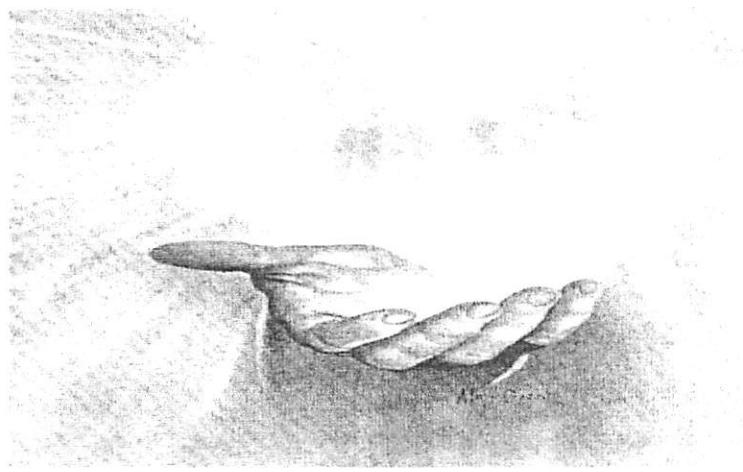


'Put your hand into the hand of God'

In the name of the Father...

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

Opening Prayer



and love as we learn from you and each other how to follow your Son, Jesus.

Lord God,

At the beginning of this new term teach us to

Loving God, at the beginning of this new school year we ask you to bless the students' teachers and staff of St. Patrick's High School, that together we may grow in faith, hope

All - be your hands and feet where we are,
At the beginning of this new term teach us to
All - love as you love us
At the beginning of this new term teach us to
All - pray for those in need
So that You are honored and glorified
Amen

Prayers to Begin a School Year - (H.O.Y.)



God of wisdom and might,
we praise you for the wonder of our
being,
for mind, body and spirit.
Be with our students as they begin
a new school year.
Bless them and all who work in our
school.

Give the strength and grace as their bodies grow;
wisdom and knowledge to their minds
as they search for understanding;
and peace and zeal to their hearts as they face another year of
learning.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer for Teachers - (Read by pupil)



Lord God, your spirit of wisdom fills the earth and teaches us in your ways. Look upon our teachers. Let them strive to share their knowledge with gentle patience and endeavor always to bring the truth to eager minds.

Grant that we may follow Jesus Christ, the way, the truth and the life, forever and ever.

Amen.

Scripture Reading - Mark 12:28-31

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.—Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'—The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' -There is no commandment greater than these."

FAITH in GOD

CHANGES EVERYTHING

We take a moment to think about someone or something that might be making us anxious about the year ahead.....Pause

We take a chance to think about someone or something that is helping to make this new school year an enjoyable experience.....Pause

We take time to reflect on what can we do to make this school year a positive experience for ourselves and others.....Pause

(You could invite the students to write one hope for the year on a piece of paper which they could place in the centre or in a basket with gentle music in the background.)

Reflection KS4/5

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.' And he replied 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way!' So I went forth and finding the hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

Intercessions

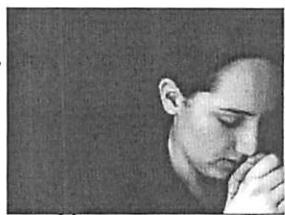
The response to our prayer is Let us know that you are with us every step of the way.

1. Lord, guide us on our way and protect us as we journey together through this school year.

Response: Let us know that you are with us every step of the way.

2. Lord, keep our families and friends in your loving embrace and help us to love one another.

Response: Let us know that you are with us every step of the way.

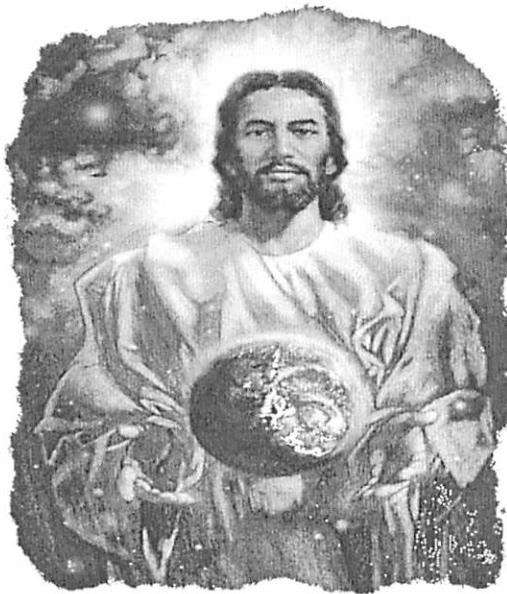


3. Lord, as we face challenges during the year, guide us with your light.

Response: Let us know that you are with us every step of the way.

4. We take a moment for you to think of your own prayer need in the quiet of your heart.

Response: Let us know that you are with us every step of the way.



Confident in the knowledge that Jesus hears and will answer our prayer we pray together the Our Father.

All: Our Father....



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_gKrbWFjNc year 8/9

Closing Prayer

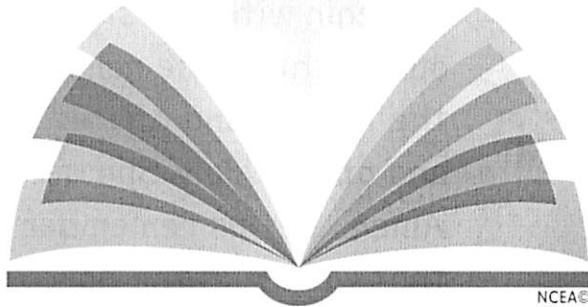
This can be prayed by the whole group or by the leader - just say
'Together we pray,...

Loving God, we entrust ourselves to you. Daily guide our minds and hearts to that we will work for the good of our school community and be a help to all people. Teach us to be generous in our outlook, courageous in face of difficulty, and wise in our decisions. We ask this, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

When you find your definitions in God,
you find the very purpose
for which you were created.
Put your hand into God's hand,
know His absolutes,
demonstrate His love, present His truth,
and the message of redemption
and transformation will take hold.

-Ravi Zacharias

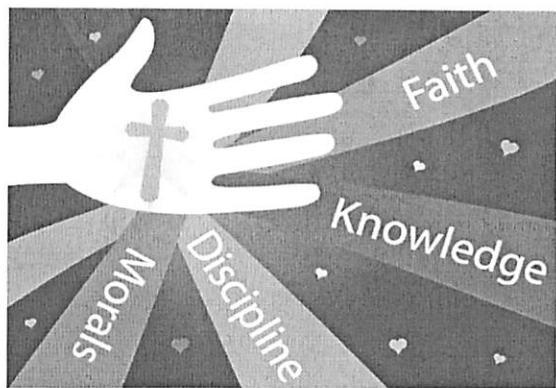




Catholic Schools

Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



DIVIDENDS FOR LIFE

Welcome

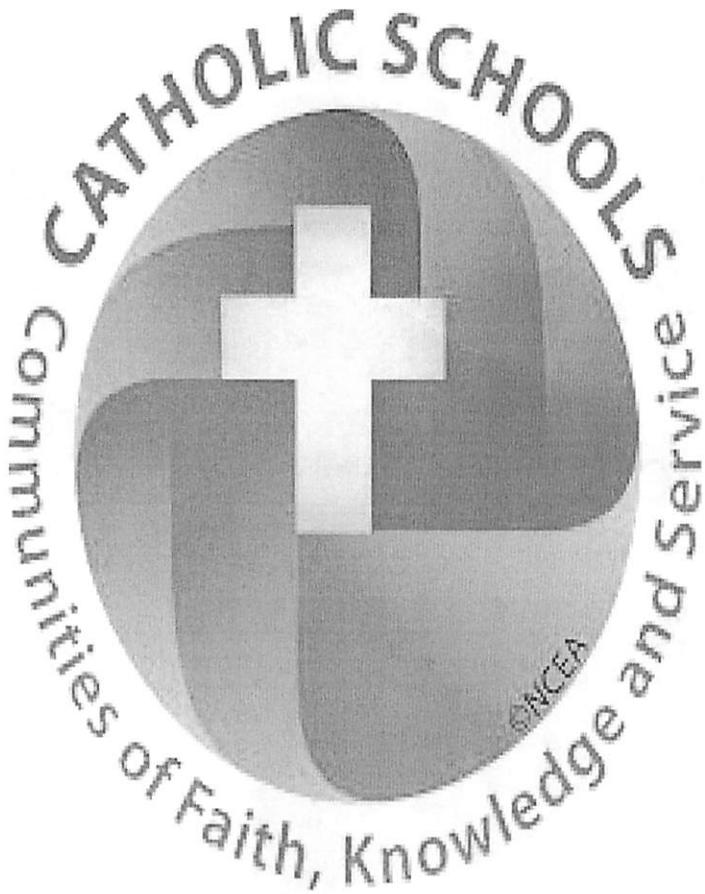
Prayer Service to Begin a New School Year

INTRODUCTION Good morning. Welcome to our prayer part of your assembly to begin this new school year.

Today we begin another year of learning and growing in the light of the Catholic faith. We are starting a new part of our journey with friends we know and friends we will meet.

Let us take a few minutes to listen to God's holy word in the Bible, and to offer Him our prayers for this new school year.

OPENING SONG/Reflection



to you in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER And let us begin with the sign of our faith: In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God. And let us pray. God our merciful Father, we turn to you at the start of this new school year. Open our ears to hear your voice; open our hearts to grow in love as we listen to your word. We make this prayer

And now, let us listen to God's word.

READING A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (Lk 9, 46-48)

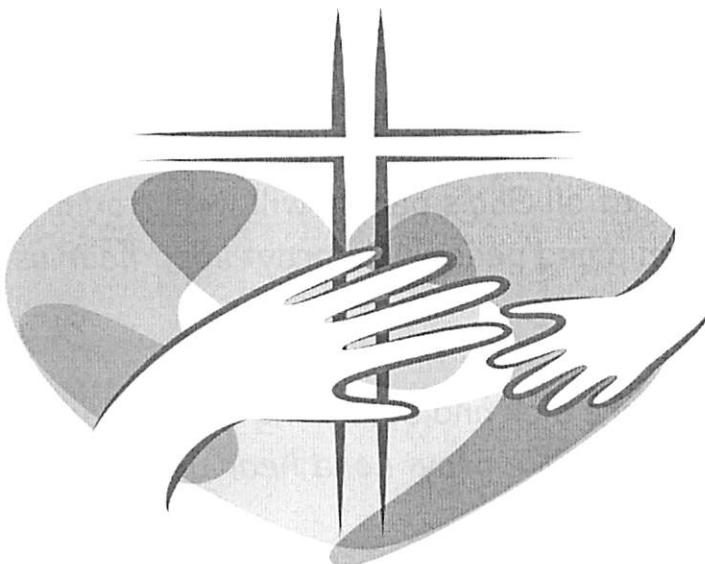
An argument arose among the disciples of Jesus about which one of the was the greatest. But Jesus knew what they were thinking, and he took a little child and put it by his side, and he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes this child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



them to belong, we are welcoming Jesus and telling him that he belongs in our school. We belong to Jesus, and want to learn and grow as his disciples. This is what being in a Catholic school is all about.



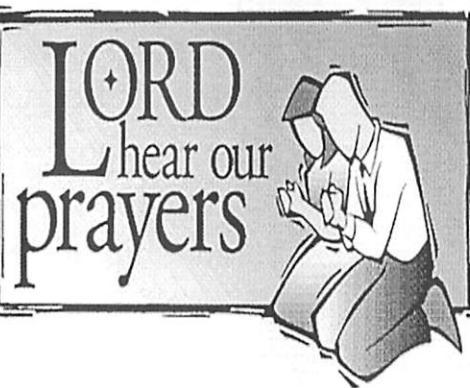
FAITH-SERVICE-OUTREACH
Sharing Christ's Love, One Heart at a Time

our baptismal commitment showing we are followers of Jesus.

REFLECTION The story we just heard is about welcoming Jesus in everyone. Jesus is telling us that when we welcome another person, we are welcoming him and his Father. Think of all the times we can welcome Jesus this year. Each time we show someone friendship and help

Every time we share a kind word, every time we help someone, every time we invite someone to join in with us, we are welcoming Jesus into our hearts and into our school.

Let us think about these things this year. Let us welcome one another with kindness every day. This is how we live out



PRAYER INTENTIONS The response

to our prayers is, "Lord, graciously hear us.

Let us pray for the Church - that all the followers of Jesus will welcome one another with friendship and kindness, and show the world this is what it means to be a Christian. We pray: *Lord, hear us.*

Response:

Let us pray for the world - that all God's people will work to fill our world with kindness, friendship and peace. We pray: *Lord hear us.*

Response:

Let us pray for all those who are sick and suffering - that God will send them the healing they need. We pray: *Lord hear us.*

Response:

Let us pray for our teachers, Teaching Assistants, support staff, principal and vice principals - that God will fill them with His



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Let us pray for our parents and caregivers, our grandparents, our brothers and sisters, other family members and friends - that God will open their hearts to welcome his love and to share it with everyone. We pray: *Lord hear us.*

Response:

Remember,
you may be
the only Bible
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Let us pray for all the people we hold in our hearts, and all the cares we carry inside of us. Let us bring them before God, who never grows tired of welcoming His people and listening to their needs. We pray: *Lord hear us.*

Response:

Let us take a moment of quiet to speak our own prayer in the quiet of our hearts to God Pause - (1.....10!) *Lord hear us.*

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And let us gather up all our prayers - those we have spoken, and those still in our hearts. And let us bring them before God our Father using the prayer that Jesus taught us: *Our Father...*

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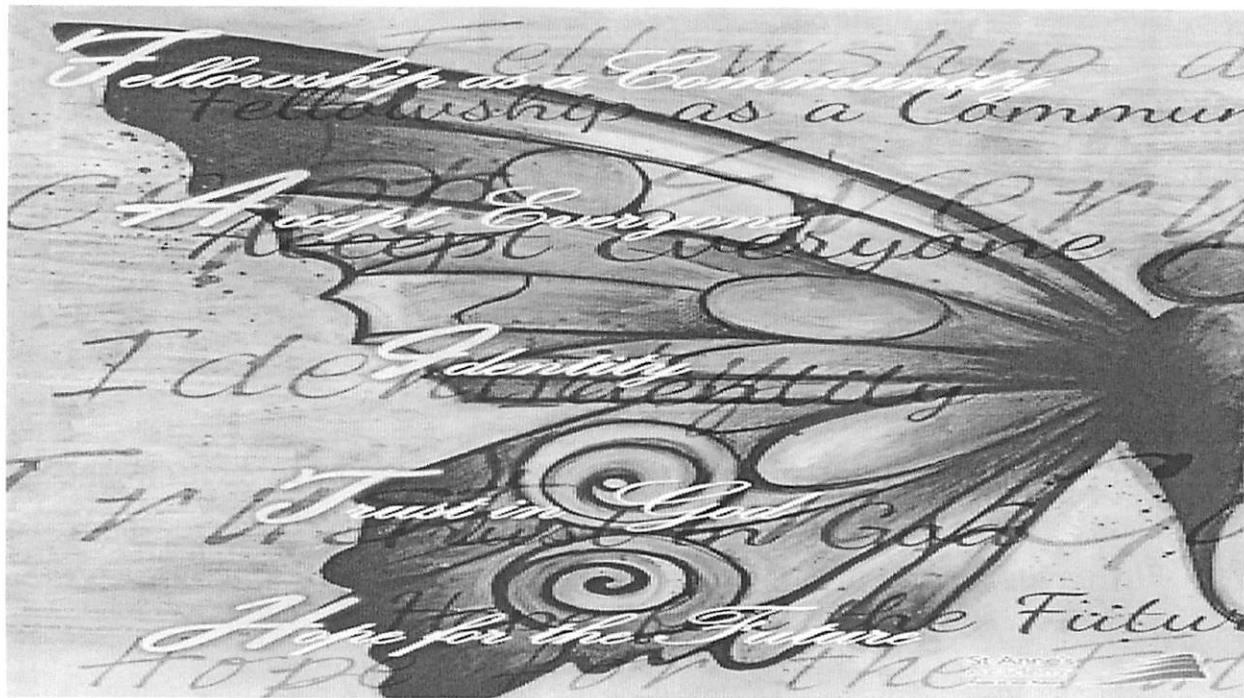
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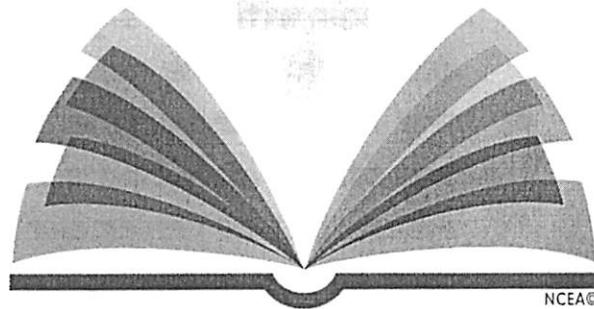
CLOSING PRAYER God our merciful Father, we praise you and we thank you for all you give us. Help us to be the welcoming people you call us to be. Help us to begin this new school year with hearts that welcome Jesus in everyone we meet. We make this prayer to you in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen. And may Almighty

God bless us: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

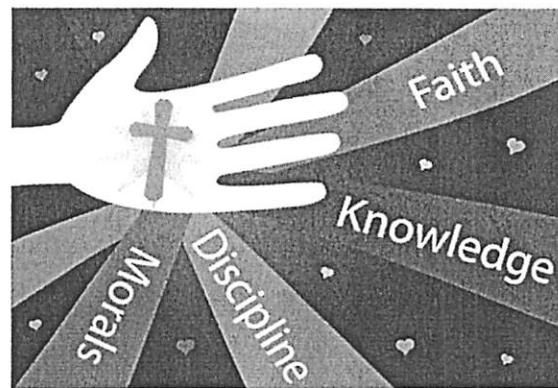


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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



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DIVIDENDS FOR LIFE

Welcome

Prayer Service to Begin a New School Year

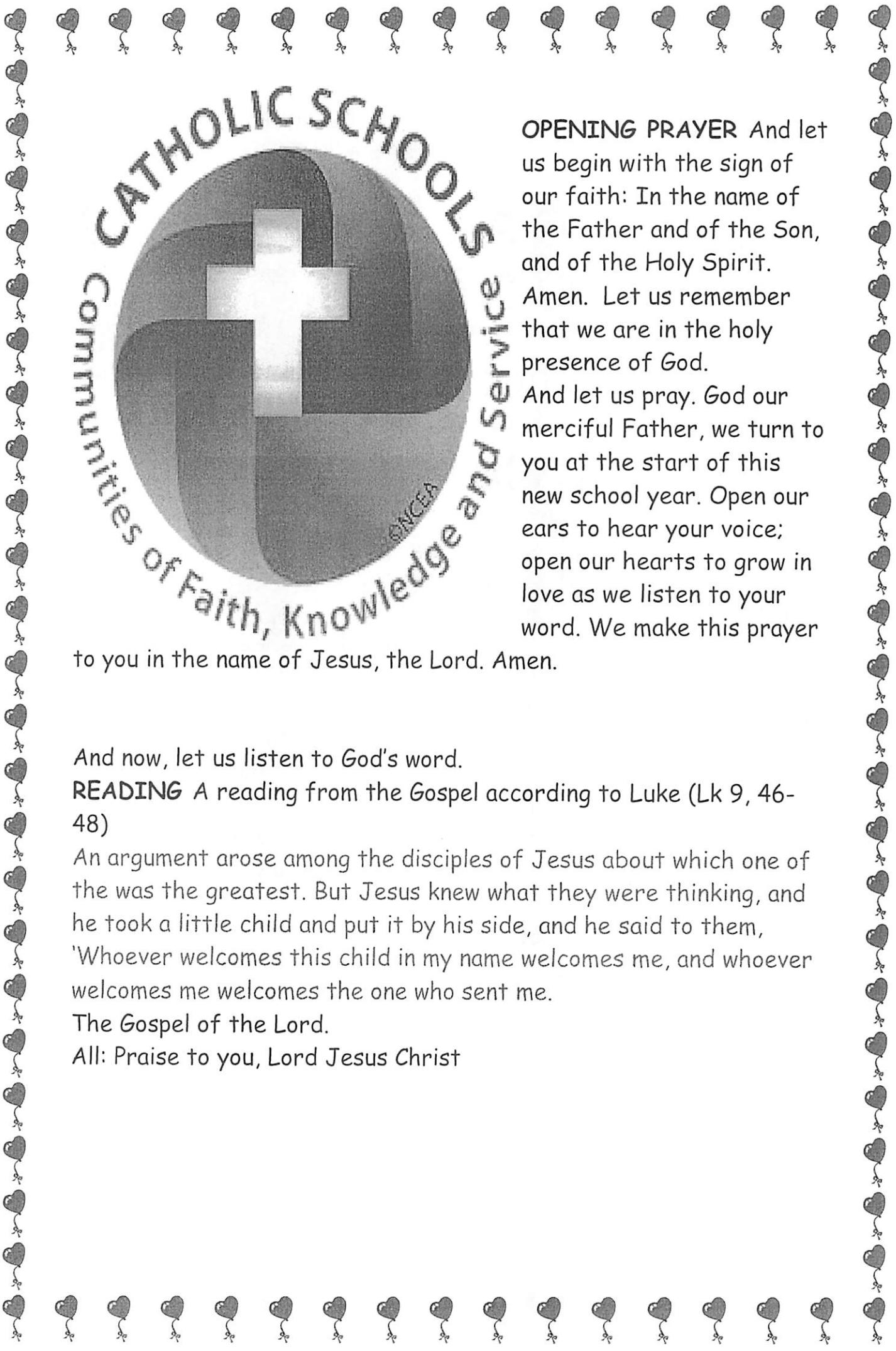
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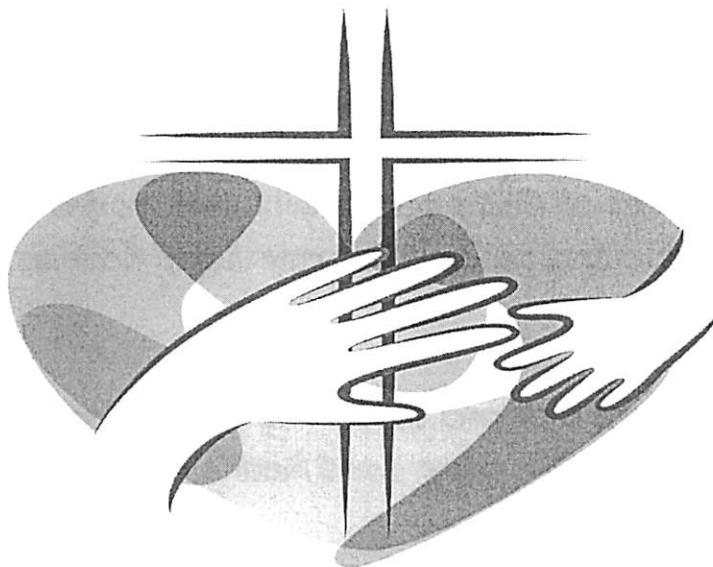
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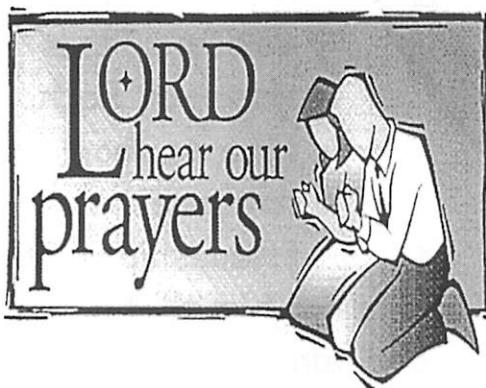
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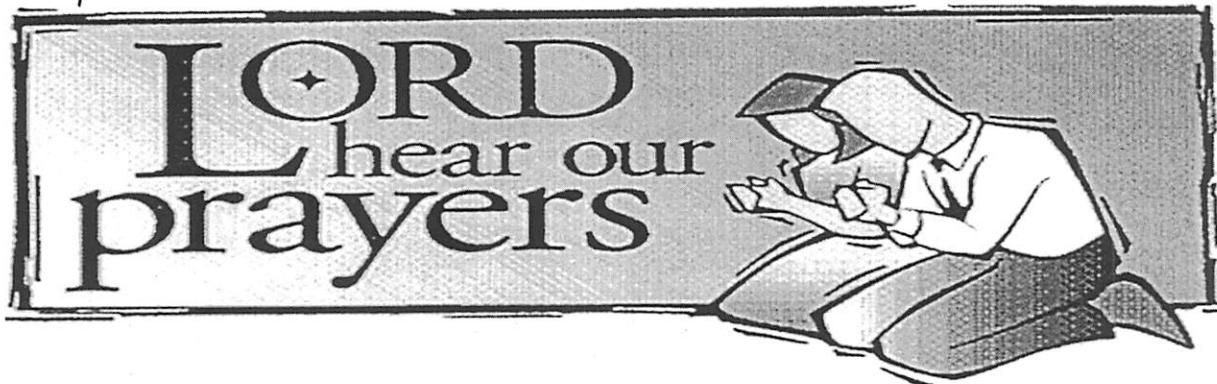


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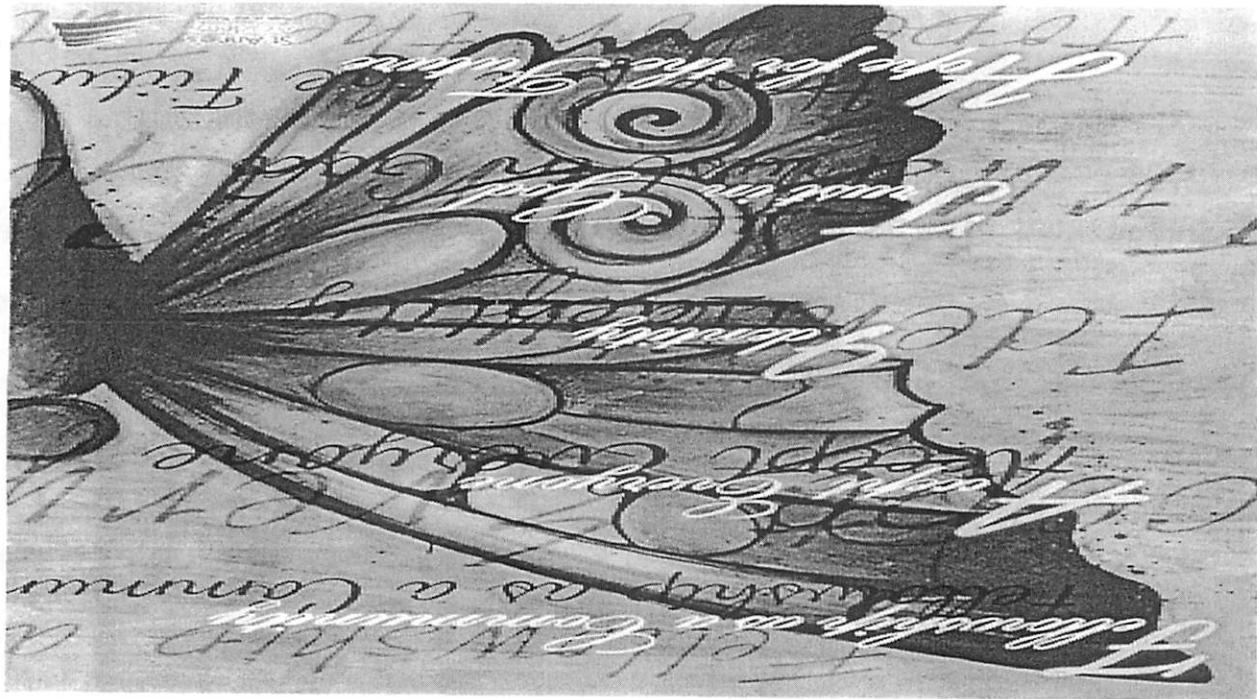


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LOVE Joy
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PEACE
HOPE
KINDNESS
PRAYER
SALVATION
GRACE FRIENDSHIP
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