

**St. Joseph's Catholic Primary  
School**



**A Parental Guide to Prayer and  
Collective Worship**

## Mission Statement

*We belong to the family of St. Joseph's school. We love, live, learn and Celebrate together: Building God's kingdom with Jesus Christ our Lord*

The children and adults in school pray together several times per day. This will be through morning, lunchtime and evening prayers as well as those when we gather for collective worship. Time is also given for private prayer and reflection.

### Types of prayers

- At the start and the end of the day
- Lunchtime prayers
- Quiet reflection and meditation
- Through songs/music
- Through dance
- Written/use of colour
- Traditional prayers
- Private intentions
- Using one of our prayer stations
- The Rosary

Each classroom and the hall has a focus table which is prepared to reflect the liturgical season of the year. (Green clothes for ordinary time; purple cloths for Advent and Lent; white/gold cloths for feast days. We also use blue for the feasts of Mary and in May/October. The items placed on the focus table help the children to think about the theme of their prayer and liturgy: scripture, candles, stones, flowers, prayer intentions such as for the sick, those who have died etc.

## How to pray the Rosary



### **Guardian Angel Prayer**

**Angel of God, my Guardian  
dear, to whom God's love  
commits me here, ever this  
day (or night) be at my side,  
to light and guard, to rule  
and guide.**

**Amen.**

### **Glory Be**

**Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.**

**Amen.**

### **Prayer Before Lunch**

**Bless us oh Lord as we sit  
together,  
Bless the food we eat today,  
Bless the hand that made the  
food, Bless us oh Lord.**

**Amen**

### **Grace after meals**

**Thank Lord for the food we  
have  
eaten ,  
Thank you Lord for all our  
friends,  
Thank you Lord.**

**Amen**

### **Sorry Prayer**

**Oh my God I am very sorry that I have  
sinned against you and with the help of your  
grace I will not sin again.**

**Amen**

### **Prayer Stations**

Throughout the school there are a number of Prayer Stations. These allow a time for prayer and reflection to all those who visit and use our school. They may take the form of reflection, the opportunity to colour/write a prayer or simply to appreciate the wonder God created.

Examples of our current prayer stations are:

- Prayer Trees in the Hall which allow the opportunity to write a prayer or reflection.
- Writing of a petal for our bouquet of "Hail Mary" during May.
- Looking the in box to see the beauty God created.

### **Collective Worship**

This takes place each day in differing forms. It varies from whole school, Pastoral Group, Key Stage and individual class. It is different to prayer. The children are supported as they plan and lead collective worship.

Collective Worship has four distinct parts

- Gather—use of music; though is given to how those gathered will sit.
- Word—listening to scripture and the Word of God.
- Action/response—a reflection on the reading and how it can apply to us. This can, for example, be through song, silence, mediation, prayer.
- Sending Forth/Mission— what each person can do/try to do based on the Word. Such as showing kindness, being a good friend, having patience and tolerance.

### **How you can take part**

Parents, carers, family and friends of our children are welcome to join us in the prayer life of the school. There are many way that you can take part.

- Supporting your child to learn the prayers that are used in school.
- Using our prayer stations.
- Each class also reflects on special intentions and your child can add that to their own class list.
- Join us for our collective worship on a Thursday afternoon which is led by a class
- Attend our special liturgies that reflect the time of year such as Harvest, Advent, Lent

## **Our School Prayers**

**God of Life,**

**Help us to see how important and special everyone in our school family is— no matter who they are, or what they look like or where they are from.**

**Teach us to treat everyone in our global family with love and respect and help us to see something special in each person every day.**

**Amen**

**Prayer written by our Head students**

**School Prayer**

**Lord bless our school that in working together and playing together, we may learn to serve You and serve one another.**

**Amen**

**Our Father,**

**Who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be Thy name;**

**Thy kingdom come;**

**Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses**

**as we forgive those who**

**trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**Amen.**

**Hail Mary**

**Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee.**

**Blessed art thou amongst**

**women,**

**and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.**

**Holy Mary, Mother of God,**

**pray for us sinners,**

**now and at the hour of our death.**

**Amen.**