

Richard Challoner School

Tutor Group Prayers

Autumn A 2017



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www.richardchalloner.com/spirituality

Venerable Bishop Richard Challoner

During his lifetime and after his death, he was considered not only as a model of every virtue but as a saint. Indeed he was rewarded with the title of “venerable”. We are asked to pray that our Blessed Lord, through the Pope, may reward him further, by raising him to the altars of the Church as a Saint.

Prayer for the Beatification of Bishop Richard Challoner

O God who made your servant Richard,
a true and faithful pastor of your little flock in England,
raise him, we beseech you, to the altars of thy Church,
that we, who have been taught by his word and example
may invoke his name in heaven,
for the return of our country to belief in the Gospel,
and to the unity of all Christians in the one Church of Jesus Christ.
We ask this through the same Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Bishop Richard Challoner
Pray for us

Guidance for use of the Tutor Group Prayer Booklet

Each morning an act of worship should be made. This can be led by yourself or a pupil and can be made up of prayers from this booklet, www.richardchalloner.com/spirituality, or both.

The following pages contain a selection of prayers suitable for collective worship within the Tutor group during morning registration. The prayers have been organised into different weekly themes:

- Week One: Saying "Thank You" to God
- Week Two: New School Year
- Week Three: Venerable Richard Challoner
- Week Four: Our School Community Work
- Week Five: Our Work
- Week Six: Our Prayer Life
- Week Seven: Forgiveness & Reconciliation

Each morning an act of worship should try and include:

1) Invitation - *to mark the entry into prayer, like standing up and making the Sign of the Cross*

2) Clear Theme & Message

3) Balance of speech & silence - *try to vary the delivery of your theme to ensure that it appeals to as many as possible.*

4) Time for Quiet Reflection - *give time for them to take in and reflect on the theme*

5) Prayer – this should be both led and collective - *there should be a prayer which links in the theme, and an act of communal prayer from the diary.*

6) Clear links with Catholic Ethos – *if you are not using one of the themes above then ensure it is in line with the School's Catholic Ethos or the Liturgical Calendar.*

Augustine House - St Augustine of Canterbury



Feast Day: 27th May

Prayer to St Augustine of Canterbury:

God our Father, by the preaching of Saint Augustine of Canterbury, you led the people of England to the Gospel. May the fruits of his work continue in your Church. Grant that through his intercession, may the hearts of those who go astray return to the unity of your truth and that we may be of one mind in doing your will. Amen.

Becket House - St Thomas Becket



Feast Day: 29th December

Prayer to St Thomas Becket:

Almighty God, You granted the martyr Thomas the grace to give his life for the cause of justice. By his prayers make us willing to renounce for Christ our life in this world so that we may find it in heaven.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Columba House - St Columba of Iona



Feast Day: 9th June

Prayer to St Columba of Iona:

Let me bless almighty God, whose power extends over sea and land, whose angels watch over all.

Let me study sacred books to calm my soul:
I pray for peace, kneeling at heaven's gates.

Let me do my daily work, gathering seaweed, catching fish, giving food to the poor.

Let me say my daily prayers, sometimes chanting, sometimes quiet, always thanking God.

Delightful it is to live, on a peaceful isle, serving the King of kings. Amen.

Dunstan House – St Dunstan of Canterbury



Feast Day: 19th May

Prayer to St Dunstan of Canterbury:

O God of truth and beauty

You gave your Bishop Dunstan the skills of music and metal working, and with gifts of administration and reforming zeal.

Teach us to see you as the source of all our gifts and talents, and help us to offer them for praise of worship and the spread of the Gospel message.

We ask this through your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, for now and for ever. Amen.

Fisher House - St John Fisher



Feast Day: 22nd June

Prayer to St John Fisher:

Good Lord, set in thy Church strong and mighty pillars that may suffer and endure great labours, which also shall not fear persecution, neither death, but always suffer with a good will, slanders, shame and all kinds of torments, for the glory and praise of thy holy Name.

By this manner, good Lord, the truth of thy Gospel shall be preached throughout the world.

Therefore, merciful Lord, exercise thy mercy, show it indeed upon thy Church. Amen.

More House - St Thomas More



Feast Day: 22nd June

Prayer to St Thomas More:

O Lord, give us a mind that is humble, quiet, peaceable, patient and charitable, and a taste of your Holy Spirit in all our thoughts, words, and deeds.

O Lord, give us a lively faith, a firm hope, a fervent charity, a love of you. Take from us all luke warmness in meditation and all dullness in prayer. Give us fervour and delight in thinking of you, your grace, and your tender compassion toward us. Give us, good Lord, the grace to work for the things we pray for.

Amen.

Week One: Saying "Thank You" to God

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord, gladness; stand before him with joyful songs.
Know that the Lord is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his; We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;
Give thanks to him and praise his name.
For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
His faithfulness continues through all generations.

(Adapted from Psalm 100)

Jesus,
Thank you for the great life that you lived,
For teaching, your power and your forgiveness.
Most of all, thank you for dying for me,
For taking my punishment so that I could be forgiven.
Please forgive me for my sins. Give me a clean slate in life.
Thank you also for rising to life.
I realise that you are the true king and leader.
So, please lead my life from this point on.
Teach me how to be loyal to you for as long as I live.

Amen (John Dickson)

O Lord, my God,
I cried in my trouble and you heard me;
I put my trust in you and have not been confounded.
You have turned my heaviness into joy and guided me with gladness.
Therefore I praise you with all my heart and give thanks to your holy name forever.
Hear me and accept me, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen (Laurence R. Tuttiett)

We thank you Lord for all the good things that are in our world and in our lives through your love.
Save us from being ungrateful. Save us from magnifying our sorrows and forgetting our blessings.

Amen (A. Herbert Gray)

Lord, thank you!
I just felt that I had to say it. So many times I have come to you
shouting, screaming and yelling. telling you that you are wrong. Arguing with you!
Only bothered about myself and how I am feeling.
Well this time I just wanted to say "thanks".
I have so much to say thank you for:
Family, Friends, Music,
Life, Love, Food,
Happiness, Adventure, Excitement,
Sport, Clothes ...
Lord I could just keep on going!
But there is just one more thing to add.
Thank you Lord, for loving me.

Amen (David Gatward)

Week Two: New School Year

God of wisdom and might,
we praise you for the wonder of our being, for mind, body and spirit.
Be with our children as they begin a new school year.
Bless them and their teachers and staff.
Give the strength and grace as their bodies grow;
wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search for understanding;
and peace and zeal to their hearts.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen (Author Unknown)

Lord God, your spirit of wisdom fills the earth and teaches us in your ways.
Look upon these teachers.
Let them strive to share their knowledge with gentle patience
and endeavor always to bring the truth to eager minds.
Grant that we may follow Jesus Christ, the way, the truth and the life,
forever and ever.

Amen (Author Unknown)

Father,
We thank you for the opportunity to begin this new school year,
and we ask that you bless the students, staff, and student families
that make our school a great place.
We pray that you will guide us in all ways,
so that we will seek your will in everything that we do.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

**Although no
one can go back
and make a
brand new start,
anyone can
start from now
and make a
brand new
ending.**

— — *Carl Bard*

My School Promise

Each day I'll do my best,
And I won't do any less.
My work will always please me,
And I won't accept a mess.
I'll color very carefully,
My writing will be neat.
And I will not be happy,
'Till my papers are complete.
I'll always do my homework,
And try my best on every test.
I won't forget my promise,
To do my very best.

Week Three: Venerable Richard Challoner

Lord,
Bless the whole church active on earth
Bless her by the gifts of your given to all her members;
Give her saints for her chief bishops and other leaders;
Spread her faith throughout the whole world, convert the hearts of all who are lost
And grant perseverance to all who are follow her ways.
Amen

("Garden of the Soul" – Bishop Richard Challoner)

Lord,
Bless my parents, relations, and friends, in their souls and their bodies,
And bless all those for whom I am particularly bound to pray, or who have asked for my prayers,
on my teachers and leaders, on those under my care,
on all those I may have injured in word, action or bad example, have mercy on my enemies and
forgive their sins, and fill both their hearts and mine with your charity.
Amen

("Garden of the Soul" – Bishop Richard Challoner)

O Angel of God,
Who by divine appointment, are my guardian,
To watch over me in all my ways,
Today, let through the presence of the goodness of God, found in you,
Guide, illuminate and govern me to goodness,
And defend me from all powers of darkness.
Amen

("Garden of the Soul" – Bishop Richard Challoner)

O my God,
You commanded me to love you with my whole heart, my whole soul,
with all my mind and with all my strength,
It is my sincere desire to love you.
Come and take possession of my whole heart and soul,
And teach me the heavenly art of love.
Let your sacred fire of love ever burn in the altar of my heart
Let nothing be able to extinguish it,
And let nothing in life or death ever separate me from your love.
Amen

("Garden of the Soul" – Bishop Richard Challoner)

Prayer for the Beatification of Bishop Richard Challoner

O God who made your servant Richard,
a true and faithful pastor of your little flock in England,
raise him, we beseech you, to the altars of thy Church,
that we, who have been taught by his word and example
may invoke his name in heaven,
for the return of our country to belief in the Gospel,
and to the unity of all Christians in the one Church of Jesus Christ.
We ask this through the same Christ our Lord.
Amen

Week Four: Our School Community

We pray for pupils, that they may give of their best in spirit, mind and body and feel really welcome in this community.

We pray for the teaching staff, that their work may be carried out conscientiously and with the benefit of their pupils always in mind.

We pray for our support staff, that they may have strength and cheerfulness for their duties and that no carelessness or ill manners on the part of others may make their work difficult.

Amen (Author Unknown)

Father, we hold before you now in prayer our life together in this school.

Help us to give to it our best and to receive in turn the best that it has to give.

Teach us to know the joys of discovery, the warmth of friendship, the satisfaction of attempting and achieving and the demands of truth.

Open for us week by week new windows in our world;

Increase our understanding of ourselves and others.

Let everything that we do be for the good of our school and the glory of your name.

Amen (Timothy Dudley-Smith)

Lord, we give thanks for the rich variety of personalities that we have here in school.

May we live and work together in harmony, respecting each other, learning to give and take, and grow in understanding and tolerance both of others and of ourselves.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen (Author Unknown)

'Brothers and sisters, because of God's great mercy towards us, I appeal to you:

Love one another warmly as Christians should.

Be modest in your thinking. Do not think yourself more highly than you should.

Hate what is evil and hold onto what is good.

Be eager to show respect for one another. Work hard; do not be lazy.

Be patient in your troubles. Pray at all times. Be happy with those who weep.

Have the same concern for everyone. Do not be proud.

If someone has done you wrong, do not repay them with another wrong.

Do everything possible on your part to live in peace with everybody.'

(Adapted from Romans 12)

God bless our school: the head teacher, the teachers, the pupils and everybody in it.

Help us to work so hard and to play so well this year that everyone will respect and admire our school.

When we are in school, help us to be attentive and when out of school to behave in such a way that we will always be a credit to the uniform that we wear.

Help us to remember that all the time we are in school that we are preparing ourselves for the future and so help us to discipline our minds to be wise.

Hear our prayer.

Amen (William Barclay)

Week Five: Our Work

Lord as we begin this new day,
help us to work hard, both at the things that we enjoy
and the things that we find difficult.
When we are feeling over burdened with work,
help us to seek advice from our teachers
and parents about how to cope.
Lord, help us to keep a healthy balance between work and play.

Amen (Author Unknown)

Lord, as we go to our work this day
show us clearly what our duty is
and help us to be faithful in doing it.
Give us enthusiasm to attempt,
and patience to perform.
When we cannot love our work
May we think of it as your task.

Amen (George Dawson)

Lord, our attitude to work changes with our moods;
we are as variable as the weather.
Some days we enjoy every moment of our work;
other days we feel tired and resentful of it.
There are mornings when we dread the thought of getting up;
but there are also times when we go to school gladly.
As friends of Jesus
help us to offer you our work as an act of praise.
Let us seek to honour you in everything we do.

Amen (Bruce Prewer)

God of truth, who has guided men in knowledge throughout the ages, and from whom every good thought comes, help us in our study to use your gifts of wisdom and knowledge. Let us read good books carefully and listen to all wise teaching humbly that we may be led towards truth, and strengthened in all the goodness of life, to the praise of your holy name.

Amen (Rowland Williams)

O Lord,
You know how busy I must be today.
If I forget you,
do not forget me.

Amen (Sir Jacob Astley)

Week Six: Our Prayer Life

Lord, we know not what we ought to ask of you; only you know what we need; you love us better than we know how to love ourselves.

O Father! Give to us, your children, that we ourselves know not how to ask. We would have no other desire than to accomplish your will.

Teach to pray. Pray in us yourself, for Christ's sake.

(Francios Fenelon)

Lord Jesus,

I can't hear your voice like I hear my friends talking to me,

But sometimes you put good ideas into my mind and help me to think of kind things to do.

No one else can hear what you put into my mind

Thank you for having that special way of talking to me.

Help me find my special way of talking to you.

Amen (Author Unknown)

"And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by many men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep babbling like pagans, for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your father knows what you need before you ask him."

(Adapted from Matthew 5)

Be present with us as we pray O Lord, that our prayers may reach you the quicker; and may our Saviour, who is seated in your presence, continually accompany is through the dangers of this life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen (Leonine Sacramentary)

Lord, its about prayer ...

What is it Lord?

How do you start?

What do you pray about?

How do we know if You've heard us?

How do we know if we've been answered?

Do you understand Lord?

It isn't just me is it?

I often wonder if I'm the only Christian doing everything the wrong way!

But is there a wrong way Lord?

Is there any way?

Bear with me Lord,

Even though I find it difficult,

I know I'd be lost without you.

Help me trust your decision, even though it might hurt.

Pick me up when I fall down.

Heal my broken faith when I begin to doubt.

Teach me to pray Lord.

Please. Amen

(David Gatward)

Week Seven: Forgiveness & Reconciliation

O Lord, because we so often sin and have to ask for pardon, help us to forgive as we would like to be forgiven; neither mentioning old offences committed against us, nor dwelling upon them in thought; but loving our brother freely as you freely love us; for your names sake.

Amen (Christina Rossetti)

Forgive us Lord,
For everything that has spoiled our home life:
For moodiness and irritability
which made us difficult to live with;
for the insensitiveness
which made us careless of the feelings of others;
For selfishness which made life harder for others.
Strengthen us by your spirit,
So that in the days to come,
We may live more nearly as we ought.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen (William Barclay)

Loving Lord,
You tell us in the bible that whatever wrong we have done
You tread down our faults to the bottom of the sea.
We know that there is no need to keep thinking about what we have done in the past,
because you pardon the wrongs that we have done, and you delight in showing mercy.
You bind up all our wounds and you renew us by your love.
Lord, You love all that you have made,
and it is your very nature to love and forgive.
Lead us to be generous in accepting and forgiving others
In the same way as you accept and forgive us.

Amen (Author Unknown)

Help us not to be bitter
Towards people or situations; but empower us to take the initiative
And break the cycle of hatred, bitterness and evil actions.
Help us to transform; the difficulties that come our way
Into opportunities for personal growth; and service of others.

Amen (Author Unknown)

If we put ourselves down, we will also put other people down.
If we reject ourselves, we will reject others.
If we judge ourselves. We will judge others.
We know that we are not perfect,
So we need to forgive ourselves.
We sometimes need to be forgiven by others.
And we also need to forgive those who hurt us.
To forgive is not weakness but strength.
We may reject some aspects of a person's behaviour,
But we should never reject the person.

(Author Unknown)

