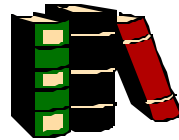
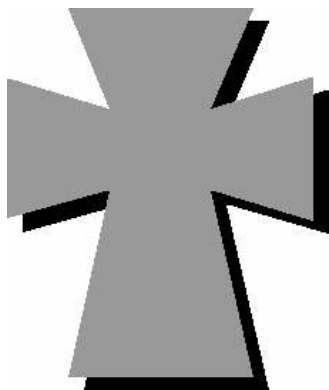


Concluding Prayer

Christ be with us,
Christ within us,
Christ behind us,
Christ before us,
In the path we take,
Christ walk with us,
On the road we tread,
Christ go before us,
Be a lamp for our steps
and a beacon for our eyes,
That we may know
through change and growth
The presence of the One
who has said,
I am with you always.

All :Amen.

-St. Patrick (attributed)



Blessing

Let us bow our heads and ask for God's blessing.

God of Love,
bless our time together.

United in our mission,
we will work in Your service,
Transcending envy and resentment,
Calling forth the giftedness
of one another,
Listening to one another.

Grace us, we pray, with
A new sense of mystery,
A new experience of Your presence,
A new commitment to Your Gospel,
A new dedication to Your reign.

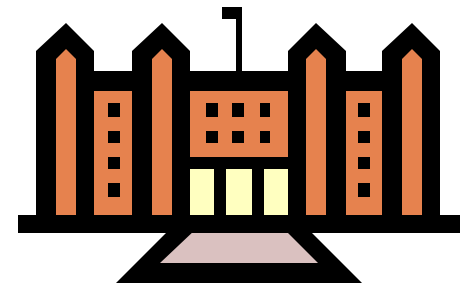
May Your Spirit be our inspiration
And may our work contribute to the
coming of Your reign
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

—Donal Harrington and Julie Kavanagh
Prayers for Parish Groups, p. 175 (adapted)

Compiled by Les Miller and Melinda Rapallo
York Catholic District School Board

**May Our
School
Be A
Household
of God**



**“If you have knowledge,
let others light their candle in
it.”**

Thomas Fuller



**May Our School Be
A Household of
God...**

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.
You who are our very being,
Our peace and our joy;
You who are our hope, our wealth and
our strength;
We bow before You at this new moment
in Your time.
You are our home, our place of rest,
our heaven, our salvation.
You are the source of all the work of
our hands,
Of all the gifts of what has been,
Of all the opportunities of what will be.
Keep us, Lord, in Your grace.

All: Amen.

Donal Harrington and Julie Kavanagh
Prayers for Parish Groups, p. 152



Scripture- Ephesians 2: 19-22

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.
So then you are no longer strangers and aliens,
but you are citizens with the saints
and also members of the household of God,
built upon the foundation of the apostles or prophets,
with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone.
In him the whole structure is joined together
and grows into a holy temple in the Lord;
in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling
place for God. *The Word of the Lord.*
All: Thanks be to God.

Communal Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together,

*All: Loving God,
Make the doors of this school be wide
enough to receive all who need human love
and fellowship;
Narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride
and strife.
Make it a threshold smooth enough to be
no stumbling block for learners,
Nor to straying feet,
But rugged and strong enough to turn back
the tempter's power.
God, make the door of this school the way
to Your eternal reign.
Amen.*

(Based on an inscription on St. Stephen's Church,
Fallbrook, London)



Give Us Courage

Reader 1: Give us, Lord, the courage to enter
into this moment in time,
Into this gathering of disciples,
Into this time of grace.

All: Lord, give us courage to enter in.

Reader 2: Give us Lord, the courage to enter
into the possibilities that lie before us,
Like shells on the seashore,
Waiting to be discovered.

All: Lord, give us courage to enter in.

Reader 3: Give us, Lord, the courage to enter
into the tasks and challenges before us,
In a spirit of exploration and generosity,
In the Spirit of Your Son.

All: Lord, give us courage to enter in.

Reader 4: Give us, Lord, the courage to enter
into the ideas and suggestions voiced today
And keep them in our hearts,
Examining them in the light of Your
Wisdom.

All: Lord, give us courage to enter in.

Reader 5: Give us, Lord, the courage to enter
into Your presence,
To be carried along by Your power,
Reaching out to save us.

All: Lord, give us courage to enter in.

Donal Harrington and Julie Kavanagh
Prayers for Parish Groups, p. 153

