

### **Prayer of Dedication of White Gifts**

Holy God, you are the giver of all gifts.

We come before you today with these white gifts given in our Lord's spirit of love.

May they be offerings of love, symbols of our faith in you and signs of the work of Christ's church.

Bless us as we dedicate these gifts in the service of others.

**Amen.**

### **History of White Gift Sunday**

White Gift Sunday dates back to 1904 in Ohio. The wife of a Methodist minister and her two daughters came up with the idea of giving gifts wrapped in white paper at Christmas time to people in need.

Gifts are wrapped in white so that they will be anonymous and so that people who can only give a little will not be embarrassed. There is a Chinese tradition where all the people gave their king a gift wrapped in plain white paper so that every gift would look the same. Each person gave the king what they were able, and the king welcomed them all.

The White Gift shares in the spirit of Christ and the God of love at Christmas. We give gifts of love to people in need. These gifts are often nonperishable food items which are distributed to people in the community.

White Gift Sunday celebrates the stewardship of God's love and giving at the time of year when we remember the coming of the King of Kings.