

6th Class Graduation Prayer Service

Welcome and Opening Hymn

Procession with Symbols



We have been part of this school community for the past 8 years. We came with our many undiscovered God-given gifts and talents. Our teachers and parents have helped us to discover and to celebrate the gifts we have received from the Holy Spirit. The following symbols represent some of the many gifts and talents we have discovered and nurtured within ourselves during that time and have learned to use well for our own good and for the good of others.

The Class Photo represents the gift of friendship.

The Family Picture ...our homes are our first place of learning.

School Books...representing the learning which has occurred for each of us.

A Football/Hurley and Basketball representing the gift of sport and good team play.

Our Religion Book and Crucifix (or picture of the patron saint of the school) representing the gift of faith shared in this Catholic school .

Flowers representing the way by which this school community cares for the local environment in which we live and how we have learned to appreciate its beauty.

A Pair of Shoes to show that we are taking a new step on our journey of life.

Opening Prayer

Lord, we come before you as members of our school community, a vital part of our parish community, to celebrate the end of a part of our life's journey for those who are graduating from sixth class. All our gifts come from God and we now celebrate our use of those gifts discovered through education. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Reading from the Prophet, Jeremiah

The Lord has this to say to you today: I have loved you with an everlasting love and I am constant in my affection for you. I will build you up and I will protect you in good times and in bad. So, be happy and go forth in the dancing of the merrymakers. I have plans in my heart for you; plans for peace, not disaster, plans to give you a future and a reason for hope. And remember, when you call upon me, and come and pray to me, I will hear you. You will seek me and find me: when you seek me with all your heart, I will be found by you.

The Word of the Lord: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Choose one of your own



A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians



Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the ones, who began this good work in you, will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your understanding, so that you can always recognise what is best.

The Word of the Lord:

All: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia: Choose your own

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John: Response: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: St. John 15:9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Now, remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love no man has than this, that he lays down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I call you friends, for everything I have learned from my Father, I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last. Then, the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. This is my command: Love each other.

The Gospel of the Lord: Response: Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ.



Intercessions:

1. Let us pray for our parents and guardians, that they may believe in their own gifts and talents. Lord hear us. **R. Lord, graciously hear us.**
2. Let us pray for our teachers, that they may always follow Jesus' example as teacher. Lord hear us. **R. Lord, graciously hear us.**
3. Let us pray for all our loved ones who are sick, that the healing hand of Jesus may touch them. Lord hear us. **R. Lord, graciously hear us.**
4. Let us pray to Mary, our Mother in heaven, that she may ask her son, Jesus, to bring peace to all the troubled parts of the world, especially in the land where Jesus was born and raised. Lord hear us. **R. Lord, graciously hear us.**
5. Let us pray for all our loved ones who have died, that, with the angels, they may share in the light of heaven. **Lord hear us. R. Lord, graciously hear us.**
6. Let us pray quietly for our own intentions and for those who have no one to pray for them.

Lord hear us. **R. Lord, graciously hear us.**



We bring all the prayers of the world before God as we say together *Our Father, who art in heaven*.....

Blessing of our young students as they leave Primary School (invite all the students to stand)

We give thanks to God for the gift that you have been to our school community.

May you treasure your gifts and talents and use them well for your own good and the good of all whom you meet.

May you know God's great love for you and always believe and trust that He has a great plan for you.

May you always treasure the gift of faith and continue to grow in friendship with Jesus.

May God bless you as you set out on the next part of your journey in life.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing of Parents and Guardians (invite all to stand)

We give thanks to God for the gifts which you have shared with your children and the school community.

May you faithfully live your vocation to guide your children through life.

May you know that God is always present with you in your task of parenting.

May you be given strength and courage as you help your children to open up their boundless, God-given gifts and talents. May God bless you in all that you do.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen

Presentation of Graduation Certificates (Optional)

We now invite our young people to come forward and to receive their Graduation Certificates, which marks the end of their Primary Education.



Statement of Young People (Stand holding their certificates)

I accept this Graduation Certificate as a sign that my Primary Education is now complete. I will leave (School Name) with confidence in myself and believe that I have many God-given dreams yet to fulfil. I promise you, my parents/guardians, my teachers and the parish community of _____ that I will always do my best as I try to live by the values which I have learned at home and at school. I make this promise to you all, in the presence of God.

Closing Prayer

May God the Father protect us, Jesus continue to teach us and the Holy Spirit guide us lovingly to live well the life God has given us. We ask this through Christ our lord. Amen