

Candles themselves cannot pray, but they can help us to pray. In different ways they can accompany us through our lives.

Each candle is in some way a reflection of that Light which came into the darkness of our world in Bethlehem.

As the light of the candle brightens the darkness so our existence is brightened by the life of Jesus, that is the message for our lives.

A candle also reminds us of Baptism, the beginning of our way with Christ, and of our call to life, to eternal life.

May you discover more and more the meaning that light has in your life.

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Lord,
I am lighting a candle.
Perhaps I'm not quite sure how to pray.
In a way this candle is like me,
what I have and what I am.

Through this candle light may You enlighten me in my difficulties and decision making.
Through this candle flame may You burn away the evil in me, that from it the new and good can arise.
Through this candle flame may You warm my heart and teach me to love.

Lord,
I cannot stay long in Your Church.
With this light a piece of myself remains, I would like You to have it as a gift. Help me continue my prayer in all that I am and do this day.

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Lord,
a candle stands before me.
It burns restlessly,
sometimes with a small,
sometimes with a larger flame.
Lord, I too am often restless.
Let me find rest in You.

It gives me light and warmth.
Lord, let me too be light for the world.

It burns away and consumes itself in its service.
Lord, may I also be of service to people.

With this candle I can ignite other candles.
Lord, may I also contribute in this way
that others may begin to shine.

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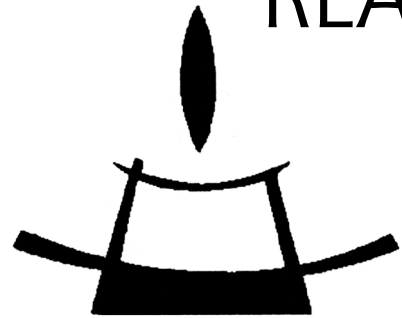
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