



## FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT SEPTEMBER

# *Faithfulness ~ fidélité*

The school year begins with a renewed commitment toward education. Faithfulness is the fruit of the spirit that is enjoyed in this commitment: we are faithful in our dedication to academic efforts and in loyalty within all of our personal relationships.

*“For great is Your love, higher than the heavens;  
Your faithfulness reaches to the skies.”*

PSALM 108.4



### THEORY OF ACTION

*“If we are committed to our mission in Catholic Education,  
then our students will be faithful in their commitment to Christ centred Learning.”*





Peterborough Victoria  
Northumberland and Clarington  
Catholic District School Board


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## Definition

 **Looks Like:** Serving others, lending a helping hand, going to church, living the Ten Commandments, praying, involvement with the faith community, strong work ethic, responsible actions, sacramental engagement.


 **Sounds Like:** Prayer, song, positive attitude, words of kindness and encouragement, responding and singing in mass.

 **Feels Like:** A strong connection with God, safe and secure, comfort, confidence, patience.


## Prayer Table Ideas

 **Catholic Symbols:**

- o Green Cloth
- o Bible
- o Light
- o Crucifix
- o Rosary

 **Symbols:**

- o **Noah's Ark** – A bible story reference of faith.
- o **Rainbow** – To symbolize God's promise, and a reminder to have faith and trust in Him.
- o **Dove** – Traditional symbol of faith and the Holy Spirit.
- o **Family Portrait** – Family feeds faith! We can all be models of faithfulness, by supporting one's faith journey. A strong faith foundation can begin in the home.
- o **Paper Doll Chain** – To symbolize that we are all connected and linked through our faith journeys.
- o **Apostles' Creed** – Proclamation of faith prayer.
- o **Books** – Any book that discusses or presents the topic of 'Faithfulness'.
- o **Image of a Church** – To symbolize a place of worship that exemplifies the gift of faith.
- o **Image of Saints or Apostles** – Universal models of faithfulness.
- o **Statue of Jesus** – "I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord".
- o **Mirror** – To symbolize that we are created in the image and likeness of God. Faithfulness is a characteristic of God's nature.
- o **Picture Frame** – An empty frame waiting to be filled with a class photo. Symbolizes new beginnings, new commitments, a faithful community uniting as one.

 **7 Grandfather Teachings: *Minaadendamowin* – RESPECT:** To honour all creation is to have respect. All of creation should be treated with respect. You must give respect if you wish to be respected. The Buffalo is a symbol of creation and faithfulness. It is a reminder to treat all of creation with respect.

# Traditional Prayers of the Month



## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living  
and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting  
Amen.



## Act of Faith

O my God,  
I firmly believe that you are one God in three  
divine Persons, father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I  
believe that your divine Son became man and  
died for our sins, and that he will come to  
judge the living and the dead. I believe these  
and all the truths which the holy Catholic  
Church teaches, because you have revealed  
them, who can neither deceive nor be  
deceived.  
Amen.



## Le Credo de l'Apôtre

Je crois dans Dieu, le Tout-puissant du  
Père, Créateur de ciel et monde;  
et dans Jésus Le Christ, Son seul Fils,  
Notre Seigneur;  
qui a été conçu par le Saint-Esprit, né  
de la Vierge-Marie,  
souffert sous Pontius Pilate, été  
crucifié, été mort et été enterré.  
Il est descendu dans enfer; le troisième  
jour qu'Il a encore éveillé du mort;  
Il est monté dans ciel, s'assied à la  
main droite de Dieu, le Tout-puissant du  
Père;  
de de là Lui juger le vivre viendront et  
le mort.  
Je crois dans le Saint-Esprit,  
l'Église catholique Sacrée,  
la communion de saints,  
le pardon de péchés,  
la résurrection du corps et vie éternel.  
Amen.



## Acte de foi

Ô mon Dieu,  
Je crois fermement que tu es le Dieu  
un en trois Personnes divines, le Père  
le Fils et le Saint-Esprit. Je crois que  
ton divin Fils s'est fait homme, qu'il est  
mort pour nos péchés et qu'il reviendra  
juger les vivants et les morts. Je le  
crois, ainsi que toutes les vérités  
sacrées que nous enseigne la sainte  
Église catholique, parce que c'est toi  
qui les as créé, et que tu ne peux ni  
tromper ni être trompé.  
Amen.



# Daily Prayers

1

Dear Lord,

You are our faithful friend. We ask that you help us to be loyal and trustworthy. Guide us in being spiritual companions and faithful friends to each other. We give thanks for the friends that we have, and for the new friends we will make this year.

Let us remember that we have a duty to get along with those in our lives and to help keep our friends safe and happy. May we be kind and helpful to one another, and support our friends in their faithful journey. Amen.

2

Father in Heaven,

Today we pray for our mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, and relatives. Guide us to live in Christian families of faith. Help us to remember to visit You at church, to talk to You through prayer, and to celebrate Your presence through family dinners and vacations. Grant us the strength to be honest with each other, and to have trust in You. Amen.

3

Eternal God,

The Church is a symbol of faith and community. We pray for the members of the Church, and for the Holy Spirit that guides us to do Your will. Help us to follow in Jesus' footsteps, to listen to the word of God, and to sing His praises. May our church families encourage us to build strength and commitment. Amen.

4

Lord Almighty,

You are the keeper of souls and master of the heavens. Welcome all the faithfully departed into your Kingdom. May their faith journey be fulfilled as they join You in harmony, peace and love. We pray they are smiling, dancing with joy, and watching over us. Amen.

5

O God,

Help us to have trust in You. We promise to follow Jesus by honouring our responsibilities. We promise to show a positive attitude towards God and others. We will imitate goodness and live life in God's image, and we will help others to understand Your will and existence. Help us Heavenly Father, to be faithful to Your word and to keep these promises to the best of our abilities. Amen.

6

Blessed Father,

Saints are models of faithfulness. Their devotion to God and dedication to the Word show their loyalty and friendship. We pray for these faithful believers, and recognize their strength and courage. By proclaiming our faith, we are given the power to act for Jesus too. Let us make good decisions, pray for the sick, give to those in need, and be kind friends to one another. Lord, guide us in becoming your faithful friends, and teach us to live in your spirit. Amen.

7

Dear Lord,

Help us to work hard and to do our personal best. It is important to succeed in school and to challenge ourselves. Let us set achievable goals that will push us to do better, and strengthen our work ethics. Allow us to take charge of our learning and to relax during stressful test times. Give us patience during times of conflict and frustration, and allow us to enjoy the laughter of friends and teachers. Guide us through faith O Lord. Amen.

8

### **Did You Know?**

Today is the Blessed Virgin Mother Mary's Birthday. As a young girl in Nazareth, she was chosen to be the mother of Jesus. The Angel Gabriel appeared to her and told her that she will have a Son and to name him Jesus. By the example of Mary, Mother of God, we learn how to follow Jesus. She is the first and greatest disciple, because she believed and trusted in God's promise to her. Today, let us say thank you to Mary for being our spiritual Mother and a guiding light of faith. Amen.

### **Hail Mary**

Hail Mary, full of grace.  
Our 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.

### **Je Vous Salue Marie**

Je vous salue Marie  
pleine de Grâce  
le Seigneur est avec vous.  
Vous êtes bénie entre toutes les femmes  
Et Jésus, le fruit de vos entrailles, est béni.  
Sainte Marie, Mère de Dieu,  
priez pour nous pauvres pécheurs,  
maintenant et à l'heure de notre mort.  
Amen.

9

Faithful Friend,

We trust You to guide us in making good decisions. Help us to carry out Your plan for us, and to help build Your world of harmony. Let us be Your instruments of peace. Where there is hatred, let us bring hope, and where there is sadness, let us bring joy. Help us to remember to use kind words, to welcome others to play with us at recess, and to share within the classroom. Allow our everlasting faith to be the foundation of this peace. Amen.

10

O God,

There is a world within us that no one has ever seen, a voice that hasn't been heard. You, Heavenly Father are the source of that inner gift. Please give us the strength to share the talents You have given us. Allow us through faith to find the courage to come out of our shell and believe in ourselves. It is time for the performers, the athletes, the musicians, the academics, the teachers and the scientists that are inside us to shine and acknowledge our gift of wisdom and self worth. Let us celebrate our success in Your light, and guide us to be good, humbled and thankful. Amen.

11

Dear Lord,

We live in a beautiful country filled with Your creations. Remind us that we are keepers of Your gifts, and that we need to respect the land we live in. Help our nation's leaders to make good decisions and guide them in being honest people of God. Let faith be the foundation of a loyal and trustworthy relationship with the people of this country. Keep us safe as we live as one in harmony. Amen.

12

Heavenly Father,

When we are hurt, frightened, and powerless or frustrated, we sometimes give up and surrender. Grant us the freedom of Your presence and teach us to overcome defeat. Let us remember that it is okay to cry and to ask for help. Strong faith will guide us in the direction of support. Give us the power of grace to mend our injuries and to stand strong against the things that harm us. Amen.

13

Almighty God,

Our bus drivers are protectors and care givers. They work hard in making sure that we get to and from school safely. Please give them eyes to watch the paths we take, strong hands to steer us towards our destination and ears to listen to our needs. Please help us to remember to be good passengers, and to follow the rules of the bus. Just like a faith community, we need to work together to ensure the health and safety of each other as we travel. Amen.

14

### **Did You Know?**

Today is the feast day of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The Cross is the symbol of the way that Jesus defeated sin, hatred and death. Making the sign of the Cross shows our willingness to follow Jesus and our joy at being part of His family. The Cross is not only a sign of sorrow, but also a sign of God's love for us.

### **Prayer of the Holy Cross**

Assist us, O Lord our God; and defend us evermore by the might of the Holy Cross, in whose honour You make us to rejoice, through Christ our Lord. Amen.



**15**

Dear Lord,

We all make mistakes, and it is through faith that we are forgiven. Help us to be forgiving of others, and remind us to apologize to those friends that we have hurt. Give us the courage to admit when we are wrong and the strength to overcome our pride. Inspire us to mend broken relationships with our peers, and help us to become peacemakers and live in God's image. We need to choose positive words and gentle actions instead of putdowns and rough play. O Teacher of forgiveness, guide us to peace and love with all. Amen.

**16**

Faithful Lord,

Thank you for teachers who help us see the world, dream about the future, and reach for the stars. They have a great responsibility to help us be the best we can be. Let us help our teachers by working hard in everything we attempt today. Protect our teachers and help them to be examples of God's love and faith. Amen.

**17**

Heavenly Father,

We discover new things each day. We come across new words, we learn new ideas, and we are challenged to make better choices. We visit new places and meet people for the first time. May we look at life as a great opportunity to learn and to grow. May we be open to discover new things today and always. May we accept the challenge of using this new knowledge for the good of all. Amen.

**18**

Holy Lord,

Thank you for our teachers of the Church especially for Father \_\_\_\_\_. He helps us understand Your word, tells us stories about our friend Jesus, and encourages us to practice our faith by going to church, praying, and making good choices. We hope that we can continue this faith filled relationship. O Heavenly Father, please guide our spiritual leaders with Your holy love, and grant them the strength to continue living in Your grace. Amen.

**19**

Almighty Father,

Noah built an ark to save his family and creatures of the earth from the flood. After many days of uncertainty, a dove returned with an olive branch symbolizing new life and abundance. A rainbow filled the sky to show Your promise to keep the world safe. Noah was a man of strength and courage. During his long trip Noah continued to have faith and complete trust in You and Your everlasting covenant. Like Noah, we look to You for Your guidance during times of frustration and doubt. We will continue to do our best to commit our lives in keeping promises and doing well. Amen.

**20**

Dear Lord,

Thank you for the crunch of leaves, buds on trees, mud puddles and sandy beaches. Thank you for the moon and stars, rays of sunshine, snowflakes, raindrops, and cool breezes. The changing of these seasons shows that You are with us each day. We watch nature change colour, grow, fade, and be reborn. Thank you for sharing Your beauty with us and for showing us that You are just a cloud away when we need to talk, think or sit and listen. Amen.



21

Dear God,

We thank you for your faithfulness and we pray that we can be a reflection of that faithfulness to each other. Amen.

22

Holy God,

We are all different. People come in different shapes, sizes, colours, genders and ethnicities. We all have different strengths and weaknesses, talents and faults.

Please help us to remember that we are created in the likeness and image of God.

Allow us to grow and learn to accept these differences. Teach us to love all and to embrace imperfection. Help us to accept ourselves, and realize that we are good people and that we have the power to become even better. Amen.

23

Heavenly Father,

The goal of faithfulness is that You will do Your work through us. We pray that our hearts will be open to the Holy Spirit to allow each of us to understand what You have called us to do. Amen.

24

Loving Father,

Thank you for giving us our friend Jesus. His belief in You and steadfast love show us the importance of faith and commitment. Guide us to live like Jesus. Remind us to be loyal to our friends, and to not turn our backs on them when they ask for help. Let us think like Jesus, be kind to each other, share and welcome those who are new to our circle of friends. Amen.

25

Dear God,

**Act of Faith**

O my God, I firmly believe that You are one God in three divine Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I believe that Your divine Son became man and died for our sins, and that He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all

the truths which the holy Catholic Church teaches, because You have revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived. Amen.

26

Dear Lord,

Music is a large part of our lives. We listen to music in our cars, on the bus, at school and at home, both with our friends and when we are alone. Music is a gift from God, but it can be used in positive or negative ways. Let us remember that we must choose our music responsibly. Guide us to choose music that teaches us

to love, not hate, and to celebrate, not despair. May we listen to music that inspires us to live in God's image and to make good choices. Amen.

27

Dear God,

Today we remember St. Vincent de Paul. Noble Saint Vincent de Paul, beloved servant of the poor, may we follow your example and do good works among those whom society has abandoned, enslaved, or forgotten. Inspire us to feed the hungry, to love a child, to provide comfort and medicine to the sick, to clothe those

whose garments are threadbare, and to offer hope and our Lord's words to all who need respite. Pray for us to our beloved God that we may commit ourselves selflessly to doing the same charitable acts that you did all your life, and intercede with him that we may have the favor of his guidance and strength and love upon this important and meaningful work. Amen.

**28**

Dear Lord,

You have given us such beauty. The mountains, the oceans, the sky, the trees, the animals, and the sun and moon are all a reflection of your hard work and commitment. Please help us to work hard in keeping this environment safe and clean. Remembering to reuse and recycle, turning off lights, shutting down unused energy sources and composting, are small gestures in helping to keep Your gift healthy. Allow us to unite as a school community to continue in doing our part, and show our care for your creations. Amen.

**29**

### **Did You Know?**

Today is the Feast Day of the Archangels. Archangels are pure created spirits who deliver important messages from God. They are shepherds that lead us in Faith, and help spread God's message of love and salvation. St. Michael, the Archangel is the protector of the Christian Church, and patron saint of police officers. He is usually called upon in times of danger. The name Michael signifies 'Who is like God'. He is one of God's chief princes and leader of the forces of heaven in their triumphs over the battle against evil. St. Gabriel, the Archangel is the patron saint of communication workers. The name Gabriel means "Man of God" or "God has shown himself mighty". Gabriel was the chosen archangel to deliver the important news of a child to the Virgin Mary. She was to bear the Son of God, and to name Him Jesus. St. Raphael, the Archangel is the patron saint of the blind and traveller's. The name Raphael means "God is my health". In the bible Raphael was sent by God to help drive out evil spirits, and heal the blind.

### **Prayer to the Archangels**

Heavenly Father,

You have given us archangels to assist us during our pilgrimage on earth. Saint Michael is our protector. We ask him to come to our aid, fight for all our loved ones, and protect us from danger. Saint Gabriel is a messenger for the Good News. We ask him to help us clearly hear Your voice, and to teach us the truth. Saint Raphael is the healing angel. We ask him to take our need for healing and that of everyone we know, lift it up to Your throne of grace and deliver back to us the gift of recovery. Help us O Lord to realize more fully the reality of the archangels and their desire to serve us. Holy Angels pray for us. Amen.

**30**

Heavenly Father,

Help us to live respectable lives. Teach us to be good people, and to live honestly. Allow us to be open minded, to love, to encourage, and to embrace. Show us how to heal, to comfort, to understand, and to forgive. Fill us with your Holy Spirit and guide us through grace to a life of meaning and pure joy. In God's image we live. Amen.

# Prayer Service / Non Eucharistic Liturgy



## Non Eucharistic Symbols

**Crucifix:** Symbol of Faith. Jesus died for us to one day come again. We have faith in His presence, which reminds us to keep believing in the word of God.

**Bible:** The word of God. It holds the stories of Jesus and His faithful journey.

**Mirror:** To symbolize that we are all created in the image and likeness of God.

**Candle:** To symbolize power of faith, and hope in the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.



## Opening Prayer Gathering

Dear Lord

We gather today to celebrate Faith. Help us to build a strong commitment to You O God. Allow us to celebrate our faith in You together as a Catholic community. Even though we can't see You, we know that You are with us in many shapes, sizes and forms. Give us the opportunity today to share ways in which we live and practice our faith, and help us to grow and find new ways in which we can explore this everlasting relationship. Teach us to be trustworthy, guide us to live in Your image and show us how to be devoted disciples. Amen.



## Old Testament Reading Genesis 9.1-12

A reading from the book of Genesis.

God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. The fear and dread of you shall rest on every animal of the earth, and on every bird of the air, on everything that creeps on the ground, and on all the fish of the sea; into your hand they are delivered. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you; and just as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. Only, you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. For your own lifeblood I will surely require a reckoning: from every animal I will require it and from human beings, each one for the blood of another, I will require a reckoning for human life. Whoever sheds the blood of a human, by a human shall that person's blood be shed; for in his own image God made humankind. And you, be fruitful and multiply, abound on the earth and multiply in it." Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations."

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*





## **Responsorial Psalm** **Psalm 27**

The response to the psalm is “*God’s faithfulness is forever unfailing.*”

The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid? *R*

Though an army encamp against me,  
my heart shall not fear;  
Though war rise up against me,  
yet I will be confident. *R*

One thing I ask of the Lord, that will I seek after:  
To love in the house of the Lord all the days of my Life,  
To behold the beauty of the Lord  
and to inquire in His temple. *R*

Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.  
Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,  
For false witnesses have risen against me,  
And they are breathing out violence. *R*

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord,  
in the land of the living, Wait for the Lord;  
be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
wait for the Lord. *R*



## **Second Reading (Optional)** **Hebrews 11.1-13**

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

## Hebrews 11.23-28

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

By faith Moses was hidden by his parents for three months after his birth, because they saw that the child was beautiful; and they were not afraid of the king's edict. By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called a son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered abuse suffered for the Christ to be greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to the reward. By faith he left Egypt, unafraid of the king's anger; for he persevered as though he saw him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*



## Gospel Reading Matthew 17.14-20

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

When they came to the crowd, a man came to him, knelt before him, and said, 'Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; he often falls into the fire and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, but they could not cure him.' Jesus answered, 'You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him here to me.' And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, 'Why could we not cast it out?' He said to them, 'Because of your little faith. For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there", and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.'

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ.*



## Optional Activities

**Paper Chain Link:** Students can use the colours of the rainbow to create a paper chain link to symbolize the covenant that God made with Noah, and that we are all linked together in our faith.

**White Candle or Cloth:** White is the symbol of renewal and new beginnings. "White" will remind us to begin the school with a renewed faith in God, self and others.

**Footprints:** Students can bring up footprints to symbolize that we walk by faith, and that God is always with us, even though we can't see Him in His physical form.

Read a copy of the poem "*Footprints*".



## Closing Prayer

Dear Lord,

Thank you for having faith in us. After listening to Your stories and sharing our ideas, we learned that faith is the foundation of all relationships. We must have trust in ourselves and each other if we want to grow and live a fulfilled life. We don't need to see Your face, we have proof that You exist everyday in our hearts, mind and spirit. You are the cool breeze in the morning, the ripples of the river, and the clouds in the sky. You exist in every handshake, smile, good deed and laughter. You show up in our hard work ethics, goals, grades and accomplishments. Thank you for pushing us to live in Your image, for helping us make good choices, and teaching us to be kind and forgiving.

We pray in the Holy Spirit, with Jesus our Lord. Amen.



## Possible Song Recommendations

### Liturgical

### Non-Liturgical

Everyone Moved By The Spirit

Circle of Life ~ Lion King

City of God

I Believe ~ Diamond Rio

Faith of Our Fathers

Angels Among Us ~ Alabama

Here I Am To Worship

Forever ~ Chris Tomlin

No One Like You Lord

I Lift My Hands ~ Chris Tomlin

We Are the Family

When You Believe ~ Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston

I Am Your God

I Can Only Imagine ~ Mercy Me

I Lift Up My Soul

Glorious Day ~ Chris Tomlin


Whom Shall I Fear (God of Angel Armies) ~ Chris Tomlin


Will You Be There ~ Michael Jackson




# Universal Prayer


Response: *Faithful Lord, hear our prayer.*


 For our Holy Father on earth, Bishops, and the clergy everywhere that they may lead us to deeper faith in God and a stronger love for others, we pray. *R*


 For the priests of our Diocese, particularly (name priest(s) at this mass) that he/they may continue to share his/their gift of faith with us, we pray. *R*


 For our Prime Minister and all leaders of government that they may be effective in achieving peace and eliminating poverty, we pray. *R*

 For those who show devotion and commitment and live by faith through God, we pray. *R*

 For the members of (name school) who are suffering with an illness, we pray. *R*

 For the women, men and children who suffer the effects of war, violence and the lack of justice in our world, we pray. *R*

 For the people in our communities who are hungry and those who are living on the street, may they never give up hope and have complete trust and faithfulness in God's plans, we pray. *R*

 For those who are sick, lonely, discouraged, or oppressed that they find faith and be strengthened by God's help and aided by their friends, we pray. *R*

# Curriculum Connections



## Primary

BL 3.2: Describe the various ways that Sacred Scripture is used in the Church to strengthen our faith, to form the common life and teaching of the Church (i.e. communal prayer and celebrations, teachings, etc.)  
[CCC nos. 131-141] (Grade 1)

BL 2.1: Demonstrate an understanding of the basic characteristic of our Christian faith (belief in the One God also means belief in the Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit; faith in trust in the truth and goodness of God; God’s plan for us is a gift from God freely given and freely received; faith and reason work together to enlighten our understanding of God; listening to God’s Word nourishes faith).  
[CCC nos. 151-165] (Grade 2)



## Junior

BL 1.2: Define and explain the significance of the Christian beliefs that “God is the author of Sacred Scripture”, Jesus is the “Unique Word of Sacred Scripture” and that the Holy Spirit is the “Interpreter of Sacred Scripture”.  
[CCC nos. 74-141] (Grade 4)

BL 2.1: Examine a selection of biblical passages to evidence of the practice of professing one’s faith (i.e. the rule of faith) and to unfold why it was important for the early Church to profess the mysteries of our faith; e.g. to promote conversion in others (I Cor. 15.3-6; I Tim. 2. 8; Rom. 10. 9-10; Acts 2. 29-37, 41-42) (Grade 5)



## Intermediate

BL 2.1: Identify the significance and meaning of Jesus Christ’s redemptive death on the Cross in God’s Plan of Salvation (i.e. Jesus and Israel, the Law, the Messiah, the sacrifice of the Cross for our sins).  
[CCC nos. 571-623] (Grade 7)

BL. 3: Demonstrate an understanding of the meaning of the four marks of the Church; One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic and how these four marks are lived out in the life of the Church.  
CCC nos. 811-945] (Grade 8)

# Bulletin Board Ideas



## Step Out In Faith

- o Create a bulletin board using student footprints to symbolize our will to walk with God and ability to “Step Out in Faith” or “I’ll Follow Him in Faith”.
- o Use paint or trace and cut out. When it dries, have students write something on their footprint that we can do to help build faith.



## Image of God

- o Even though we can’t physically see God, we know that He still exists.
- o Ask students to brainstorm ways in which God exists. He comes to us in all shapes and forms. What does God look like?
- o Have students draw an illustration of their image of God. Remind the students that God doesn’t need to be a physical being. God can be the wind, the sun, a smile or a handshake.



## What’s Your Next Step?

- o Create a bulletin board displaying a stair case, ladder or wall.
- o Invite students to write about things that they would like to change, improve, or do better for the upcoming school year. How can students become committed and faithful to their academic learning?



## Convicted of Faith

- o If you were accused of being Catholic, would there be enough evidence to convict you? Discuss this question with students. What kinds of things are we doing to show that we practice our faith?
- o Have students write an “I am Catholic” rant. Include things that they already do to show their faith, as well as things they want to do.



## We Grow in Faith











- o Have students make flowers out of paper, and decorate them with pictures/symbols that represent them as a believer of faith.











# Quotes

## Religious

-  "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there', for truly I tell you, and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you."  
~ Matthew 17. 20
-  "They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved" ~ Acts 16.31
-  "If we acknowledge our sins, He is faithful and righteous, with the result that He forgives us our sins and cleanses us from all unrighteousness." ~ 1 John 1.9
-  "Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God."  
~ Deuteronomy 7.9
-  "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith"  
~ 2 Timothy 4.7
-  "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life" ~ Revelation 2.10
-  "Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator" ~ 1 Peter 4.19
-  "I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith".  
~ Ephesians 3.16-17
-  "They called the church together and reported what God had done with them and how he had opened the door of faith." ~ Acts 14.27
-  "Jesus said to him, "If you are able! - All things can be done for the one who believes."  
Immediately the father of the child cried out, "I believe; help my unbelief!"  
~ Mark 9.23.24

## Non-Religious

-  "Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies." ~ Mother Teresa
-  "Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."  
~ Martin Luther King, Jr.
-  "If patience is worth anything, it must endure to the end of time. And a living faith will last in the midst of the blackest storm." ~ Mahatma Gandhi
-  "To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible." ~ Thomas Aquinas
-  "God gives us not only the truth but the ability to believe it; not only the new thing to see but the eye to see it with." ~ Peter Kreeft
-  "God did not put me down here to be successful. He put me down here to be faithful."  
~ Mother Teresa

# Short Resource List

## Books

- ❖ Saints: Saints live by faith. Any biography about a saint of choice would be appropriate
- ❖ A Parable About the King by: Beth Moore (P/J)
- ❖ You Are Special by: Max Lucado (P/J/I)
- ❖ Small Gifts in God's Hands by: Max Lucado (P/J/I)
- ❖ What is Heaven Like? By: Beverly Lewis (P/J/I)
- ❖ The Tale of the Three Trees by: Hunt Angela Elwell (P/J/I)
- ❖ God's Dream by: Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Douglas Carlton Abrams (P/J/I)
- ❖ Dog Heaven by: Cynthia Rylant (P)
- ❖ Grandad's Prayer's of the Earth by: Douglas Wood (J/I)
- ❖ The Oak Inside the Acorn by: Max Lucado (P/J/I)

