

PEARLS WISHING CEREMONY

A meaningful ceremony to honor or recognize a person or event; to think about victims of a tragedy or disaster; or to send special thoughts to someone going through a difficult time.

Materials needed: 3 candles, a pearl-like bead for each participant, a container to represent a "wishing well"

The group stands in a horse shoe. The wishing well and candles are placed on a table and located at the head of the horse shoe. The center candle is lit.

"We gather here today to honor/think about _____ and to send special wishes his/her/their

way. The light of the candle represents our love and the light of the flame chases away the darkness."

"Each of us will now receive a pearl. Pearls are known to symbolize a pure heart and mind; innocence, faith. The pearl is known as a "stone of sincerity", bringing truth and loyalty to a cause."

When everyone has a pearl: "Now as we hold our pearls in our hands, let us have a moment of silence to keep _____ in our thoughts and prayers."

"We will now make our own special wishes for _____ and place our pearls in the wishing well."

Each participant steps forward one at a time, placing

her pearl into the well. When everyone has done this, the outer 2 candles are lit.

"We will now light the candles of faith and hope. We send our special wishes on the tails of the flames to be carried away with our love."

Sing a special song to end the ceremony.

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