



All Hallows Catholic School Weekly Prayer Sheet 2020

Week beginning 6th July

Mother Teresa, lived a life of service and often spoke of 'Receiving God's Love' and using this love to care for one another. She worked with the poorest of the poor in Calcutta, in North-eastern India. She said: "What is the Good News, the Gospel?..... it is that God loves you, that God carries you tattooed on the palms of His hands, that even if a mother should forget her own child, God will not forget you."

As the summer holidays approach, what opportunities will we have to be there for our neighbour? We may face rejection for some of our ideas and practices; it is more important than ever, especially at these uncertain times we stand firm in our belief to live by the gospel message as Jesus taught us do.

Monday St Maria Goretti

Today marks the feast day of St. Maria Goretti, a young martyr whose life is an example of purity and mercy for all Christians. Maria Goretti is best known for her commitment to purity and for courageously defending her faith at the young age of eleven – she was willing to undergo death rather than participate in a sin against God. She is also respected for the forgiveness she willingly granted her attacker as she lay on her deathbed. Maria was born in Corinaldo, Italy on October 16, 1890.

Prayer:

St. Maria Goretti. Help me to live a life of holiness as you did; to serve others in all that I do, to seek purity, to forgive always, and to want for nothing more than to be with our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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Tuesday **Blessed Mary Romero**

Today is the feast day of Blessed Mary Romero. Maria was born in Granada, Nicaragua, in 1902 to a wealthy family, her father being a government minister. At the age of 12, she became extremely sick and was paralysed for six months with rheumatic fever. She was cured through the intercession and apparition of Our Lady Help of Christians, during which time she discovered her vocation to be a Salesian sister. Her ministry became focused on social development, helping the rich to see how they could help the poor. She set up recreational centres in 1945, food distribution centers in 1953, a school for poor girls in 1961, and a clinic in 1966. In 1973, she organised the construction of seven homes, which became the foundation of the village of Centro San Jose, a community where poor families could have decent homes.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father,

Guide me, show me the way to help those who You place before me.

If you want me to help them, Lord, show me how. I need Your guidance. I want to live according to Your Will and become more like You. Amen

Wednesday **Count your blessings**

As we all know, this pandemic has caused big changes to our daily lives; separation from family and friends, the closing of schools and colleges, cancellations of sporting events, and job losses for many people. Churches have not been able to hold services with a congregation, concerts and events are cancelled and holidays are postponed.

It is easy for people to become bitter and frightened in these circumstances, and many will blame God. But there is a lot to give thanks for as well when we're going through difficult times. So often we do not realise what blessings we have until we lose them. We take our good health for granted until we are ill. We may not value our family and friends until we are forced to spend time away from them. Let us take a moment to reflect on what we are most thankful for. Nothing in life remains the same, so we need to be thankful for all the good things in our life now. We pray that God helps us all during these challenging times to be the light that He wants us to be.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety give us strength to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for your name's sake. Amen.

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Thursday**School Prayer**

As we come close to the end of a very unusual academic year let us reflect upon the words of our school prayer; that we might be inspired by the vision God has for us in our lives; that we might be faithful to God by the way that we treat others; putting ourselves last and others first.

Prayer

*Father, pour out your Spirit upon our school
and grant us a renewed vision of your glory,
so that we may experience your power,
be faithful to your word,
and consecrate ourselves to your service.
We pray that your love may grow among us,
and your kingdom come:
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Friday**St. Benedict**

St. Benedict, whose feast day is tomorrow, is believed to have been born in AD480 in Italy, the son of a Roman nobleman of Nursia and the twin to his sister, Scholastica. He went to Rome for further studies, but found the life in the city to be very corrupt. This led him to abandon his studies and lead a spiritual life. He is known as the Patron Saint of Europe for being one of the most important catalysts for the creation of a new European culture after the fall of the Roman Empire in the West.

Prayer:

Dear God, Thank you for your amazing power and work in our lives, thank you for your goodness and for your blessings over us. . Forgive us for when we don't thank you enough, for who you are, for all that you do, for all that you've given. Help us to set our eyes and our hearts on you afresh. Renew our spirits, fill us with your peace and joy. We love you and we need you, this day and every day. We give you praise and thanks, In Jesus' Name. Amen

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