life and expresses that Life in vibrant health and strength. All the past experiences of each member are now dedicated to Divine Love. Peace and Joy are expressed from this day forward. All who come in contact with this family will be aware of Divine Love, Love and Substance expressing; and will reflect that same Life, Love and Substance back to them.

Will you join me now in the Prayer of Protection for (name each family member).

The Light of God surrounds you,
The Love of God enfolds you,
The Power of God protects you,
The Presence of God watches over you.
Wherever you are, God is.

AMEN

(The Peace Song is sung, substituting the word Love for Peace)

Go in peace and love and joy.
