

Richard Challoner School

Tutor Group Prayers

Autumn B 2018



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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: All Saints
- Week Two: In Remembrance
- Week Three: In times of mourning
- Week Four: Peace and Justice
- Week Five: Remembering God when we are busy
- Week Six: Asking Forgiveness
- Week Seven: Advent
- Week Eight: Advent and Christmas

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 in line with the School's Catholic Ethos or the Liturgical Calendar.*

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.

Feast Day – 27th May

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.

Feast Day – 29th December

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.

Feast Day – 9th 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.

Feast Day – 19th May

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.

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.

Feast Day – 22nd June

Week One: The Feast of All Saints

Blessed be the name of the Lord; Now and for ever.
May all the saints look after us and lead us safely home. May they guide our steps in goodness,
Befriend us in loneliness, Refresh us in weariness, And strengthen us in danger,
We ask this in the name of Jesus, Who is our Way, our Truth, and our Life,
Now and for ever. Amen.

We praise you, O God, And we honour all your holy ones.
We ask the help of those men and women
Who struggled against evil and stood firm,
Who loved one another, Who worked for justice and peace,
Who healed the sick and fed the hungry.
We on earth and they in heaven, Sing one song of praise. We in grace and they in glory
Form one communion in Christ, your Son.
Make us and all those we love, Worthy to be called your saints,
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

How they suffered, yet faith would endure
What the world inflicted, still the soul kept pure,
For love was the power what in their heart did dwell
The firmness of commitment to save them from hell,
They thought not of self but of the spirit so divine
to deliver his message, even tho we acted deaf and blind...

"The glorious company of the apostles praise Thee.
The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise Thee.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise Thee.
All Thy saints and elect with one voice do acknowledge Thee,
O Blessed Trinity, one God!"

In times of need we turn for strength
To those who've come before our days
That their unseen presence might
Come to us as guiding rays.

We need the voice of bygone times
In our present plight for peace
May the saints who lived for all
Bless us each in their outreach.

Continue to embrace our world
Hold us in your constant love
Dear holy ones in heaven's sight
Emblazon our hearts from up above.

Remind us in your quiet ways
That we can reach the worthwhile goal
World peace will reign forever on
With kindness shown to one and all!

Week Two: In Remembrance

We remember Lord,
those who have died in any kind of war;
soldiers and civilians who perished in the horror of battle.
We remember especially the victims of the two world wars,
including those who are close to us or to our parents or grandparents.
We also remember those who came home with terrible injuries,
those who became mentally ill through the trauma of war
and those who lost someone they loved. Have mercy on us Lord,
for all of the damage done to people by people in war,
and strengthen those who are striving to bring peace to our world now.

Amen (Jim Cotter)

Grant oh Lord, for the sake of those whose lives have been lost in war, and for the sake of generations to come, that the nations of the world may learn your way of peace; and that all may have a chance to enjoy that life you give them, free from war, tyranny and oppression.

(Roger Tomes)

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me, even if he dies, shall live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die." Make a place in your heavenly kingdom Lord, for all those that have gone before us, so that they may share eternal life with you.

Amen (Fr Joseph Gnarakatt)

Receive Lord, in tranquillity and peace, the souls of your servants who have departed out of this present life to be with you. Give them the life that knows no age, the goods that do not pass away; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Ignatius Loyola)

Lord, you are like a shepherd to me
and so I have all that I need.
You give me rest in meadows of green grass,
and you lead me to the water
where I gain new life and strength.
You guide me along the way that is best for me.
Even when I walk in darkness
and everything around seems like death,
you are there, walking with me,
and the promise of your love and faithfulness
helps to conquer my fear.
In the sight of my enemies
you invite me to sit at a table with you.
There you offer me even more than I need,
and you remind me
that I am significant and special.
You call me to do goodness and kindness
every day of my life, and your house will be my home
my whole life long.

(Psalm 23)

Week Three: For those who have lost loved ones

Loving Father.

To you the dead do not die and in death our life is changed not ended.

We believe that all that binds us together in love and friendship does not end with death.

Hear our prayers for those close to us who have died.

Hold them safe in your love in your kingdom of light, happiness and peace.

Jesus told us that those who mourn are blessed, because only those who love greatly can mourn.

Bless us this day with the warmth of your love as we mourn those that we have lost.

Amen (Nicholas Hutchinson)

Lord Jesus,

You wept at the death of your friend Lazarus whom you loved. We pray for our friends in their loss;

Give courage and companionship as they adjust to their situation, and be with them as they grieve.

Amen (Angela Ashwin)

Draw us closer to you Lord,

so that we may know that we are nearer to our loved ones who are with you.

And while you prepare a place for us as you have promised

prepare us also for that happy place that where you are, we may be also

with those that we have loved, forever.

Amen (Nicholas Hutchinson)

What is dying?

The ship sailed away, and I stand watching until it fades on the horizon.

And someone at my side says, 'The ship is gone.'

Gone where? Gone from my sight, that is all;

The ship is just as large as when I saw it. As I see the ship grow smaller and go out of sight,

it is just at that moment that there are others in a different place who say: 'Watch – here the ship comes.' And other voices will take up the glad shout:

'You have arrived!' and that is what dying is about.

(Based on words by William Penn)

There is a Buddhist story of a young woman whose baby grew sick and died. She was torn apart by grief and sorrow and asked a Buddhist holy man if her grief and sorrow would ever go away.

"You must bring me a bowl of rice," he said, "but it must be from a house where no-one has ever suffered the loss of someone they loved and cared for."

So the woman set out, thinking this would be an easy task which would result in her grief and sorrow no longer dominating her life. In the first house that she visited, she found that a family member had died two years before. They talked, and each felt a little better as they shared their experience and learned from one another and supported each other.

In the next house someone had lost a close friend. Again, she and the family found support. And so it went on from house to house. Eventually the woman returned to the holy man who asked if she had the bowl of rice for him.

"No," she said. "Every house that I have visited has suffered the loss of someone they have loved and cared for. What I have discovered is that it is because we love greatly that we experience such pain and sorrow when loved ones die. Our pain and sorrow may get less as time goes by, but they never go away. The medicine I have found in visiting other homes is that peace can come from helping others and sharing their problems."

(Traditional Buddhist Story)

Week Four: Peace and Justice

Lord, whilst I pray
for peace and goodwill in our world,
I ask you to help me
to change my own attitude
for the better,
so that peace and goodwill
may start with the way that I behave
towards those who have hurt me.
Inspire me to be as generous to others
as I would like them to be with me.

Amen (Nicholas Hutchinson)

O God,
lead us from death to life,
from falsehood to truth.
lead us from despair to hope,
from fear to trust.
Lead us from hate to love,
from war to peace.
Let peace fill our hearts,
our world, our universe.

Amen (The Universal Prayer of Peace)

We pray for those whose humanity is denied by others;
For those persecuted or imprisoned because of their religion or politics;
For those who try to oppress and manipulate others and in doing so lose sight of their own
humanity;
For those who work for justice and peace, whatever the cost.

(Nicholas Hutchinson)

We pray for world peace,
that ways of aggression and violence against fellow humans
and against God's creation may be renounced,
and that world leaders may lessen the threat of nuclear destruction.
We pray especially for our leaders
and all others who strive to bring peace.

(Adapted from 'Worship in an Indian Context')

Show us Lord,
the peace that we should seek,
the peace that we must give,
the peace that we can keep,
and the peace that you have given
in Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen (Caryl Micklem, used by the Corrymeela Community, Northern Ireland)

Week Five: Remembering God when we are busy

Lord,
when I am feeling tired and strained,
help me not to take it out on other people.

Amen
(Angela Ashwin)

Father, when I am lost and lose sight of you,
when I don't pray
and am swept away by life and all of its difficulties,
when I'm too busy
and you get shoved to the bottom of the pile,
remind me that all I have to do is stop,
for I know that you will find me
and will meet me wherever I am.

Amen
(Nick Aiken)

God who is with us
at our beginning and at our ending,
be with us now.
Help us find you
in the chaos of our lives.
Let your light shine in our darkness
so that we may be guided
to walk in your ways all the days of our life

Amen

(Ulla Monberg)

Holy Spirit,
thank you for the quiet moments of this busy day.
Teach me to listen closely to your still small voice
which gives meaning and direction to my life.

Amen
(Michael Buckley)

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

Amen
(Sir Jacob Astley)

Week Six: Asking for forgiveness in preparation for Christmas

For all that we should have thought and have not thought;
For all that we should have said and have not said;
For all that we should have done and have not done;
We ask forgiveness, Lord.
For all that we should not have thought but have thought;
For all that we should not have said but have said;
For all that we should not have done but have done,
We ask forgiveness, Lord.

(Nicholas Hutchinson)

Father,
I ask you to help me be generous
when I think of the attitude and actions of others.
Forgiving someone isn't an easy option,
and I know that forgiveness isn't somehow pretending
that something wrong hasn't happened.
For what I have done wrong, forgive me father,
to the extent that I am generous in forgiving those who have done wrong to me.

(Unknown Author)

Christ our friend,
You ask for our love in spite of our betrayal.
Give us the courage to embrace forgiveness,
know you again, and trust ourselves in you.

(Janet Morley)

God, I know that my temper is far too quick.
I know how I flare up at people, and say things that I often regret.
I know that my moods can upset things at home and that I can be difficult to live with.
For all this I am sorry. Help me to think before I speak.
Help me to remember that you are listening to everything that I say and seeing everything that I do.

Amen (William Barclay)

Teach me to say 'sorry' Lord, to admit when I am wrong,
and have the courage to admit it, even if it does hurt.
And Lord, teach me to forgive, to hold no grudges
even when those concerned don't say 'sorry'.
Forgive me Lord, for not saying 'sorry'
and for not offering forgiveness.
I am sorry.

Amen (Dave Gatward)

Week Seven: Advent

God our Father,
May all our life experiences lead us to grow as people who always put love into all that we do.
May we live in such a way that our attitude and words and actions reflect to all people their own value, dignity and self-worth, helping people to feel wanted and appreciated for who they are.
Amen

(Nicholas Hutchinson)

Dear Father in heaven,
Let us be peacemakers:
more ready to call people friends than enemies,
more ready to trust than to mistrust,
more ready to love than to hate,
more ready to respect than despise,
more ready to serve than be served,
more ready to absorb evil than to pass it on.
Dear father in heaven,
let us be more like Christ.
Amen

(The Mother's Union Anthology of Public Prayers)

Lord Jesus,
You have taught us that we can only be forgiven as we ourselves forgive:
help us to bear continually in mind our own shortcomings and our many failings.
If we remember the injuries we suffer and never deserved, help us to remember the kindness we received and never earned, and the punishments we did deserve and never suffered.
Help us to be thankful for your unfailing mercies and those of other people.
Amen

(Eric Milner White and G.W. Briggs)

Give us a sense of humour Lord and also things to laugh about.
Give us the grace to take a joke against ourselves,
and to see the funny side in the things that we do.
Save us from annoyance, bad temper and resentment against our friends.
Help us to laugh in the face of trouble.
Fill our minds with the love of Jesus; for his name's sake
Amen

(A. G. Bullivant)

O God,
you have bound us together in this bundle of life:
Give us grace to understand how our lives depend upon the courage,
the industry, the honesty and integrity of others;
that we may be mindful of their needs,
grateful for their faithfulness and faithful in our responsibilities towards them.
Amen

(Reinhold Niebuhr)

Week Eight: Advent & Christmas

God our Father,
we thank you
for the promise made to your people
to send us a saviour.
Inspire us to prepare our hearts
and wait in joyful hope
for his coming anew into our lives.
Bless us as we gather in the name of Jesus, your son,
the light of the world.

Amen (Nicholas Hutchinson)

Our heavenly Father, as once again we prepare for Christmas, help us to find time in our busy lives for quiet and thought and prayer, so that we may dwell on the true meaning of this season. Let us appreciate fully what you have done for us in giving the world your son, Jesus Christ.

Amen (Frank Colquhoun)

It's Christmas time.
The holly is abundant.
The presents and the food have been bought.
The grandparents are in the spare room.
But what of the meaning of Christmas? "Jesus who?"
Father let us not get carried away with the trappings of Christmas.
Let us remember the birth of your son, our Saviour.
The traditions of Christmas may be fun,
but let us not forget the true meaning.
In Jesus' name,

Amen (Unknown Source)

While people watched their sets one night, all seated round the screen,
The angel of the Lord appeared where evening news had been.
'Fear not' said he (for flashing lights had altered the transmission;
This strange celestial visitor had interfered with vision).
'I bring good news of peace on earth for all mankind,' he said;
But crackling sparks zigzagged the screen and every set went dead.
So angry viewers growled and cursed and electricians fumed,
Until as soon as possible normal service was resumed.

(Peter Dainty)

Dear God,
As we begin our preparations for Christmas, help us to remember what Christmas is really about.
As we light our advent candles, help us to think about Jesus as the light of the world. Without him there would be no Christmas. Make us strong as we go through Advent and help us to concentrate on Jesus, the son of God at his birth.

Amen (Unknown Author)

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 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.

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.