Prayer for an Interfaith Dinner

Julie Donovan Massey

God of abundant life, we come before You in gratitude for our guests and benefactors, for conversation that seeks understanding, for bountiful food and gracious hospitality.

God of mercy and justice, we come before You in humility, knowing others want for welcome, or stand this day in need of food. Our call: to notice and respond.

God who promises abundant life, we come before You in hope that bulbs and buds still secretly prepare, that we too can reach toward your promise whenever we build up shalom, greet stranger as friend, or put our neighbor's needs ahead of our own.

May our time together deepen our gratitude, renew our hope, and move us to work toward justice.

We make this prayer in Your name, God of Love.

Amen.

Julie Donovan Massey is senior director for mission and ministry at St. Norbert College, De Pere, Wl.

Excerpted from A Mission Officer Handbook, vol. 2: Collaborating with Partners (Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, 2015).