

Formed in Prayer

For use in personal or staff prayer



1. Beginning

- Be still and ask the Holy Spirit to be with you.
- Give thanks to God for the blessings in your life.
- Ask for forgiveness and surrender worries to God.
- Pray the opening prayer.

Opening Prayer

Dear Lord, I/we ask that you be present in this space. I/we pray that you speak to us through the words of scriptures, forming us through this prayer. I/we ask that the Holy Spirit guides us closer to your likeness.

2. Listening to the Gospel - Sunday 23rd August

Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

3. Reflection and Quiet Time

“Who do you say that I am?” This question, put to the disciples by Jesus, is one that as Catholic leaders we should allow Jesus to put to us every day. This question provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the place of witness within our vocation. St Paul in his letter to the Galatians begins to explain the fruits of witness, noting the grace that comes from witnessing someone sharing their life for others. St Paul described that his apostleship is not born out of his own ambition but has manifested due to the witness of God through the life of Jesus, “for I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through the revelation of Jesus Christ” (Galatians 1:12). This witness, to the life of Jesus, which all the disciples shared throughout their lives is what has been handed down and entrusted to those who have responded to God’s call to be teachers in a Catholic school. “On this rock I will build my Church”.

4. Pray for Your Intentions

- Yourself, family and friends
- School or ministry
- Strength, courage or guidance
- Any other needs

5. Closing Prayer

Lord, you reveal yourself to us when we allow our hearts to be open to you. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, help us to always reflect your life and your love in the way we serve through our vocations and ministries every day. Amen

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your mind in Christ Jesus.” Phil 4:6-7