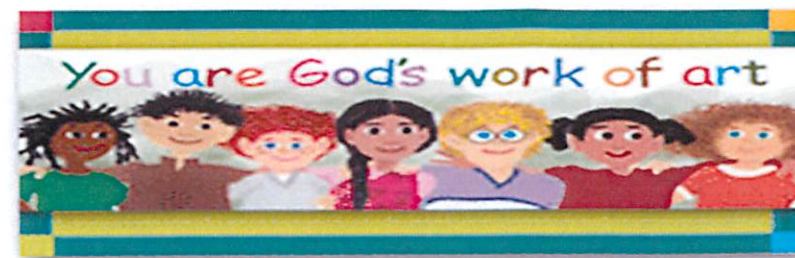


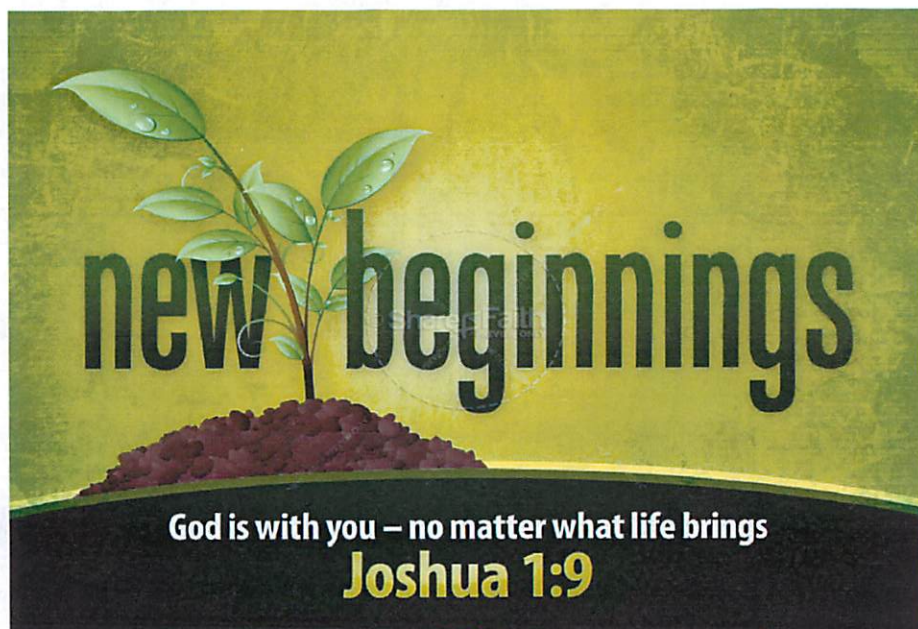


Year 8 assembly

Good morning boys and girls and welcome to St. Patrick's High School. My name is Sr. Marjorie. I am a member of the RE Dept., and our school chaplain.



**FINAL BLESSING** May the Lord bless this new beginning. May you discover new gifts in yourselves, and celebrate the giftedness of others. May the love of God shine through you at home, in school and with friends. Dear God, Bless us all, Smile upon all our staff and students, surround us, Lord, with the soft mantle of your love. Teach this community of St Patrick's High School to follow in your footsteps, and to live life in the ways of Love, faith, hope and charity. We ask this through your name, Jesus Christ... Amen



When you have your tour of the school later today I look forward to seeing you down in the RE corridor where you will see our beautiful school oratory (small chapel). You can visit there before class any morning, at break-time or whenever you might like to say a wee quiet prayer or to write your prayer in our prayer intentions book. So now we are going to have a short prayer time - I invite you to close your eyes and to become aware of your breathing.



4. Some people find it difficult to make friends. They might feel lonely, or shy especially in a new school. May we look after them – and do our best to include them in our games.

Lord, in your friendship... hear our prayer.

The response is "Lord graciously hear us".



5. We pray for our parents and guardians. May they always feel proud of all that we will do and learn here in St. Patrick's Lord, in your friendship... hear our prayer.

Let us now ask Mary, the mother and friend of Jesus, to add her prayers to ours.

Hail Mary...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gMCZ0BM2Vrc&feature=youtu.be> Poem new beginnings

### REFLECTION

One tree can start a forest, One sunbeam lights a room,  
One bird can herald spring, One smile begins a friendship,  
One handclasp lifts a soul, One star can guide a ship at sea,  
One candle wipes out darkness, One laugh will lift sadness,  
One step starts each journey, One word start each prayer,  
One hope will raise our spirits, One touch can show care,  
One voice can speak with wisdom, One heart can know what's true,  
One life can make the difference, **You see it's up to you!**  
Don't forget how very important YOU ARE.  
(Author Unknown)

Breath in – Breath out. Our breath is God's gift of life to us.

So let us begin.

In the name of the Father

Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God.

### OPENING PRAYER

O God, of new beginnings, we know that this is a year full of promise and possibility. Enfold us in your love and fill us with your truth. May your presence with us guide us in our friendships and learning. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7vyuQvwsQV8> – Morning prayer – 1.42/ 1.39

### A reading from a Letter from St Paul to the Corinthian's.

*This reading is from a letter that Saint Paul wrote to the Christian people, in a place called Corinth. He is telling them about the kind of love that real friends should have for each other.*



"This is what love is like. Love is never in a hurry, and is always kindness itself .

It is never snobbish or rude or selfish.

It doesn't keep on talking about the wrong things other people do.

Remembering the good things is happiness enough.

Love is tough. It can face anything.

It never loses trust in God, or in men and women.

It never loses hope and it never gives in.  
Love holds good, everywhere, for everybody, for ever."

This is the Word of the Lord...

Thanks be to God



#### PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL (Bidding Prayers)

- God our Father, you are the special friend of children.

You said to your friends, "Don't stop the children from coming to me. Bring them back."

Put your arms around us now and bless us as we pray.



#### 1. The response is "Lord graciously hear us".

We pray that the Lord may bless all of us, his children, as we work, study and pray together.

Lord, in your friendship... hear our prayer.

The response is "Lord graciously hear us".



2. Jesus was a good friend to everyone he met. May we try to be good friends to the people we meet at this new school and at home. May we do our best to make good friends in our new form group. Lord, in your friendship... hear our prayer.

The response is "Lord graciously hear us".



3. I get angry sometimes, because I expect my friends to be just like me. But God made us all different with our own unique gifts and talents. We enjoy different things and can do different things.

May we learn from our friends and always be proud of the achievements of our friends

Lord, in your friendship... hear our prayer.

The response is "Lord graciously hear us".