

BLESSINGS ABUNDANT

At the beginning of the School Year one can remove the crucifixes, Mary statues, Sacred Scripture, candle and other sacramental items from your prayer table.

On the first full day of school form a procession with all grades to bless the school building and grounds:

Blessing of the School Building

Leader: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All: Amen.

Leader: May God, the source of all wisdom, Christ our Lord, and the Holy Spirit of Truth, be with you.
All: And also with you.

Leader: Listen to the word of God:

Lector: Jesus said to his disciples,
"You are the salt of the earth.
But what happens if salt loses its taste?
It becomes useless and must be thrown away.
You are the light of the world.
People don't light a candle and then hide it under a basket.
No instead they put it in a stand
So that it will shine everywhere in the house.
In the same way, you must let your light shine for others
So that they can see the good things you do,
And give praise to your God who is in heaven.

All: This is the Good News of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

An appropriate song can be sung – ask your music teacher for help.

Leader: Let us call on God to bless our school:

Reader 1: God our Father, you have showered us with great love that we are called your children; help us to listen and learn how to live good lives. For this we pray:

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 2: Jesus our Savior, you grew in wisdom, age and grace; grant that we advance from grade to grade and grow to love you more and more. For this we pray:

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 3: Holy Spirit, you help us to cooperate with our teachers and help us to respect each other in this school, grant that all children of the world may have good teachers and friends in schools as we do>
For this we pray:

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord, God Almighty,
Hear our prayers as we dedicate this building to the education of our students, make it become a center where students, families and teachers share words of concern and love and help each of us grow in the wisdom of the catholic faith. For we know Jesus Christ is our teacher now and forever.

All: Amen.

Leader with Holy Water sprinkles those present and the building.

Suitable song can be sung.

Blessing of the School Door:

Reader: Lord, bless all people who enter through this door. May they grow in wisdom and love. Be it known to all who enter here that Christ is the reason for this school. He is the unseen but ever present teacher in its classes. He is the model of its faculty and the inspiration of its students.

Teacher: Blesses door with holy water.

Blessing of the Library:

Lord, bless all people who come into this library. We know that you came to us in the Words of the Bible and finally in your son, Jesus Christ, the Word of God. May we be open to studying and pursuing knowledge that in time we create a more civilized world where people treat each other with kindness and concern.

Librarian: Blesses door with holy water.

Blessing of the Gymnasium or Playground:

Lord, bless all who use this space for the renewal of their spirit and the strengthening of their body. You have given us strength in order that we might serve you joyously, help one another to be team players, and develop our bodies so we may do good work for others. Help us to care for our bodies as we grow in friendship and respect for other people.

Gym Teacher/Coach: Bless this room/playground with holy Water

Blessing of a Cafeteria:

Lord, our God, like a father you come to our aid when we need you. Like a mother you feed us with generous portions. Bless those who come to this place to eat their meals, may they treat each other with respect, share generously with each other, and be friends with all. Through our sharing together your strength our school family; when we sit down to eat may we always be thankful for all you and our parents and teachers have given us.

Bless the tables and walls; bless the kitchen space if applicable.

One verse from the song, if sung earlier.

(End with a cookie or cupcake for each student)

Blessing of the Classroom

Classroom teachers and students bless each other and their classroom.

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

All: Amen

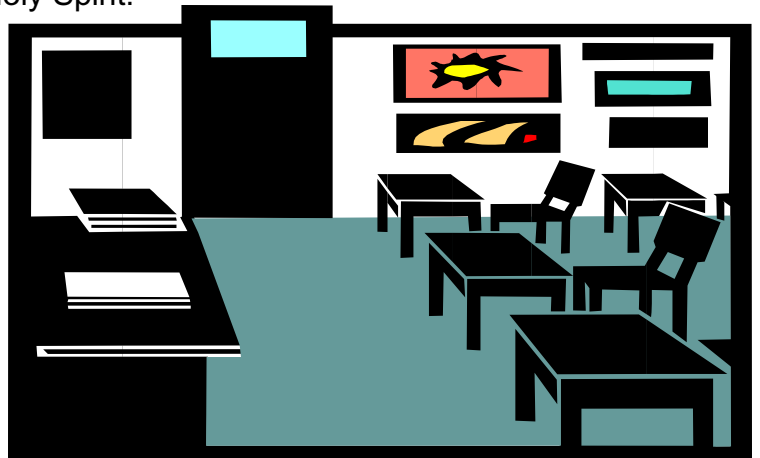
Leader: Let us listen to God's word

Reader: A reading from a letter of St. Paul

You are no longer strangers and traveling alone, for you belong to the one family of all God's people, those living on earth and those living in heaven. You are members of the family of God with the apostles and the prophets, and Jesus Christ himself holds us all together. He holds us all as one family and we grow together in Him. We are being built up in this place so that we are a dwelling place for God and God's Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God



Reader 1: With praise and thanksgiving, let us ask God, to bless our classroom, so that we have a safe and orderly place to learn. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 2: With praise and thanksgiving, let us ask God to bless our textbooks and all our classroom supplies, so that we treat all these gifts with reverence. We pray to the Lord

All: Lord hear our prayer

Reader 3: With praise and thanksgiving, let us ask God to bless our teacher and our classroom aides, so that we may grow in our learning and treat all the teachers with respect. We pray to the Lord

All: Lord hear our prayer

Reader 4: With praise and thanksgiving, let us ask God to bless us students who use this classroom, may we listen and learn and treat each other with kindness, always helping each other learn. We pray to the Lord

All: Lord hear our prayer

Leader: Praise and thanks to you, O God
Be it known to all who enter into our classroom
that Christ is the reason for this school.
He is the unseen but ever present teacher in this classroom
He is the model of our faculty and the inspiration of our students

We ask you now to bless us
And all who use this classroom
May all come here know the presence of Jesus,
Experience the joy of his friendship,
And grow in his love.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Leader with Holy Water sprinkles those present and the walls, door, desks.

A song can be sung.

If you have animals in the classroom include them in the petitions:

With praise and thanksgiving, let us ask God to bless this (name the animal), may we always treat God's creation as a gift for delight and care. We pray to the Lord.



If you have a globe you can include a blessing for all the children of the world:

With praise and thanksgiving, let us ask God to bless the Earth and all of the world's people, may we grow in our service to those who have less than we do, especially children who are poor and hungry and who can not go to school, may we share