

“Give courage to those who are apprehensive, care for the weak and be patient with everyone”.

1 Thess 5:14

Good morning and welcome to our short time of prayer together.

We begin in the name of the Father...

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

Opening Prayer: As we gather here today to begin our new school year we take time to pause, and become aware of the presence of God here with us this morning. (Short silence)

In The Beginning...



It is the beginning of a new school year, and God is a God of new beginnings and new creations. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth, new life, blessed it and

called it good. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself

2 Corinthians 5:17-19

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BxY_eJLBflk - Put God first



Today
I close the door
to the past, open
the door to the
future, take a
deep breath,
step on through
and start a new
chapter in my
life.

We give thanks for a new year
and for new beginnings. We give
thanks that you call us good.
Lord our God Walk with us, we
pray, as we enter into a new year,
a new path, new opportunities.

Almighty God, to whom our needs
are known before we ask: Help us
to ask only what accords with your
will; and those good things which
we dare not, or in our blindness

cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Lord God,

**At the beginning of this new term teach us to
be your hands and feet where we are,**

**At the beginning of this new term teach us to
love as you love us**

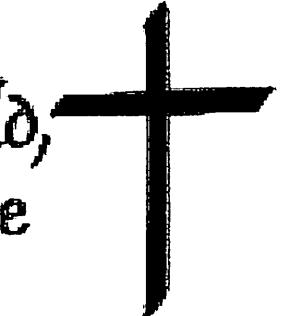
**At the beginning of this new term teach us to
pray for those in need**

So that You are honoured and glorified

Amen

Let us say the following prayer together:

*"Christ has no body on earth but ours,
no hands but ours, no feet but ours.
Ours are the eyes through which the
compassion of Christ*

*looks out upon the world, 
ours are the feet with which he
goes about doing good,
ours are the hands with which he
blesses his people."*

—St. Teresa of Avila

We thank God

- for the energy and growth we have gained during our summer break.

- for each other: for friends we know already and for new friendships

- for the teachers and all who will guide and teach us this year

We pray that we will always be mindful of each other; and thankful for the gifts and talents that God has given each one of us, which we will endeavour to enable each to develop to the best of our ability.

A reading from the gospel of St. Matthew

And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. A gale arose on the lake, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him up, saying, 'Lord, save us! We are perishing!' And he said to them, 'Why are you afraid, you of little faith?' Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a dead calm. They were amazed.



MATTHEW 8

JESUS CALMS THE STORM

Sr. Marjorie: We will get overwhelmed by tests, homework, and activities, and we will wonder how we will make it through.

All: Grant us quiet confidence and calm, bear our stress with us, help us to ask for help when it gets to be too much.

Sr. Marjorie: Our teachers, parents, and friends will annoy and frustrate us at times. They will be unfair, they will hurt us, and they just won't get what we're going through.

All: Give us peace and rest in the midst of the storms raging around us and inside us.

Sr. Marjorie: We will be measured, tested, and judged, and we will be asked to measure our worth in how well we perform, the grades we make, and the friends we have.

All: Comfort us in the knowledge that you have already judged us and found us to be good, made us worthy, and called us by name.

Sr. Marjorie: We will be tempted to despair and see ourselves as worthless and unlovable.

All: When we cannot find our way, remind us that, to you, O God, the darkness is not dark, the night is as light as day

Sr. Marjorie: We will see darkness. We will see it in injustice, hate, exploitation, mean-spiritedness, and bullying of our peers. We will be tempted to join in.

All: Give us courage to resist and empower us to be truly Christian in all our words and actions: loving others and standing up for the oppressed.

Sr. Marjorie: We will want popularity: we will want to fit in, even at the expense of others and we will wish to be people other than ourselves, the people you created us to be.

All: Remind us our identity, given in baptism, to be your sons and daughters.

Sr. Marjorie: We will want to hold grudges, gripe, and gossip when we are wounded.

All: Empower us by your grace to forgive as you have forgiven.

A Gathering of Hopes and Fears

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us

to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Source: Book of Common Prayer)

Cards with fears and frustrations are read aloud or held up in offering plate.

Then, the leader says:



Let us make our needs known to God in the quiet of our hearts (Pause)

We place these now before God as we pray together Our Father...

In the name of the Father...