

Leader: In the presence of a God whose word has called the stars into being,

All: We stand in awe.

Leader: In the presence of a God whose arms have held children, whose eyes have sparkled with laughter,

All: We stand in trust.

Leader: In the presence of a God whose breath has stirred within us and caused our hearts to stir with love,

All: We stand in need.

Leader: Before you, Giver of Life, we come in faith, in search of love and truth and wholeness.

All: Be with us, hear us, we pray.

-Pat Kozak and Janet Schaffran
*More Than Words:
Prayer and Ritual for Inclusive Communities*



Wisdom Blessing

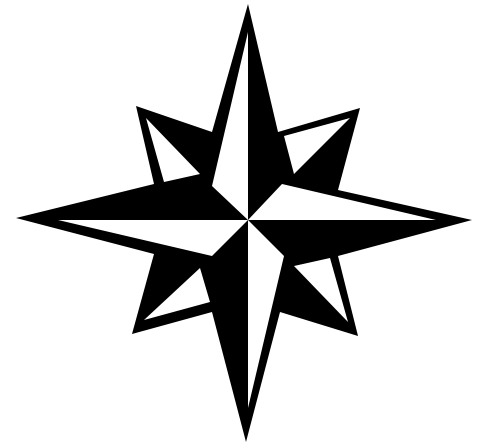
May Wisdom be in our minds,
and in our thinking;
May Wisdom be in our hearts,
and in our perceiving;
May Wisdom be in our mouths,
and in our speaking;
May Wisdom be in our hands,
and in our working;
May Wisdom be in our feet,
and in our walking;
May Wisdom be in our bodies,
and in our loving;
May Wisdom be with us
all the days of our lives

Diann L. Neu

Conclusion: Sign of Peace

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Compiled by Les Miller and Melinda Rapallo
York CDSB



Leadership In Catholic Education

Call to Worship

Leader: Lord of this world
We work
We watch
We wait for you.

All: *Come down
Come in
Come among us.*

Leader: Lord of this life
We labour
We look
We long for you.

All: *Come down
Come in
Come among us.*

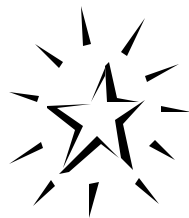
Leader: Lord of this second
We strive
We serve
We search for you.

All: *Come down
Come in
Come among us.*

Leader: That we may dwell in you
And you in us
For ever

Introduction

We are all leaders. Whether it be at work, at home or in our friendship circles or clubs, we are all called to lead at some time. We all have our styles of leadership. Jesus pointed out that even those who are not the take charge sorts are also leaders by their example. The call to leadership can be disconcerting. Let us first reflect on this call by looking at some of our heroes from Scripture.



Reader 1:

God called from the burning bush, "Moses, I need you to lead my people, to liberate them, to bring them to the promised land."

Reader 2:

Moses replied, "But God, I am slow of speech, People laugh at my speech impediment, Surely someone else?"

Reader 1:

God said, "Moses, I choose you to be a leader ... no matter what disability you have, my love is strong enough to work through you. Go now and lead."

Reader 3:

God said, "Isaiah, I need you To speak for me, To remind my people that they are my beloved."

Reader 4:

Isaiah replied, "But I am not good enough, I speak bad words and bad ideas. Surely someone else?"

Reader 3:

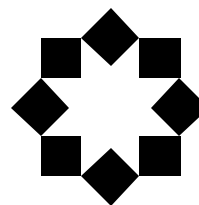
God said, "I will purify your heart, I will give you the words if you give me your ear. Go now and lead."

Reader 5:

God said, "Jeremiah, I need you, I need you to lead my people. I need you to remind them of the way to love and justice in this time of darkness."

Reader 6:

Jeremiah replied, "But God, I am too young I am still a teen from the countryside The elders in the city will laugh at me. Surely somebody else?"



Reader 5:

God said, "Jeremiah, what you see as weakness, I see as strength. You will have authority The authority that comes from doing what is right and good. When your words resonate with mine, you shall be heard. Go now and lead."

-Les Miller

Leadership In Catholic Education

Reader 1 O Lord, our God, our light, and our strength,
Hear our prayer for those called to leadership
In our Catholic educational community.
Enliven us, O Lord with your spirit,
Strengthen us with enabling power,
Enlighten our minds and hearts
with the brightness of your light,
With knowledge, wisdom and understanding.

Reader 2: Give us eyes to discern
the sign of the times
Ears to hear all the voices, even the discordant,
Hearts to listen to the needs, hopes and dreams
Of all entrusted to our guidance.

Reader 3: Strengthen our hands for the selfless
task of building up your kingdom;
Guide our feet in the way of justice, peace and
truth.

Reader 4: May we lead with vision,
courage and strength of purpose
But also with gentleness, sensitivity,
compassion and love.
May we know, speak and act upon the truth,
The truth that sets us free.

