**Special Blessing Options**

**for the Solemnity of Christ the King**

Consider offering a blessing over young people present in the assembly, either as a conclusion to the Prayer of the Faithful (Universal Prayer) in lieu of the concluding prayer or as a closing blessing for the Mass. This may be done at the discretion of the pastor/ presider, in light of the norms and customs of the local community. The following blessing prayers are provided here for your consideration; however, liturgical planners and celebrants may wish to use one of the options found within the *Book of Blessings* or from the *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*.

Prior to the blessing, celebrants can invite young people forward, or to invite them to stand up or step out into the aisle of their church, so that they can be recognized and prayed over by the assembly.

Option 1:

God of infinite majesty,

We ask your blessing upon these young people.

May they come to know you and witness to your saving power.

Bless and keep them always, strengthen them for the journey ahead,

challenge them to be faithful to your Word and to live lives of integrity,

and grant them a prophetic spirit to transform the world by your love.

Help all of us, also, to accompany these young men and women,

through the joys, struggles, and experiences of their everyday lives,

and grant us the humility to learn from and be inspired by the young.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

God, for ever and ever.

R:/ *Amen.*

Option 2:

God of power and might,

We ask your blessing upon these young people.

May they continue to grow in wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.

Bless their endeavors and actions, that they may be a blessing to their peers.

Open their minds to your wisdom, open their hearts to your love, and

open their hands to transform their world toward the Kingdom of God.

And for all of us, O Lord, grant a willing spirit to walk with them.

Fill us with the words to say as we teach and guide them, and

give us the ears to hear as we listen and learn from them, too.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

God, for ever and ever.

R:/ *Amen.*

Option 3:

Good and gracious God,

King of the universe,

we ask your blessing upon the young people gathered here,

and for all youth and young adults beyond our community.

Bless and keep them,

so that they may know they are infinitely loved (cf. CV 112).

Pour out your great mercy upon them,

so that they may know they are saved (cf. CV 118).

Give them newfound hope,

so that they may know your presence at every moment (cf. CV 125).

Accompany us, Lord, young and old,

as we accompany one another on this “journey together” (CV 199).

Fill us with humility to learn from each other,

and enkindle in us a passion for truth, beauty, and goodness.

Inspire us to go out to encounter you in these young people,

“to accompany and encourage them, trusting a little more

in the genius of the Holy Spirit, who acts as he wills” (CV 230).

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

God for ever and ever.

R:/ *Amen.*

*From the* [***USCCB National Pastoral Guidebook for the Global Celebration of Young People***](https://www.usccb.org/resources/usccb-christ-the-king-guidebook.pdf)*(English), pp. 50-52. (Put here into a Word doc to make it easier for you to print in a larger size, as needed.)*