

Table of Contents

1. **Introduction**
2. **Message from the Superintendent**
3. **Message from the Chairman of the Board**
4. **Section 1: Common Prayers**
 - The Sign of the Cross (*Cree, English, French, and Tagalog*)
 - The Lord's Prayer (*Cree, English, French, and Tagalog*)
 - Prayers of the Rosary
 - Acts of Faith, Hope, Love, and Contrition
 - Peace Prayer
 - Before and After Meal Graces
 - Prayer for an Increase of Vocations
 - The Catechist's Prayer
 - Prayer for Christian Unity
12. **Section 2: Prayers for Families**
 - Morning and Evening Prayers
 - Prayers for Families
17. **Section 3: Prayers for Schools and Classrooms**
 - Prayer for School Staff
 - Prayer for Students
 - Prayers for Athletes and Teams
 - Prayers for Artists
23. **Section 4: Prayers of our Parishes' Namesakes**
 - Sacred Heart (Wetaskiwin)
 - St. Anthony (Drayton Valley)
 - St. Augustine (Ponoka)
 - St. Michael (Leduc)
 - St. Stephen (Lacombe)
 - St. Vital (Beaumont)
30. **Section 5: Prayers from STAR Catholic Schools**
 - Académie Saint-André Academy
 - Christ the King School
 - Father Lacombe School
 - Holy Trinity Academy
 - Notre Dame School
 - Sacred Heart School
 - STAR Catholic Outreach School
 - St. Anthony School
 - St. Augustine School
 - St. Benedict School

Introduction

Prayer should be a central part of every faithful person's life. For Christians, prayer is both personal and communal. Prayer is how we communicate and connect with God more closely, so it can be as unique and individual to each of us as our own fingerprints. However, we also have prayers that are a deep part of our common identity as Christians and Catholics. This collection of prayers is not an instruction book on how one should pray; rather, our hope is that members of the St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Schools family will use this book as a resource to deepen and grow in their prayer lives in our schools, our homes, and our wider communities, and that through prayer, they will draw ever closer to God.

The theme of this prayer book is "Growing Families of Faith" and truly it is a result of the work of the entire STAR Catholic Family. Thanks must be given to all those who had a hand in completing this project. Thank you to all of our students who wrote prayers and submitted them for use in this book; thank you to staff who gathered, edited, and organized submissions from each school; and thank you to our STAR Catholic school board for supporting the publication of this book.

Thank you to our parish priests and pastoral teams who guide and support our Catholic schools and provide wonderful examples of faithful service in our communities. Thank you to our parents and guardians who entrust us with the care, education, and faith formation of your children. We are blessed that you chose to make STAR Catholic Schools part of your family!

A Prayer of St. Thomas Aquinas

Give me, O Lord, a steadfast heart
which no unworthy thought can drag downwards;
an unconquered heart which no tribulation can wear out;
an upright heart which no unworthy purpose may tempt aside.
Give me also, O Lord my God, understanding to know you,
diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you,
and a faithfulness that may finally embrace you;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Message from the Board Chair

Dear Members of our STAR Catholic Family,

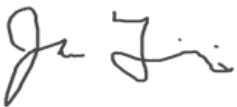
This year our STAR Catholic Division theme is "Growing Families of Faith". Part of growing our faith together is praying together. Mother Teresa, along with many others, said "The family that prays together stays together". Prayer builds our relationship with God, and nothing is more central to our collective journey than supporting one another growing closer to God, growing in faith.

As a family, let us support, encourage, and pray for one another at every opportunity.

It is my hope and prayer that this resource be used in your homes, in your classrooms, and in your meetings. Let it not become another dust collector filled with potential, but rather I pray you embrace the examples of prayer and witness here to strengthen you and your family on your journey of faith.

I am pleased and honoured to present this book of prayers gathered from across our STAR Catholic Division family to you on behalf of your Board of Trustees.

May the blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you this day and forevermore.



John Tomkinson
Board Chair

Prayer for Wisdom

Good and Gracious God,
I give you thanks today for the abundant blessings
you have so graciously poured out on me.
Today I face challenges in my work and my life.
As your servant Solomon
asked for wisdom to properly discern,
so too Lord do I humbly ask for your gift of wisdom.
Guide and bless this work and my deliberations
so that in all I do, it is done in your name and for
your glory.
I pray this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

-Written by John Tomkinson

Message from the Superintendent

Dear STAR Catholic Community:

It is my privilege to present the STAR Catholic “Growing Families of Faith” Prayer Book. It is hoped that this wonderful compilation of prayers, many composed by STAR’s own voices, will serve as a treasured resource to our students, staff, families and parishes for many years to come.

For the Catholic and Christian life, prayer is as essential to ensuring vitality as eating and breathing. Prayers express the aspirations of our heart and the longings of our soul. I invite and encourage everyone to lean into prayer with ever greater fervency, knowing that prayer provides a beautiful place of refuge for all that concerns us - our happiness, our sorrows, and our anxieties too.

My own prayer is that this book becomes well-thumbed and serves to bring all of us closer to the One in whom our hearts will find ultimate fulfillment and joy!

We are blessed.

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. A. Davies', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Troy A. Davies
Superintendent

Section 1: Common Prayers

Often, the prayers found in this section are the first that children learn and the first that families pray together. These prayers are a large part of our schools' prayer lives and many are learned as part of the Religious Education programs.

As the Sign of the Cross and the Lord's Prayer are the two most common Christian prayers, we have included these prayers in the four most common languages spoken in our school division—Cree, English, French and Tagalog.

The Sign of the Cross

While some may think the Sign of the Cross just as a way to start or end prayer, it is a prayer itself! As Catholics, we typically begin our liturgies, our prayers, and many of our activities with the Sign of the Cross, touching forehead, chest, left shoulder, and right shoulder in a cross pattern. This reminds us of Christ's cross, by which he redeemed us. While making the Sign, we name the Three Persons of the Blessed Trinity.

Cree Translation

Weyohtâwimiht mîna
wekosisimiht mîna
meyosit manitô o-
wîyowinihk
Pitane ekosi ihkik

English Translation

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

French Translation

Au nom du Père
et du Fils
et du Saint-Esprit.
Amen.

Tagalog Translation

Sa ngalan ng Ama,
at ng Anak,
at ng Espiritu Santo.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (The Our Father)

Cree Translation

Nohtâwinân kihki kîsikohk
eyâyan
Pitane miyweyicikâtek ki-
wîhowin
Pitane ocicipayik ki-
tepeyicikewin
Kî-isi-natohtâkawiyân kîsikohk
Pitane ekosi isi waskitaskamihk
Anohc kâ-kîsikâk miyinan
ni-pahkwesikaniminân
Mîna tahtwaw kîsikâki
Kâ-isi-kâsinamawinân
kâ-kî-mayi-totamahk
Pisiskeyiminân kici ekâ
maci-mâmitoneyihtamahk
Iyekatenamawinân kâ-mayâtahk
Kîya e-tipeyihcikeyan
e-mamahtâwisiyan
Mîna e-mamihteyihtâkosiyân
anohc mîna kâkike
Pitane ekosi ihkik.

English Translation

Our Father, who art in heaven
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who
trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Tagalog Translation

Ama namin, sumasalangit Ka,
Sambahin ang ngalan Mo.
Mapasaamin ang kaharian Mo,
Sundin ang loob Mo
Dito sa lupa para nang sa
Langit.
Bigyan Mo kami ngayon ng
aming kakanin sa araw-araw
At patawarin Mo kami sa aming
mga sala
Para nang pagpapatawad
namin sa mga nagkakasala sa
amin.
At huwag Mo kaming
ipahintulot sa tukso
At iadya Mo kami sa lahat ng
masama. Amen.

French Translation

Notre Père, qui es aux cieux,
Que ton nom soit sanctifié,
Que ton règne vienne,
Que ta volonté soit faite sur la
terre comme au ciel.
Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre
pain de ce jour.
Pardonne-nous nos offenses
Comme nous pardonnons aussi
à ceux qui nous ont offensés.
Et ne nous soumetts pas à la
tentation,
mais délivre-nous du mal.
Amen.

Prayers of the Rosary

Praying the Rosary has been a tradition in the Church for a long time. The Rosary is a Scripture-based prayer. It begins with the Apostles' Creed, which summarizes the great mysteries of the Catholic faith. The Our Father, which introduces each mystery, is from the Gospels. The first part of the Hail Mary is the angel's words announcing Christ's birth and Elizabeth's greeting to Mary. St. Pius V officially added the second part of the Hail Mary. The Mysteries of the Rosary center on the events of Christ's life. There are four sets of Mysteries: Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous.

The repetition in the Rosary is meant to lead one into restful and contemplative prayer related to each Mystery. The gentle repetition of the words helps us to enter into the silence of our hearts, where Christ's spirit dwells. Catholics pray the Rosary because it's a powerful prayer to God, through his mother, Mary. We ask Mary to advocate for our petitions; we do not worship Mary when we pray the Rosary.

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our
Lord, who was conceived by the Holy
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was
crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from
the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and is
seated at the right hand of God the
Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the
living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy
catholic church, the communion of
saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and life
everlasting. Amen.

The Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace.
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among
women, and blessed is
the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of
God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of
our death. Amen.

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the
Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning
is now and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen.

The Fatima Prayer

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, and lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.



The Hail, Holy Queen

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy!
Our life, our sweetness, and our hope!
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve;
to thee do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.
Turn, then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us;
and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

The Joyful Mysteries

(traditionally prayed on Monday & Saturday)

1. The Annunciation of the Lord to Mary
2. The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth
3. The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ
4. The Presentation of our Lord
5. Finding Jesus in the Temple

The Sorrowful Mysteries

(traditionally prayed on Tuesday & Friday)

1. The Agony of Jesus in the Garden
2. The Scourging at the Pillar
3. Jesus is Crowned with Thorns
4. Jesus Carried the Cross
5. The Crucifixion of our Lord

The Luminous Mysteries

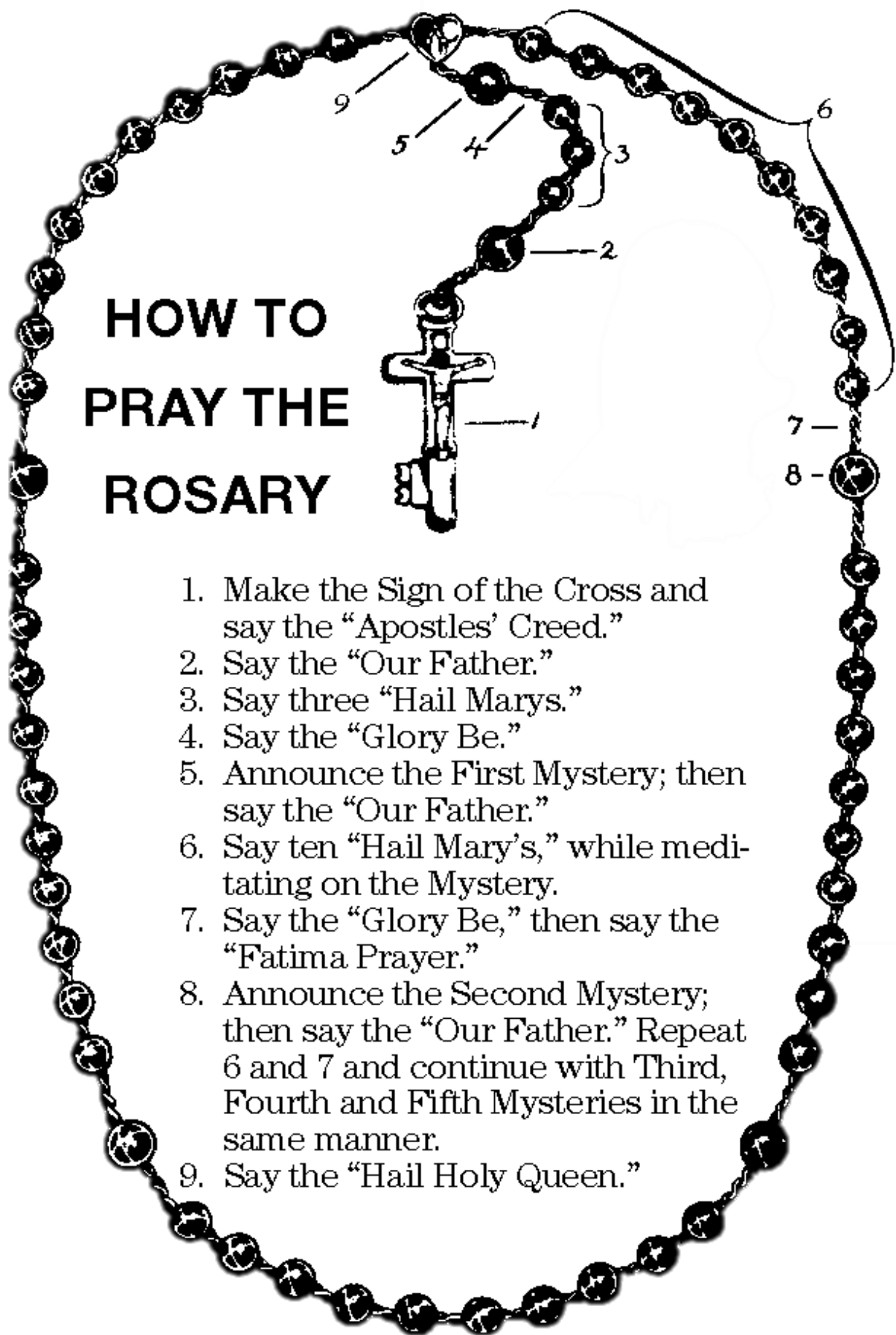
(traditionally prayed on Thursday)

1. The Baptism in the Jordan
2. The Wedding at Cana
3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom
4. The Transfiguration
5. The Institution of the Eucharist

The Glorious Mysteries

(traditionally prayed on Wednesday and Sunday)

1. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ
2. The Ascension of Jesus to Heaven
3. The Descent of the Holy Ghost
4. The Assumption of Mary into Heaven
5. Mary is Crowned as Queen of Heaven and Earth



HOW TO PRAY THE ROSARY

1. Make the Sign of the Cross and say the "Apostles' Creed."
2. Say the "Our Father."
3. Say three "Hail Marys."
4. Say the "Glory Be."
5. Announce the First Mystery; then say the "Our Father."
6. Say ten "Hail Mary's," while meditating on the Mystery.
7. Say the "Glory Be," then say the "Fatima Prayer."
8. Announce the Second Mystery; then say the "Our Father." Repeat 6 and 7 and continue with Third, Fourth and Fifth Mysteries in the same manner.
9. Say the "Hail Holy Queen."

Act of Hope

O God,
I hope with complete trust that
you will give me,
through the merits of Jesus
Christ,
all necessary grace in this world
and everlasting life in the world
to come,
for this is what you have
promised, and you always keep
your promises. Amen.

Act of Faith

O God,
I firmly believe all the truths
that you have revealed
and that you teach us through
your Church,
for you are truth itself
and can neither deceive nor be
deceived. Amen.

Act of Love

O God,
I love you with my whole heart
above all things,
because you are infinitely good;
and for your sake I love my
neighbor as I love myself. Amen.

Act of Contrition

Oh my God,
I thank you for loving me.
I am sorry for all my sins;
for not loving others and for not
loving you.
Help me to live like Jesus.
Amen.

Peace Prayer (attributed to St. Francis of Assisi)

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to
console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Traditional Grace Before Meals

Bless us, Oh Lord, and these thy gifts, which we are about to receive from thy bounty, through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Traditional Grace After Meals

We give you thanks, O Lord, for all the gifts we have received from thy bounty, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A Meal Blessing

Lord Jesus Christ,
You once blessed five loaves and two fish.
Bless this food we share today.
Place your peace in our hearts,
and your love in our lives. Amen.

Ancient Hebrew Blessing

Blessed be thou, Lord of the universe,
who bringest forth bread from the earth and makest glad the heart of men.

Children's Grace

Thank you for the food we eat.
Thank you for the friends we meet.
Thank you for the birds that sing.
Thank you, God, for everything.
Amen.

Pop Goes the Weasel Grace

(sing to the tune of *Pop Goes the Weasel*)

Every day around this time,
We gather at the table,
But before we take a bite,
We STOP and say thank you.
Thanks to those who bought the food,
Thanks to those who cooked it,
Most of all we thank You, Lord,
Now let's GO ahead and eat it!

The Johnny Appleseed Blessing Song

Oh, the Lord is good to me,
and so I thank the Lord
for giving me the things I need,
the sun, and the rain, and the
apple seed.
The Lord is good to me! Amen.

Short Meal Blessing

Bless this food to our use
and us to your service.
Fill our hearts with grateful
praise. Amen.

Prayer for an Increase of Vocations

Lord of the harvest,
your Word finds a home on our hearts,
calls us into community and invites us to generous
service of the human family.
Bless with courage and spirit your priestly people,
called to full participation in the one Body of Christ.
May many choose to respond in public service to
your call offered in Jesus' name. Amen.

-Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin



The Catechist's Prayer

Lord, you have called us to serve your people through catechesis,
teaching, and sharing our faith.
Help us to give this work completely to you.
Please empty us of all that would get in the way of what you want to
teach your people.
Speak through us as we talk to people about you.
Help us to be open to what you would have us do.
We pray for each person that he or she will hear what you want him or
her to hear.
Help all of us grow in faith, knowledge, and understanding.
Help all of us to give you glory in all we say and do.
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

-Office of Catechesis, The Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton

Prayer for Christian Unity

Eternal Father,
we praise you for sending your Son to be one of us and to save us.
Look upon your people with mercy, for we are divided in so many ways,
and give us your Spirit to make us one in love.
We ask this gift, loving Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Section 2: Prayers for Families

In this section, you will find a selection of prayers to use with your family. It is within the home that children begin their lifelong journey of learning and growth. Pope Francis tells us “All families need God, every single one. We need his help, his strength, his blessing, his mercy and his forgiveness. It takes simplicity. To pray as a family, simplicity is needed.” We hope this prayer book will aid you in finding simple ways of praying as a family as you grow in your love of God and each other.

Morning and Evening Prayers

Guardian Angel Prayer (for morning or evening)

Angel of God,
my guardian dear,
To whom God's love commits me here,
Ever this day/night, be at my side,
To light and guard, rule and guide.

Morning Prayer

God, our Father,
I offer you today all that I
think and do and say.
I offer it with what was
done on earth by Jesus
Christ, your Son. Amen.

Franciscan Morning Prayer

Lord Jesus,
I offer you this new day because I believe in you, love you,
hope all things in you, and thank you for your blessings.
I am sorry for having offended you
and forgive everyone who has offended me.
Lord, look on me, and leave in me peace, courage
and your humble wisdom that I may serve others with joy and be
pleasing to you all day.
Amen.

A Morning Offering (The Grail)

Lord Jesus, I give you my hands to do your work.

I give you my feet to go your way.

I give you my eyes to see as you do.

I give you my tongue to speak your words.

I give you my mind that you may think in me.

I give you my spirit that you may pray in me.

Above all, I give you my heart that you may love in me, your Father, and all humankind.

I give you my whole self that you may grow in me so that it is you, Lord Jesus, who live and work and pray in me. Amen.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit you have taught the hearts of your faithful.

In the same Spirit help us to relish what is right and always rejoice in your consolation.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Comfort from the Burdens of Life

God of our life, there are days when the burdens we carry chafe our shoulders and weigh us down; when the road seems dreary and endless, the skies grey and threatening; when our lives have no music in them, our hearts are lonely, and our souls have lost their courage.

Flood the path with light, turn our eyes to where the skies are full of promise; tune our hearts to brave music; give us the sense of comradeship with heroes and saints of every age; and so quicken our spirits that we may be able to encourage the souls of all who journey with us on the road of life, to your honour and glory. Amen.

Evening Prayer

God, our Father, this day is done.
We ask you and Jesus Christ,
your Son, that with the Spirit, our
welcome guest,
you guard our sleep and bless our rest.
Amen.

Children's Bedtime Prayer

Thank you Lord for another day,
the chance to learn, the chance to play.
Now as I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep.
Please, guard me, Jesus, through the
night, and keep me safe till morning's
light. Amen.

Nighttime Prayer

May God support us all
the day long,
till the shades lengthen
and the evening comes,
and the busy world
is hushed,
and the fever of life
is over,
and our work is done.
Then in his mercy, may he
give us a safe lodging and
a holy rest and peace in
the last.

- Blessed John Henry Newman

Prayers for Families

A Parent's Prayer

God, I ask you to move my heart to
help me to:

- listen to my children.
- communicate with my children.
- teach my children right from
wrong and be a good model for
them.
- educate my children in mind,
body, and soul.
- work to provide a stable family
life for my children.
- pray for and see God in my
children and in all children.
- speak out for my and other
children's needs. Amen.

Prayer for the Family

Heavenly Father,
bless us this day. In our
lives at work, at school
and at home,
help us to always do your
holy will and to know that
in doing it, we are
pleasing to you and
fulfilling your plan for our
salvation.

-Michael Buckley



Prayer of a Father

O Lord,
I know that a dad is someone
who loves his children
no matter what;
someone who lifts them up,
and leads them on the
right path,
and lets them go—at the right
moment.

Teach me to be a dad who
shares his faith in ordinary,
simple ways;
someone who encourages his
children and believes in them
throughout their lives;
someone who hears with his
heart, leads with his life,
and loves forever.

Amen.

Mother's Prayer

O Lord,
I need your help today.
I want to care for those you've
sent into my life, to help them
develop the special gifts you've
given them.

But I also want to free them to
follow their own paths and to
bring their loving wisdom
to the world.

Help me to embrace them
without clutching,
to support them without
suffocating, and to correct
them without crushing.

Help me to live joyfully and
playfully myself, so they can
see your life in me and find
their way to you. Amen.

Prayer for Strength

God,
we pray for our children,
growing up in an unsteady and confusing world.
Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world,
and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals.

Help them take failure, not as a measure of their worth,
but as a chance for a new start.

Give them strength to hold their faith in you,
and to keep alive their joy in your creation.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

-Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers

Simple Daily Blessing of a Child

The parent makes the Sign of the Cross on the child's forehead or heart and says one of the following blessings:

- May God keep you safe.
- God be in your heart.
- May God bless you.
- May God bless you and keep you.
- God be with you.

Prayer for Protection of the Family

Lord Jesus Christ,
I praise and thank you for my parents and my brothers and sisters,
whom you have given me to cherish.
Surround them with your tender, loving care,
and teach them to love and serve one another in true affection
and to look to you in all their needs.
I place them all in your care,
knowing that your love for them is greater than my own.
Keep us close to one another in this life,
and conduct us at the last to our true and heavenly home.
Blessed be God forever. Amen.

A Prayer for Families

Loving and merciful God,
we pray for the many needs of families:
for abundant love, for forgiveness and reconciliation,
for a living faith to face the challenges of each day.

Jesus, you were born into a human family and became our brother.
You know well what families need to nourish both children and parents
in long-lasting bonds of love and respect.

Help families of all shapes and sizes turn to you as their source of life.
May your Spirit encourage husband and wives, mothers and fathers,
brothers and sisters.
Give us all the eyes to appreciate one another and to be grateful for the
gift of families. Amen.

Section 3: Prayers for Schools and Classrooms

The following prayers focus on our schools and the variety of activities that take place within their walls. Regardless of the task that is undertaken, the call for Catholic schools is to be authentic, Spirit-filled communities living the Gospel. Prayer is a large part of how we live out our faith in our schools; by teaching students how to pray and by giving them opportunities to do so throughout their day, Catholic schools help students grow in their relationship with God. St. Vincent de Paul once said, “Give me a person of prayer, and such a one will be capable of accomplishing anything”; to Catholic schools, prayer is an indispensable tool in ensuring the success of all of our students.

Prayers for School Staff

Humility Prayer

O Father,
give us the humility which
realizes its ignorance,
admits its mistakes,
recognizes its need,
welcomes advice,
accepts rebuke.
Help us always to praise
rather than to criticize,
to sympathize
rather than to discourage,
to build rather than
to destroy,
and to think of people at
their best rather than at
their worst.
This we ask for your
name's sake.

-William Barclay

For Service

Teach us, good Lord,
to serve you as you deserve,
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to ask for any
reward, save that of knowing that we
do your will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

-St. Ignatius of Loyola

For All Those Working in Catholic Schools

Lord, we thank you for the marvelous
call to complete our work in the light
of the Catholic faith.
Illumine our hearts and minds with the
wisdom of your Spirit, that all of our
work today might help spread the
truth of your Son's Gospel. Amen.

For Daily Tasks

O God, you are with me and it is your will that these outward tasks are given to me to do.

Therefore, I ask you, assist me, and through it all let me continue in your presence.

Be with me in my endeavor, accept the labour of my hands, and fill my heart as always.

-Brother Lawrence of the Resurrection

An Educator's Prayer

O Lord,
Grant me your strength, so I will have courage in every situation;
grant me your love,
so I may love others as you love me;
grant me your wisdom,
so I will show others the path to success;
grant me your mercy,
so I will forgive those who have hurt me;
grant me your peace,
so I will find the best in everybody;
grant me your hope, so I will never give up;
grant me your joy,
so I will be thankful for all my blessings;
and grant me your grace,
so you will always be at my side. Amen.

In Appreciation for Students

God of all, we thank you for the wonderful students we have here in our school.

May we help them learn to recognize the gifts they possess and to never underestimate their potential.

May we help give them the confidence and knowledge they need to achieve their dreams. Amen.

-Filomena and Peter Tassi

Prayers for Students

A Student's Simple Prayer

Dear God,
Help me to spend today with a smile on my face, love in my heart, joy in my soul, and my thinking cap on all day! Amen.

A Teenager's Simple Prayer

Dear God,
Please open my mind so I can absorb and comprehend all I need to in order to be of your service. Amen.

A Student's Prayer

O Lord God,
school is not always easy.
Some days, it is very difficult,
and I struggle to relax
and be at peace.
Yet I know that you will give me
patience, wisdom, and courage,
to be excellent in every way,
and you will help me love others
as you love me. Amen.

-David Bennett

Short Prayer for Young Children

Jesus,
As I work and rest and play,
be with me all the day.
You are my special friend,
on you I can depend. Amen.

A Prayer Before Any Activity

O Lord, inspire our actions
by your grace and inspire them by
your aid,
so that every prayer and work of
ours may begin with you,
and by you be happily ended.
Amen.

A Simple Prayer for Schools

Dear God, this school is a family.
Help us to learn together, to worship together, to share together,
to play together, to pray together,
and to reach out to everyone with family love! Amen.

St. Thomas Aquinas' Prayer Before Study

Creator of all things,
true source of light and
wisdom,
origin of all being,
graciously let a ray of your light
penetrate the darkness of my
understanding.

Take from me the double
darkness in which
I have been born,
an obscurity of sin and
ignorance.

Give me a keen understanding,
a retentive memory, and
the ability to grasp things
correctly and fundamentally.

Grant me the talent
of being exact in my
explanations and the ability
to express myself with
thoroughness and charm.

Point out the beginning,
direct the progress,
and help in the completion.

I ask this through Christ our
Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for Students

Father of Light and Wisdom, thank you for giving me a mind that can know and a heart that can love.

Help me to keep learning every day of my life – no matter what the subject may be.

Let me be convinced that all knowledge leads to you and let me know how to find you and love you in all the things you have made.

Encourage me when the studies are difficult and when I am tempted to give up.

Enlighten me when my brain is slow and help me to grasp the truth held out to me.

Grant me the grace to put my knowledge to use in building the kingdom of God on earth so that I may enter the kingdom of God in heaven.

Amen.

Prayer Before Studying

Lord, I know you are with me and love me.

Give me peace of mind as I prepare for this time of study.

Help me to focus on my books and notes; keep me from all distractions so that I will make the best use of this time that is available to me.

Give me insight that I might understand what I am studying, and help me to remember it when the time comes.

Above all, I thank you for the ability to be able to study and for the many gifts and talents you have given me.

Help me always to use them in such a way that they honour you and do justice to myself. Amen.

Prayer Before Writing an Exam

God, help us stay calm as we write this exam.

We know you are present, and your presence can provide us with peace and comfort.

May we write all that we know and have studied. If we become stressed, help us relax and sort out our confusion.

If we need to guess, we pray the guess will be a good one! Amen.

-Filomena and Peter Tassi

Prayers for Other School-Based Activities

Athlete's Prayer

God, let me play well, but fairly.
Help me to learn something
that matters once the
game is over.

Let competition make me
strong but never hostile.

Always let me help my
opponent up. Never catch me
rejoicing in the adversity of
others.

If I know victory, allow me to
be happy; if I am denied, keep
me from envy.

If through athletics I can set an
example, let it be a good one.
Amen.

Pre-Game Prayer

Please bless today's game, our
opponent, our team, and all
watching our play.

Thank you for the opportunity
to compete and bring out the
best in each other.

May we play hard and fair.

Please keep everyone safe
from injury and harm.

We pray in the name of the
Father, and of the Son, and of
the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Team Prayer

Lord Jesus,
We welcome your presence here
among us and your spirit of love
alive in our community of
school's name.

Today we gather to represent
our school.

Share with us your spirit of
peace and love for one another.

Bless us with a team spirit
of good will, both for ourselves
and the team we will face
in the game.

Help us to be the best we can
possibly be, to strive not so
much to win, but to play fairly
and well.

Draw us close together as a
team and a group of friends who
reflect your spirit of love.

We ask this in your name. Amen.

Post-Game Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for the chance to
compete and use our talents
through sports.

Remind us that we are called to
give our best and to finish the
race while caring for others along
the way. Amen.

Prayer for Artists

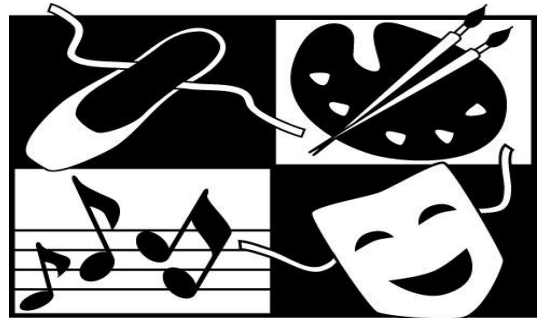
Bless the creators, O God of creation,
who by their gifts make the world
a more joyful and beautiful realm.
Through their labors
they teach us to see more clearly
the truth around us.
In their inspiration
they call forth wonder and awe
in our own living.
In their hope and vision
they remind us that life is holy.
Bless all who create in your image,
O God of creation.
Pour your Spirit upon them
that their hearts may sing
and their works be fulfilling.
Amen.

- Vienna Cobb Anderson

Prayer before Public Speaking *(from Psalm 19:14)*

Let the words of
my mouth,
and the meditation
of my heart,
be acceptable in thy sight,
O LORD, my strength, and
my redeemer.

St. Bernardine of Siena,
patron of public speaking,
pray for me! Amen.



An Artist's Prayer

O Spirit of Creation,
inspire me to use the gifts of creativity and imagination
that you, my generous God, have planted in every person
and particularly those holy gifts you have seeded in me.

O God, banish the demons of self-doubt that try to hold my creative
gifts captive,
chaining them in the prison of the belief that it is only fortunate others
who are creative.

May I use my creative gifts to bring joy to those I love, to serve those in
need, and to give you, O God, great glory.

-adapted from Edward Hays

Section 4: Prayers of our Parishes' Namesakes

The traditional triad in Catholic religious formation of children and youth, the home, the school, and the parish, makes good sense as an ideal because it maximizes the Christian formation of children and youth. The parish community is the basic faith community in our Church and society. It is the parish that has responsibility ultimately for the sacramental life of our students, families, and staffs. Our hope as Catholic schools is that our work continuously ties our students, families, and staffs in deeper ways with our local parishes.

Most of our parishes, as well as the majority of our schools, are named after saints. The Catholic Church honors certain departed Christians with the formal title “saint” which indicates the Church’s confidence that the individual died in friendship with God and is now with Him in heaven. Because the Church is confident that these “holy ones” are now in heaven, Catholics are urged not only to imitate their holiness, but also to ask for their assistance. When we pray to a saint or imitate their behavior, we are not worshiping them in place of God; rather, we are asking them to pray for us, to intercede on our behalf, and to help us enter into a better relationship with God. Parishes and schools often choose to name a building or a community after a particular saint or person who has special ties to a community or may have particular characteristics that are desirable to emulate.

St. Joseph is the patron saint of the Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton, to which all of our communities belong. He is also the patron saint of Canada!

Prayer to St. Joseph the Worker

Great St. Joseph, the Creator of the universe entrusted his Only-Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and the Virgin Mary, the Mother of his Son, to your loving care and watchful protection.

Your humble labour in the workshop of Nazareth, reflected the creative work of God the Father and his provident guidance of all things.

Intercede now for God’s Church, the Body of Christ, and in particular, for the Church in the Archdiocese of Edmonton. May we hear the Word of God in faith, respond with hopeful hearts to God’s plan for us, and work and pray in loving communion.

Help us to make our homes into a new Nazareth, the Church into a Holy Family, and the world into a workshop of justice and peace for the glory of God, the Father almighty, and his only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

Sacred Heart Parish

Wetaskiwin

The devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus is one of the most widely practiced and well-known Roman Catholic devotions, taking Jesus Christ's physical heart as the representation of His divine love for humanity. The devotion is especially concerned with what the Church deems to be the love and compassion of the heart of Christ towards humanity, and its long suffering. The Sacred Heart is often depicted in Christian art as a flaming heart shining with divine light, pierced by the lance-wound, and encircled by the crown of thorns. Sometimes the image is shown shining within the chest of Christ with his wounded hands pointing at the heart. The wounds and crown of thorns allude to the manner of Jesus' death, while the fire represents the transformative power of divine love. The origin of this devotion in its modern form began in about 1672 with a religious sister from France, Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Prayer

O most holy heart of Jesus,
fountain of every blessing,
I adore you, I love you,
and with lively sorrow for my sins,
I offer you this poor heart of mine.
Make me humble, patient, pure
and wholly obedient to your will.
Grant, Good Jesus,
that I may live in you and for you.
Protect me in the midst of danger.
Comfort me in my afflictions.
Give me health of body, assistance in
my temporal needs,
your blessing on all that I do,
and the grace of a holy death.
Amen.

St. Anthony Parish

Drayton Valley

St. Anthony of Padua was a Catholic priest and friar of the Franciscan Order. He was born and raised in Portugal. He became well-known as a teacher and an extremely effective preacher. He was well-known for the depth of his understanding and teaching of scripture and theology. He is considered a *Doctor of the Church* which means that his writings and preachings are useful to Christians "in any age of the Church." He died when he was only 36 years old in Padua. While he is the patron saint of many places and things, he is probably best known as the patron saint of lost items and missing people. His feast day is celebrated on June 13th.

Prayer for Knowledge

Attributed to St. Anthony

O God,
send forth your Holy Spirit
into my heart that I may perceive,
into my mind that I may remember,
and into my soul that I may meditate.
Inspire me to speak with
piety, holiness, tenderness and mercy.
Teach, guide and direct my thoughts and senses
from beginning to end.
May your grace ever help and correct me,
and may I be strengthened now with wisdom
from on high,
for the sake of your infinite mercy.
Amen.

St. Augustine Parish

Ponoka

Augustine of Canterbury was a well-respected superior of a monastery in Rome when Pope Gregory the Great charged him with leading a group of about 40 other monks to Anglo-Saxon Britain. In all likelihood, he was chosen because of his knowledge of the Bible and his administrative abilities. Soon after the monks' arrival, the leader at the time converted to Christianity and allowed the monks to preach freely. A school was also established under Augustine during this time. Augustine was named the first Archbishop of Canterbury in the year 597. He is considered the "Apostle to the English" and a founder of the English Church. Augustine most likely died in the year 604 A.D. and his feast day is celebrated on May 27th.

Evening Prayer of St. Augustine of Canterbury

Watch, O Lord,
with those who wake,
or watch, or weep tonight,
and give your angels charge
over those who sleep.
Tend your sick ones,
O Lord Jesus Christ,
rest your weary ones,
bless your dying ones,
soothe your suffering ones,
shield your joyous ones,
and all for your love's sake.
Amen.

St. Michael Parish

Leduc

St. Michael the Archangel isn't a saint in the traditional sense, but he is one of the three angels mentioned in the Bible. The word "angel" means messenger, and archangel means a messenger sent by God on an assignment of great importance. Michael is the leader of all angels and of the army of God. St. Michael is mostly known as a protector, one who combats Satan on behalf of God, one who is a champion of all that is holy, and one who is the defender of all people. Today, St. Michael is usually invoked for protection, especially from lethal enemies. He is also the patron saint of soldiers, police and doctors. His feast day is celebrated on September 29th.

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

O St. Michael,
chief and commander of
the heavenly hosts,
guardian of souls,
vanquisher of rebel spirits,
servant in the house of
the Divine King
and our admirable
conductor,
you who shine with
excellence and
superhuman virtue,
deliver us from all evil,
who turn to you with
confidence,
and enable us by your
gracious protection
to serve God more and
more faithfully every day.
Amen.

Planning for Tomorrow St. Michael's Parish Building Prayer

O Gracious God,
today we gather as a parish-
"United in the Spirit".
We thank you for your love and
wisdom that provides us with the
strength to work together.
You always provide us
with all we need.
We know our parish needs your
support to thrive and grow.
We promise to use the gifts you
give us to support our parish.
We ask for your guidance about
our future parish needs
and trust that you will give us the
answers in your time.
As we journey into the future,
help us continue to work together
as a family built on your gifts of
faith hope and love.
This we ask through Christ our
Lord. Amen.

St. Stephen Parish

Lacombe

St. Stephen, a disciple of Christ, was chosen as one of the first deacons in the early Christian Church. He became known for the wisdom and grace with which he preached, as well as the many miracles that God worked through him. Falsely accused of blasphemy against Moses and against God, he was brought before the court and condemned to be stoned to death. St. Stephen faced that great assembly of enemies without fear. In fact, even as he was being stoned, he prayed that God would not punish his enemies for killing him. He was martyred in the year 37 A.D. We celebrate his feast day on December 26th.

Prayer to St. Stephen the First Martyr

O Great St. Stephen,
the scriptures tell us that your face
was like an angel's as you witnessed
to the truth of Christ.

Please ask the Most Holy Trinity
to fill my soul,
and the souls of all my brothers and
sisters throughout the world,
with a deep hunger for the truth that
comes from the Heart of Jesus,
and also with the loving courage to
embrace and profess the truth
even amid difficulties, confusion,
and persecution.

May the serenity and peace which
were yours at the hour of your death
be ours as well,
as we wait in hope for the coming of
the Lord Jesus who lives and reigns
forever and ever. Amen.

Building Prayer of St. Stephen Parish

Dear Heavenly
Father,
Bless us with
generous hearts,
open minds,
blessed unity,
and clear vision,
as we seek to
build a house for
celebration and
worship.

May it be a home
where all are
welcomed,
nourished,
and empowered
to be Christ for
others.
Amen.

St. Vital Parish

Beaumont

St Vital, also known as St. Vitalis of Ravenna, was a wealthy, second century Christian citizen of Milan, Italy. Not much is known about this saint, but he is believed to have been a soldier in the emperor's army, as well as the husband of Valeria and the father of twin boys, Gervase and Prothase, all of whom would later be martyred and declared saints. St. Vital led the Christian community in Ravenna during the Christian persecutions. When a fellow Christian was arrested for his faith in Jesus Christ and was facing execution, Vital stood in solidarity with his friend. This individual was very afraid and was wavering in his faith, but Vital encouraged him to keep faith. When his friend was beheaded, Vital buried his body. In so doing, he exposed his own Christian faith and was, subsequently, arrested. Refusing to renounce his faith, Vital was tortured and then buried alive in the year 171 A.D. His feast day is April 28th.

Prayer for Strength of Conviction

Almighty God,
by whose grace and power
your holy martyr, Vitalis of Ravenna,
triumphed over suffering
and was faithful unto death,
strengthen us with your grace,
that we may endure reproach and persecution
and faithfully bear witness to the name
of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

Section 5: Prayers from STAR Catholic Schools

Education is much more than the act of relaying information. To truly educate, there must be a drawing out of a student's best-- his or her abilities, talents, skills, desires, relationships, and critical thinking skills. In a Catholic School, there is a recognition that the best of what lies at the core of every person is Jesus Christ; therefore, it is our mission to help each student, family, and staff member be a better reflection of Christ to the world. According to the Vatican's *Declaration on Christian Education*, the role of the Catholic school is very specific: "The Catholic school pursues cultural goals and the natural development of youth to the same degree as any other school. What makes the Catholic school distinctive is its attempt to generate a community climate in the school that is permeated by the Gospel spirit of freedom and love" (8). We are proud to have schools that are academically challenging and successful, but we are most proud of the opportunities we give our students to develop in their relationships with others and, most importantly, with Christ.

The prayers found within this section have all been written by STAR Catholic students. In reading these prayers, one comes to the realization that our students are facing a variety of challenges in their lives, but it also becomes clear that they trust in God to help them through any struggles. Students have also written prayers of thanks, recognizing their many blessing and praising God for the wonders he has worked in the world.

St. Thomas Aquinas is the patron saint of our school district. While Thomas was very quiet and seldom spoke when in school, leading classmates to nickname him "dumb ox", he became one of the greatest and most influential theologians of all time. In addition to our school district, he is the patron saint of universities and all students. St. Thomas Aquinas, pray for us!

Prayer to Follow the Will of God

Attributed to St. Thomas Aquinas

Grant me grace, O merciful God,
to desire ardently all that is pleasing to thee,
to examine it prudently,
to acknowledge it truthfully
and to accomplish it perfectly,
for the praise and glory of thy name. Amen.

Académie Saint-André Academy

Beaumont

Thank you for my soul,
and my life, friends,
family, school and
church.

Help us to respect
Mother Nature, and to
a simple life like John
the Baptist wants
us to live.

Keep us safe from our
sins and from hurting
animals and the earth
and Mother Nature.

Amen.

-Braden, Grade 4

Père tout-puissant,
Aide-moi à ouvrir mes
yeux à ta lumière
qui guide.

Aide-moi à ouvrir mes
oreilles à ta parole divine
qui enseigne.

Aide-moi à ouvrir mon
coeur à ton coeur
éternel qui guérit. Amen.

-Brooke, Grade 6

Please Lord, God our
Father, Protector of
heaven and earth,
help everyone that has
dealt with loss by granting
them light, joy, peace and
diligence in the struggles in
which they live. Amen.

-Zakery, Grade 4

Dear God,
Thank you for welcoming
us into your family.
Thank you for our families
and friends.

Thank you for keeping us
warm and safe.

Thank you for giving us
food to eat.

Thank you for giving life
to all living things.

Help us continue to love
and be kind to others.

Please continue to watch
over us. We love you
God. Amen.

-Mme. Brittany Grade 1 Class

Christ the King School

Leduc

Prayers of My Heart

Dear Lord,
Please be with me
throughout my day,
and give me the strength to
treat everyone kindly.
Forgive me for my faults,
and the times I doubted you.
Please be with me through
my sorrow and anger, and
help me gain a peaceful
mind.

Listen to my thoughts and
intentions, and help me
obtain the wisdom and
courage to make the right
decisions.

Guide me through the rough
times in my life,
and help me to find joy even
when my heart feels heavy.
Help me to remember that
you are always in my heart,
and that I am never alone.
Amen.

-Emily, Grade 8

Dear God,

Help us to love and
care for others.
Help us to not be
envious of what
others have, but to
love ourselves.
We ask that you help
us value ourselves,
but to not expect
attention in return.
Allow us to be pure
in our hearts in order
to have a stronger
relationship with
you. Help us to
continue to trust you
and keep our faith
full and alive.
Amen.

-Sydney, Grade 9



Dear God,

Please give me the strength to get through times of sorrow and stress. Please help me remember that you are with me at all times and will never abandon me, especially during rough times. I realize that those times are part of your plan for me and are going to be worth it in the future.

I can always put my trust in you.

Please give me some signs that you are with me; sometimes I need them. I know that you will stand by my side and remind me that I am strong.

You are my God, my One and Only; the One who I can trust, love and thank. Help me continue to put my faith in you. Amen.

-Kaitlin, Grade 9

Help Us Forgive

Lord, every day you provide us with the strength to work through every day.

You provide us with patience, so we don't get angry at our loved ones. Even though once in a while we may get angry, you're always there to forgive us.

So please Lord, give us the strength to forgive others just like you forgive us, so we will have better peace with others. Amen.

-Chloe, Grade 8

Father Lacombe School

Lacombe

Lord, we thank you for loving us, for blessing us, for making us unique. Thank you for treasuring us, for forgiving us, for giving us talents. We thank you for making us your children. We keep going every day because you're there to cheer us on and give us strength. We always know you are there. We believe in you and we thank you. We thank YOU!

-Chloe, Grade 5

I'm so thankful that you gave me my life and family. My life gives me hope everything is fine. My family cares about me and loves me. I'm so glad that you help me with controlling my emotions because I get angry very easily and you help me take deep breaths. I love you God because you gave us your only Son and you take away our sins. Please help me to improve my listening skills and my attitude. Please watch over my family, friends and me. Amen.

-Autumn, Grade 3

Lord, we pray for the many people who protect us daily. Teachers who make our classes safe, police officers who protect us from danger, coaches who make sure that their players are protected from hazards, fire fighters who protect us from fire, doctors and nurses who protect us from illnesses like cancer, parents who make sure that their kids are safe from threats. Lord, help all those who protect us every day of our lives. This we ask of you.

-Colton, Grade 4

Holy Trinity Academy

Drayton Valley

I pray for all those who are injured, that their wounds will heal, both emotionally and physically.

For those who have broken bones that they heal and become stronger than before.

That all the soldiers who are fighting overseas come home safe, and all the horrors that they witnessed do not keep them up at night.

For all those who gave the ultimate sacrifice that we remember and are thankful for them, that we appreciate what they gave up for our freedom. Amen.

-Rebecca, Grade 9

You are the one and only, beginning and the end,
you are all that is good.

Your love is like a river flowing through this land
spreading the good news to everyone that passes.

You guide the weak and help the poor.

Your compassion is never ending,
you're slow to anger and quick to forgiveness.

Oh Lord, you are the perfect example,
not a flaw to see, nor a sign of hate.

You light up the way that one day we will follow.

-Arika, Grade 9

Notre Dame School

Leduc

Prayer for Peace

I pray that this new year will be filled with peace.
Everyone should remember that words have
power especially when you are talking to God.
So keep praying even when it gets hard.
Don't forget you are God's follower.
Never let anger or fear take over your heart.

-Emma, Grade 4

Thank You Prayer

Thank you God for the moon and sun.
Thank you for all you have done.
Thank you God for making me.
Thank you God for letting others be free.
God, I thank you for every day and bless the things
I always say.
I thank you for the bright shining light.
Oh, this is such a wonderful delight.
May God bless the children everywhere and give
them all the love and care.

-Joan, Grade 4

A Prayer for World Peace

Dear God,

Thank you for everything I have.

I thank you for life and every breath I take.

I thank you for my friends and family.

I pray for the people who are less fortunate than I am, the people who go to bed starving every night and the people who are scared every day.

For the people getting persecuted for believing in you, protect them, O Mighty Father.

I pray that their situation will get better.

I pray for all the wars to stop. The wars of religion, for equality and jealousy. The wars that are ruining fathers', mothers' and children's lives.

I pray for those who have lost a loved one and are grieving. I hope you can be with them and put your comforting hands over them.

I hope they are up in heaven with you.

Most of all, I pray for equality, rights and world peace.

I pray this all in Jesus' name. Amen.

-Minnie, Grade 6

Sacred Heart School

Wetaskiwin

Sacred Heart School Prayer

Loving Jesus,
by the grace of your Sacred Heart,
help us to know you,
to love you, and to serve you in this life,
so that we may serve you in the next.

Daily Prayer of a Student

As I begin my day, dear Lord,
please light the path to fulfill your mission for me.
Help me to understand the expectations of my
parents, teachers and peers as they support me
in all I do.

Help me to recognize someone who is struggling so
that I can lend support in times of need.

Help me to focus my mind, body and spirit so that my
eyes, ears and mouth may see, hear and speak with
truth, wisdom and understanding.

Help to fill me with confidence and determination as I
share my knowledge with others.

Help me to find faith as you guide me to master the
gifts you have placed in me. Amen.

-Grade 6 Religion Class

Creation Prayer

For the sun and the moon and the stars of night,
that guide us with their twinkling light.

For the animals and birds that fly, far across
the clear blue sky.

For the green, green grass that tickles our toes,
and family that loves us so.

For the water, plants and trees,
and even for the buzzing bees.

For this and more God, you should know,
we thank you for the Earth, our home.

-Grade 1 Class

Lunchtime Prayer

Heavenly Father,

We thank you this day,
for all of the food

which helps us to play.

For nourishing our mind
with learning new things,

and for feeding our soul
through prayer's strong wings. Amen.

-Grade 3 Class

STAR Catholic Outreach School

Leduc

Prayer of Protection and Guidance

Dear gracious God,
Today we pray for strength and hope.
Help us release our anxieties and frustrations.
Comfort those that battle with worries and grief.
Show us how to focus on today's plan and to not be
overwhelmed by life's struggles.

Today we pray for guidance and wisdom.
Help us achieve our educational tasks and goals.
Comfort those that struggle with assignments
and exams.
Show us how to trust in your direction and mercy as
we work at school.

Today we pray for safekeeping and protection.
Help us make healthy choices and take
positive actions.
Comfort those that are sick and need your whole
healing in their lives.
Show us how to be at one with you and encourage
and guide us in our day to day existence.

We ask this in the name of your son, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

-Star Catholic Outreach Students

St. Anthony School

Drayton Valley

Help Those in Need

O Lord, we pray for the homeless, the sick, the hurt and the poor.

Give them food, health and a place to stay.

Please give them warmth and the money they need to live and have a home.

Please let the homeless have a home,
the sick become better
and the poor become wealthy.

All the angels and saints, pray for those in need.

Amen.

-Karen, Evan, Chloe, Trinity, Hallie, Sebastian, Grade 4

Prayer for Our Friends

I love you God!

Please hug my friends.

Keep them safe and happy.

Help them to show kindness and find peace when they are sad or upset.

Help them to have happy hearts and to know that they are loved.

Thank you for blessing me with all of my friends.

Amen!

-Full Time Kindergarten Class

Prayer for the Poor

Dear Lord,
Please bless the poor and needy,
Help them feel special so they can believe in their lives.
Help them keep their families together so they
can feel loved.
Help them receive food and shelter so they can fulfill
their daily needs.
Help them get the peace they deserve through those
who are blessed with riches.
Amen.

- Grade 5 Class

You are my loving God.
You show me all of the ways to love.
No matter what mistakes we make, I know that you will
always love me unconditionally and forever.
I promise to love others with all my heart, following
your great example.
I will love you both day and night,
more than the sun and more than the moon.
Amen.

-Grade 1 Class

St. Augustine School

Ponoka

Morning Prayer

Thank you God for this day;
Hold us tight and let us pray.
May we love and not forget
all the sins that we regret.
Let us bring our prayers to your heart.
Please watch over us as our day starts.
Bless our school and everyone inside.
Help us learn & laugh, and show our school pride.
You are our Father; you hold our lives in your hands.
Give us courage, as we follow your commands. Amen.

-Mrs. Brown's Grade 5 Class

End of the Day Prayer

At the end of the day, we pray to you,
to thank you for all the things you do.
We are very grateful for all of your love,
and we know that you are watching from above.
As we travel home today
keep us safe along the way.
Bring peace and harmony to us all,
and may we always answer when you call. Amen.

-Mrs. Brown's Grade 5 Class

Dear Lord,
Help guide me to build myself a sturdy life.
Please guide me in making decisions that will have an overall positive impact on my future.
With you by my side, I know that everything that happens in my life is for the best.
Thank you for being next to me so far.
I know you have good plans for me.
I know that everything that I go through is helping to build in me a strong foundation to build my life on.
Amen.

-Anonymous

Thank you, Lord,
for your forever affection and kindness.
You pick us up when we fall.
You heal us when we are hurt
and you forgive us when we make mistakes.
God open our hearts to a new path of life--
one in which we love and cherish our neighbors
and have trust and faith in you.
Amen.

-Anika, Grade 6

St. Benedict School

Leduc

Before Bed Prayer

Heavenly Father,
you allowed the sun to kiss my cheeks this morning.
You touched me gently to wake me up;
my eyes opened, I could breathe,
and I smiled.

I woke up and was able to see my family
and friends again.

Thank you for loving me.

Thank you for showing us mercy again.

I love you, dear Lord.

May I go to sleep tonight.

May you send your Angels to protect me, my family,
and the whole world.

May you kiss me gently to wake me up in the
morning. I love you, dear father. Amen.

-Anonymous

Our Father in heaven,
watching over us,
sending our guardian angels to protect us from evil,
the Father who cares and loves us.

We must love Him too. Amen.

-Natalya, Grade 3

Oh loving God,
thank you for all you have given us today.
I ask you for forgiveness for all sins and pray for your
people. Amen.

-Trey, Grade 3

Wake me up
with morning
light and
make me feel
just as bright.
Make me love
more than I've
ever loved
before,
so that I will not
be a bore.
Amen.

-Aliyah, Grade 4

Oh Lord, we thank you for all
you have done for us.
We hope you help us not to sin.
Help us to be kind and happy.
Thank you Lord. Amen.

-Cassandra, Grade 3

Thank you for the food we eat.
Thank you for the friends
we meet.
Thank you for our work and play.
Thank you for this happy day.
Amen.

-Mikyla, Grade 4



Love the people and see love and
care in God's eyes. Amen.

-Sophia, Grade 3