Praxis Session Six: Words You May Not Understand

Main Ideas: Helping our youth to fully understand the prayers they are saying.

Supplies needed:
- Dictionary
- White board or easel paper

Preparation: You may want your priest to be a part of this session. Additional questions may come up about the prayers that he would be best to answer. If he is unable to attend, create an ‘Ask Father’ list and find another time for the priest to share answers. He may choose to answer at the next session, through email, or by providing you with the answers.

Prepare a word that you don’t understand or may have had trouble with in the past.

Ask the children to bring either their prayer books, a list of the prayers with which they are having trouble and the words in question.

Session:
Begin by stating that we all have trouble with new words and phrases. This is ok and a great form of learning. Say that you have brought your own word. Share this with them and work through the word.

Take turns allowing each youth to present one of their words and the prayer from which it is found. When you have finished reviewing the word, ask the youth if they have any other words from that prayer. When you have finished with that prayer, have the group say the prayer together.

When finished, tell the youth that they can use their prayer journals to keep track of words they may not understand in prayers. They can then bring those words to their priest or youth worker.

Complete the session singing the Lord’s Prayer.