



Virtues To Live By

Forgiveness and Mercy



Oh Lord hear my prayer -

Oh Lord hear my prayer.

When I call...

Answer me.

Oh Lord hear my prayer -

Oh Lord hear my prayer.

Come and listen to me.





I show my love for God through my **loving concern** for everyone, especially those in need of my help.

I treat others with the **respect** and **kindness** that I would want for myself.





Forgiveness & Mercy

You give someone another **chance** after they have done something wrong so they can make a new start.

You **let go** of your feelings of sadness, anger and revenge.

You **show your love** for the person rather than focusing on the wrong.





Forgiveness & Mercy

When you **forgive** someone you show that your relationship with them is more important than the wrong they have done.

You also **forgive yourself** so that you do not give up when you have done wrong or made a mistake, but have the **courage to act differently** and have faith that, with God's help, you can change.





We gather...

Focal Point:

- purple cloth
- crucifix
- candle





Opening Prayer

You beckon us to follow you on the way of forgiveness
O God.

Forgive us, and make us a **community of reconciliation**.

You beckon our community into the **fullness of life**.
Forgive us, and make us a **community of reconciliation**.

You beckon the whole universe into **wholeness**.

Forgive us, and make us a **community of reconciliation**.

Forgive us and transform us into a **community of grace**.





Prayer of St Francis

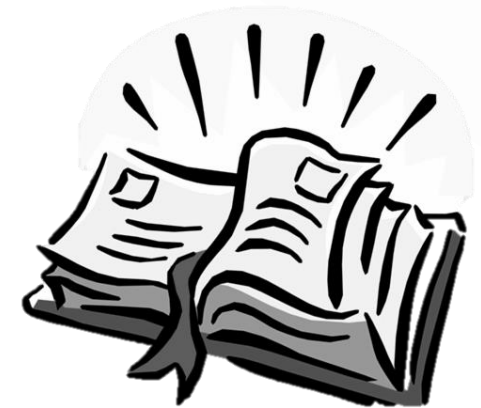
Lord, make me an instrument of your **peace**,
Where there is hatred, let me sow **love**;
where there is injury, **pardon**;
where there is doubt, **faith**;
where there is despair, **hope**;
where there is darkness, **light**;
where there is sadness, **joy**;



We listen...

Based on Psalm 129 (130)

Out of the depths I call to you,
Lord hear my cry for help.
Listen compassionately to my pleading.
If you never overlooked our sins,
who could survive?
Lord, help me to start again.
Your forgiveness wipes my slate clean.





Your love blots out all my sins
as if they had never happened.
Your forgiveness is like re-birth,
a chance to start again with a new, fresh life.
I have only to ask
and your forgiveness is immediate.
Lord, teach me to forgive as I am forgiven...





Teach me your life-giving generosity.
No matter who is right or who is wrong,
help me to sweep away the bitterness,
the nurtured anger
the stored-up resentment of years.
Enable me to start again.





We reflect...

When we have done wrong it makes us feel isolated and distant from God but this is precisely when we need God most.

Focusing on our sins and those of other should not lead to self-pity, causing us to think more about ourselves more than God.





Feeling sorry for ourselves will only increase feelings of hopelessness and anger.

Speaking to God will turn our attention to the only One who can really help.





Keeping a record of sins,
(or holding a grudge) is
like building a wall between you and another
person, and it is nearly impossible to talk
openly while the wall is there.

God does not keep a record of our sins
when he forgives, he forgives completely,
tearing down any wall between us and him.



When you pray realise that God is holding nothing against you. His lines of communication are completely open...





Take a moment in silence to accept God's forgiveness and ask God to give you the grace to forgive someone who has hurt you.



Living Our Virtue

Inspire each one of us that we may help our children to:

- know that God loves them and has forgiven their sins and always will recognise everyone makes mistakes
- understand that good relationships with others are more important than focusing on a wrong
- let go of feelings of sadness or anger
- accept forgiveness when it is offered
- recognise ways they can show they forgive others
- understand that every day is a new beginning



Father I have sinned

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vq8JNLwX5sM&ab_channel=cjmmusic

Father I have sinned, help me find my way
Remember not my sin, just let me hear you say...

I forgive you, I love you, you are mine, take my hand, go in peace, sin no more beloved one

Father I have turned my back and walked away
Depended on my strength and lived life my own way...

I forgive you, I love you, you are mine, take my hand, go in peace, sin no more beloved one

Father I have closed my heart to those in need
Thought only for myself, a victim of my greed...

I forgive you, I love you, you are mine, take my hand, go in peace, sin no more beloved one

Father I have loved - if love's the word to use
I've played so many games, they left me so confused...

I forgive you, I love you, you are mine, take my hand, go in peace, sin no more beloved one

Father I've returned, I'm home with you to stay
Standing by your door, knowing that you'll say...

I forgive you, I love you, you are mine, take my hand, go in peace, sin no more beloved one



Going Forth...

Remember to ask for God's forgiveness if you make a mistake. Learn the Act of Contrition



Our School Prayer



This is our school -

May we all live here happily together!

May our school be full of joy!

May love dwell here among us every day!

Love of one another,

Love of people everywhere,

Love of life itself,

And love of God

Let us remember,

That as many hands build a church -

So every child can make this school a lovely place!

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