**Prayer**

*Taken from Morning and Evening Prayer of the Sisters of Mercy*

**Gracious God**

*We Gather;*

Gracious God, you are a gift to us, beyond all hope and expectation. With awe and appreciation, we express our gratitude to you.

We pray in gratitude for practical gifts of time and talent:

*All:*

*May we use these blessings wisely for the well-being of others and for our own growth.*

We pray in gratitude for loving gifts of family and friends:

*All:*

*May these blessings empower us to reach out to others in care and forgiveness.*

We pray in gratitude for natural gifts of sound and silence:

*All:*

*May these blessings foster in us a spirit of contemplation and an attitude of reverence.*

We pray in gratitude for spontaneous gifts of creativity and inspiration:

*All:*

*May we treasure these blessings as moments of divine life.*

We pray in gratitude for treasured gifts of health and happiness:

*All:*

*May these blessings help us grow in wholeness and holiness.*

**Prayer**

Gracious God, at the close of this day, we remember all the graces with which you sustain and nurture us. You have called us, not to bestow gifts, but to bestow ourselves freely, relying with unhesitating confidence on your providence. May we live in this spirit of generosity, gladly sharing the goodness with which you have blessed us. We ask this in the name of Jesus who poured out his life for us.

Amen