

Richard Challoner School

Tutor Group Prayers

Spring A 2018



[Twitter: @RC_Chaplaincy](https://twitter.com/RC_Chaplaincy)

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: Feast of the Epiphany
- Week Two: Our Own Self Worth
- Week Three: Christian Unity
- Week Four: Friendship
- Week Five: For the Sick

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 page opposite.*

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

Week One: Feast of the Epiphany

O God,
by your heavenly star, you guided those who were wise
to your beloved Son, Jesus Christ.
May your blessing come to rest on our school.
Make our lives wise with your wisdom, true to your teaching,
and enlivened by your love. May your Word made flesh make his home among us.
Amen.

(Victor Hoagland)

'When King Herod heard about the birth of Jesus he was very upset. So he called the Visitors from the East to a secret meeting and found out from them the exact time that the star that they had been following had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem with the instructions, 'Go and search for the child and when you find him let me know so that I may go and worship him too'. And so they left, and on their way they saw the same star that they had been following from the East. When they saw it how happy they were! It went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. They went into the house and when they saw the child with his mother, Mary, they knelt down and worshipped him. They brought out gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh and presented them to him.
They returned to their country by another road, since God had warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod.'

(Adapted from Matthew 2:1 – 12)

Heavenly Father, we celebrate with the wise men the heavenly light and the discovery of the Light of the World- Jesus the Christ.
God of Light, make us faithful. Give us light, O God, sufficient for each step of the way. Help us to spread the light you have given us. Help us to live with what you give us and to give away what we have in abundance; in Christ's name.
Amen.

(Author Unknown)

The Visitors from the East brought gifts of Gold Frankincense and myrrh to the baby Jesus. Lord, I give thanks for all that is 'gold' in my life: for the people who are precious to me, for the happy memories that I treasure, and for all that has been good over the years. May all that has been 'gold' for me, remind me always to appreciate those who are part of my life. Inspire me Lord, to give in such a way that I help to bring out the best in others.
Amen.

(Nicholas Hutchinson)

"Wise men followed Jesus. People who are wise still do."

(Author Unknown)

Week Two: Our Own Self Worth

"The Lord said to me, 'I chose you before I gave you life, and before you were born I selected you to be a prophet to the nations'".

(Jeremiah 1: 5)

We pray for those who do not love themselves,
Who cannot face turmoil in their souls
Who put themselves down and call it selflessness
Who make themselves ill with bitterness
Who become sick with self-loathing.
Restore them and help them to live with themselves,
That they may joyfully live with each other.
And we pray for ourselves,
For the times when 'they' include us.

Amen (the Iona Community)

Lord, I don't know what I'm really like. I put on a different face with each person I am with. When I am alone with no-one about, I don't know which one is the real me and it's frightening. I'm not sure that I like myself. Help Lord. Give me a glimpse of what you would like me to be and the strength to become it. Give me the courage to follow your Son and become more like him, for I think that this is the only way that I will find my true self.

Amen (Michael Hollings)

O God, I know quite well that I bring most of my troubles on myself. I leave things until the last minute and end up not giving them my best effort because I'm in such a hurry. I don't spend the time that I should on my work. I get angry and impatient far too easily and the result is that I upset myself and everyone else too. I do things without thinking about them first and then I'm sorry that I did them. I hurt the people that I love the most of all, and them – too late – I am sorry for what I said and did.

At times I wonder why anyone would want to spend any time with me.

Please help me to do what I cannot do and be what I cannot be by myself.

I ask for your love's sake.

Amen (William Barclay)

I may be paranoid, but it seems to me that everyone has more to offer than I do.

Those with the 'rock-solid' faith.

The ones who know the bible from cover to cover.

Those who don't mind saying what they think.

I feel that I am worthless by comparison.

But you like ordinary people, don't you Lord?

You were a carpenter.

Your disciples were fishermen, tax collectors...and now me!

And for that, Lord, I thank you.

Thank you for choosing me and accepting me as I am.

(Dave Gatward)

Week Three: Prayers for the Week of Christian Unity

O Lord God, the one God, make your people one. Whatever our differences, even in matters essential, may we ever realise that we are one in Jesus Christ. We pray that your Holy Spirit will so guide and direct our hearts to unite with our brothers and sisters.

Amen

(Christian K.J. Bunsen)

Eternal God, look mercifully on the broken body of your church. Draw its members to you and to one another by the bonds of your love; that its restored unity may bring healing to the nations and the life of mankind may glorify you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

(New Every Morning)

“Christ is like a single body which has many parts. It is still one body even though it is made up of different parts. In the same way all of us...have been baptised into one body by the same spirit and we have all been given the one spirit to drink. For the body itself is not made up of one part but of many parts. If the foot were to say, ‘because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body’, that would not keep it from being part of the body. If an ear were to say, ‘because I am not an eye I don’t belong to the body’, that would not keep it from being part of the body. If the whole body were just an eye how could it hear? If it were only an ear how would it smell? As it is however, God put every part in the body just as he wanted it to be. There would not be a body if it were all only one part! As it is, there are many parts but one body”.

(1 Corinthians 12: 12 – 20)

O God, whose will it is that all your children should be one in Christ; we pray for the unity of your Church. Pardon all our pride and our lack of faith, of understanding and of charity, which are the causes of our divisions. Deliver us from narrow mindedness, from our bitterness, from our prejudices. Save us from considering as normal that which is a scandal to the world and an offence to your love.

Amen

(Liturgy of the French United Reformed Church)

Lord, I feel very deeply my separation from other Christians when I attend their Eucharist and cannot receive their communion. Why must we be so cut off from each other at the moment when we should be sharing you? This should be the time when we are closest together but it is now that I know most deeply the agony of separation. Lord, if it breaks my heart in this way how much more must it break yours? We love each other and we love you. Why must we be separated at this feast of love and union? Lord, make it possible for us to worship together in complete union and fellowship, and show us what we must do to bring this about!

Amen

(Michael Hollings and Etta Gullick)

Week Four: Friendship

Lord, I guess I should say thanks.
You've made my life full of friends and friendship.
Some I've lost contact with, some I've drifted away from.
Others I've lost through argument,
And some were nothing but candles in the wind.
But without each of them, my life would have been poorer.
They give me the happiness, guidance and love that I need.
For that I thank you.
Amen

(Dave Gatward)

Lord Jesus, thank you for being our friend and enriching our lives with so many gifts of your love.
Thank you for human friends and for all that they mean for us.
Thank you especially for those who have helped us and stood by us in difficult times.
Help us, who have received so much, to give true friendship to others.
In your name and for your sake.
Amen

(Frank Colquhoun)

I thank you for my friends. For those who understand me better than I understand myself. For those who know me at my worst and still like me. For those who have forgiven me when I had no right to expect to be forgiven. Help me to be as true to my friends as I would wish them to be to me.
Amen

(William Barclay)

Help me O God, to be a good and true friend.
To be always loyal, and never let my friends down;
Never to talk about them behind their backs in a way in which I would not do their faces;
Never to betray a confidence or talk about the things about which have been entrusted to me;
Always to be ready to share everything that I have;
To be as true to my friends as I would wish them to be to me.
Amen

(Author Unknown)

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no-one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command...I have called you friends for everything that I have learned from my father I have made known to you".

(John 15: 12 – 15)

Week Five: For The Sick

Father, lover of life, we pray for those suffering from a disease for which, at present, there is no known cure. Give them confidence in your love and never failing support. Grant wisdom and perseverance to all those working to discover the causes of the disease so that in time they may be able to offer hope to those who are afflicted.

Amen

(George Appleton)

Lord, people that we know and love are sick. Out of your compassion, please take away their pain. Let them know that you are with them. Help us to be as patient and as supportive as we possibly can so that they may feel loved and cared for in this time of darkness.

Amen

(Unknown Source)

Lord, comfort the sick, the hungry the lonely and those who are shut in on themselves. Use us to help in a practical way. Show us how to go about this and give us strength, tact and compassion. Let our efforts offer comfort to those in need so that their burdens may be eased.

Amen

(Etta Gullick)

God our Father,

We bring before you today those for whom sickness or disability profoundly affect their lives.

When they feel diminished,
remind them that you hold them
in the palm of your hand.

When they feel fragile and broken mould them and heal them.

When they feel uncertain about the future, cast out their fear.

When situations remind them not of what they can do, but what they cannot do, remind them that Your love never fails.

May all of us, whatever our circumstances, never be so taken up with our own concerns that we do not see or respond to the needs of others.

May we live with courage to deal with the different challenges that each of us will face.

Amen

(De la Salle Brothers)

Lord Jesus,

We ask you to bring your healing touch
to all those whom we know to be sick, afraid or worried.

Bring them your peace and healing.

Amen

(De La Salle Brothers)

General Prayers for Classroom Worship

The Lord's Prayer

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

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace.
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among 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

Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me sow love,
Where there is injury let me sow pardon,
Where there is doubt let me sow faith,
Where there is despair let me give hope,
Where there is darkness let me give light,
And where there is sadness let me give joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may try
Not to be comforted but to comfort,
Not to be understood but to understand,
Not to be loved but to love.
Because it is in giving that we receive,
It is in forgiving that we are forgiven,
And it is in dying that
we are born to eternal life.

Prayer of St Ignatius

Teach us good Lord to serve you as you
deserve:
To give and not count the cost,
To fight and not heed the wounds,
To toil and not seek for rest,
To labour and to ask for no reward, save that
of knowing that we do your will,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.

Prayer of St Richard Of Chichester

Day by day,
O dear Lord,
Three things I pray:
To see thee more clearly,
Love thee more dearly,
Follow thee more nearly,
Day by day
By day by day.