

End of year Prayer Service for the Junior Classes



Preparation for the Prayer Service

- 1 Sacred Space - Children's work and photographs from the year on display.
- 2 A table with a cloth that the children can carry things to.
- 3 A candle to represent each junior class (*have tapers to light the candles*)
- 4 Arrange the chairs for children and the parents who are in attendance.

Opening procession:

A parent to carry a large candle (lit) to the Sacred Space

A teacher to carry the Bible to the sacred Space

A child carries an unlit candle to represent their class and places them in the Sacred Space.
(*These are lit by a teacher*)

Opening Hymn: This Little Light of Mine

Leader: Let us begin our prayer by making the Sign of the Cross.

All: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen

Leader:

God our Father we gather here today to thank you for these boys and girls, and for all the work they did in school during the year. We want to thank you all the good and happy times they have experienced. We thank you for the friends they have made, and the teachers who have helped them to learn so much. Today, we gather to thank God for all who love them, care for them. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader:

Let us be quiet for a short time to think about the people who love us and help us (*pause*)

We think about all the happy times we have had together (*pause*)

We think about all the friends, games and toys that we need to say thank you for (*pause*)

The response to our prayer is: **We thank you God**

Leader

For the gift of Jesus, our special friend,
For the gift of health and happiness,
For the gift of happiness,
For our parents & grandparents who love us,
For the gift of friends,
For our teachers,
For fun and games,
For our pets,

All

We thank you God
We thank you, God
We thank you God

For delicious food to eat,
For songs and stories,
For all the fun times we had,
For all we learned in school,

We thank you God
We thank you God
We thank you God
We thank you God

Leader:

God our Father, you are present with us now, as we celebrate our time together in this school.

Leader

God our Father, you are present with us now, as we celebrate our time together in this school.

We thank you for the things we have learned, for the way we have grown and for all the friends we have made. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ your son and our best friend.

All: Amen

We listen now to a special reading which tells us how much Jesus wants to be our friend. (Jn. 15:15-17)

St John is telling us in this reading that Jesus wants us to be his friends.

One day Jesus said:

"I don't want you just to work for me and do as you're told.

I want you to be my special friends and be happy with me.

But remember, you did not choose me, I chose you to be my friends and I want you to be friends with each other."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

(Leader- A few simple words about how God has given us Jesus as our best friend and how Jesus wants us to be friends with each other-the most important thing the children would have learned this year is to show God's love to everybody and this is what we are celebrating-some of the children could be invited to say how they have done this in school this year)

Prayer of the Faithful

Person 1

God our Father, you know and love each one of us. You have called each person by a special name. We ask your blessing on the children gather here today.

Lord hear us

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Person 2

God Our Father, we give you thanks for the gift of these children. You have made each one of them in your own image and likeness. They are very precious in your eyes and you love them. Bless them as they come to the end of this school year.

Lord hear us

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Person 3

God, Our Father, we ask you to bless the parents and teachers of these children. Through their care and guidance may the children know how much you love them.

Lord hear us

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Person 4

God our Father, bless all sick children in hospital. Bless those who care for them, especially their doctors and nurses.

Lord hear us

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader: We pray with confidence to our loving Father. ***Our Father...***

Prayer

Thank you God for the gift of these children
Bless each one of them today and always.
Keep them safe over the summer holidays.
May they enjoy lots of fun this summer.

All: Amen

Leader:

Go in peace to love like Jesus.

All:

We will love like Jesus.

Hymn: He's got the Whole World in His Hands