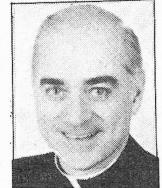
Our Father

Words are semantic instruments created to give expression to living thoughts and ideas. When Christ instructed us

about prayer, he told us not to babble like the heathens, uttering many words. Then he gave us a few profound words to say in the "Our Father."



To me, "Our

Father" is a love song. God our eternal Lover, has written a love song for His children.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name...

"Our Father, in You the whole human race and all living things, find their source and sustenance. I bow before You with a heart full of joy and I pray that all other hearts will be inflamed with love at the very mention of Your name."

Thy kingdom come...

"Your Kingdom has already begun and I hunger for the day when justice and peace will triumph and all Your children will know the fullness of joy wnich You have promised."

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

"Your will is my nourishment and life. I want to please You in every word and deed. I want to make Your love reign in this world, as it does in paradise, our true home."

Give us this day our daily bread...

"Father, we are weak, give us the strength to persevere in Your love just for today; feed our deepest hunger and help us to love one another as You have loved us."

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us...

"Oh Lord, forgive me for failing to become a creature of love and joy; put into my heart the spirit of forgiveness and compassion for anyone who has failed me in any way. I am ever mindful of Your forgiveness of my sins and I thank You."

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil...

"Heavenly Father, protect us against our weaknesses, and deliver us from the doubts and fears which undermine our confidence in Your loving presence. Free us from our selfish desires, which have so often betrayed us. We ask this in the Name of Jesus, whom You sent to lead us home. All glory, power and praise be to You, Father, forever and ever, Amen."