



Set up an altar with an open Bible, a crucifix, candles, a globe to represent the missions and a World Mission Rosary.

Leader: A litany is a form of prayer; the reader reads the beginning of the sentence and the group answers with the same response each time. Today, we will pray a Back to School Litany, thanking God not only for the time of rest we had during the summer but also for the opportunity we have to learn and grow during this school year. We will also pray a Missionary Childhood Litany, asking God's blessing on children around the world who lack some of the blessings we enjoy.

Back to School Litany

Reader 1: *Our response will be: We thank you God, Father of all.*
All: We thank you God, Father of all.
Reader 2: For the time to rest, play and enjoy our friends -
All: We thank you God, Father of all.
Reader 1: For the summer sun and refreshing rains that help to grow the food to nourish us -
All: We thank you God, Father of all.
Reader 2: For our families, especially the adults who care for us -
All: We thank you God, Father of all.
Reader 1: For good books to read, games to play and new places to visit -
All: We thank you God, Father of all.
Reader 2: For the mountains and the sea, the city and the farms we may remember from our summer vacation -
All: We thank you God, Father of all.
Reader 1: For every moment of our lives this past summer -
All: We thank you God, Father of all.
Leader: Gracious God, Father of all, we thank you for the moments of our summer. Help us to keep them in mind as we now remember those children who don't have the luxury to have time to play, to eat well or to be cared for by loving families and friends.
All: Amen.

Missionary Childhood Litany

Reader 1: Our response will be: May our help and prayers reach all God's children.
All: May our help and prayers reach all God's children.
Reader 2: For children in the missions whose work is exploited every day -
All: May our help and prayers reach all God's children.
Reader 1: For children who don't have enough to eat -
All: May our help and prayers reach all God's children.
Reader 2: For children in the missions who have no one to care for them -
All: May our help and prayers reach all God's children.
Reader 1: For mission children who may never know how to read and write or go to school -
All: May our help and prayers reach all God's children.
Reader 2: For children in the missions living in lands scarred by war and natural disaster -
All: May our help and prayers reach all God's children.
Leader: God, our Father, hear our prayers for those in need. Guide us as we work this year to reach out as missionaries in Your Name. ALL: Amen.