

At Home Pet Blessing

Begin with prayer: Almighty God, you have made us and all living things. For our pets who give us joy, we thank and praise you. We trust your care, O God. Make us faithful as we care for our pets. In so doing we share in your love for all creation. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Watch (and sing along, if you'd like) a video of the hymn *All Creatures of Our God and King*. This video is from the British Broadcasting Corporation show *Songs of Praise*. St. Francis of Assisi is said to have written the lyrics to *All Creatures of our God and King*. The link can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WtT3SRnnG0I>



Read Matthew 6:25-33: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Place your hands on your pet, and bless them by praying: "Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. You inspired Saint Francis to call all of them his brothers and sisters. We ask you to bless [Name of pet]. By the power of your love, enable [Name of pet] to live according to your plan. May [Name of pet] be a sign of your love and place joy in our hearts. May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. Blessed are you, Lord our God, in all your creatures! Amen."

Pray the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.