

Reflecting Tuesday Week 16 2022

God made us a family,

a special caring part
of all that's near and very dear
and closest to the heart.

Together on life's journey
each day a memory

Thank you God for making us
a loving family. *(Author: Unknown)*

Vatican II in the 60s offered us different models of Church to encourage an ongoing renewal. Instead of a hierarchical, institutional and top-down image of Church it suggested the Church is a Family, a pilgrim people, a servant church. These models help us see that we journey together in faith and are able to help each other along the way. More recently Pope Francis offered us an encyclical: ***Fratelli Tutti*** on fraternity and social friendship to reinforce the values of these models from which comes the following prayer

Lord, Father of our human family,

inspire in us a dream of renewed encounter,
dialogue, justice and peace.

Grant that we may live the Gospel,

discovering Christ in each human being,

recognizing him crucified in the sufferings of the abandoned and forgotten of our world,
and risen in each brother or sister who makes a new start.

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty,

reflected in all the peoples of the earth,

so that we may discover anew

that all are important and all are necessary,

different faces of the one humanity that God so loves.