



PRAYERS THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL AND LITURGICAL YEAR



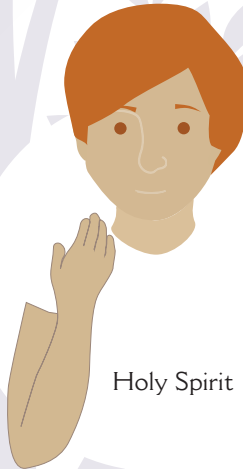
In the name of the Father



And of the Son



And of the



Holy Spirit

Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father

Who made me

Who made all things wonderfully well

Who is love

And of the Son

Who saves me

Who saves us all from darkness

Who is our teacher

And of the Holy Spirit

Who inspires me

Who inspires us all to live well

Who is our guide

Amen



Tips for teachers

With new intakes of pupils, more and more will have no grounding in the Catholic Christian faith. When I was a headteacher, the first thing I had to do with the new Year 7 intake was teach them the sign of the cross. Many had never made this gesture in their lives. This prayer may help to unpack a little what we're saying when we address the Trinity. The prayer could be said with one "lead" voice and the part in italics by the rest of the group.

Our Father

Our Father

*Not a frightening God
But the loving Father of all humanity*

Who art in heaven

*Not far away but very close
Heaven is where we find the presence of God*

Hallowed be thy name

*We place your name above all other names
We praise you, we honour you, we thank you*

Thy kingdom come

*May the world look like the kind of place
God wants it to be, just and compassionate*

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven

*We all want different things
But it's what you want for us and the world that matters*

Give us this day our daily bread

*Give everybody what they need to live, physically and spiritually,
Give us the grace to help them*

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us

If we don't forgive other people

We won't be able to feel forgiven

And lead us not into temptation

Protect us from the glamorous path

The world sets before us

But deliver us from evil

*Spare us from the terrible things human beings are capable of
and help us to stand against evil in our world when we can*

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, for ever and ever*

*And your kingdom is loving, your power is gentle and your glory
is humble.*

Amen.

Let all this be so.

*This is usually not said in Catholic communities
but is said in Church of England communities.

Harvest prayer

Harvest fast day, first Friday in October

God of the harvest,
We thank you for the fruits of the earth,
We thank you for the hands that plant the crops
And tend the flocks,
For those who look to the heavens for rain.

We have lost touch with the soil,
With what it means to sow and reap,
To wait with patience for the rains and green shoots.
We often take for granted what is on our plate.
We see farm machinery in our country
And endless fields of wheat,
But we don't know the back-breaking labour
Of farming with basic tools, digging the earth
To turn over tired soil, scattering seed,
Harvesting carefully, struggling to get a decent price for the crop.

We know there is more than enough to go around.
We know that a scandalous amount is wasted.
We know that one billion children in the world live in poverty.
Help us never to be indifferent to the real, daily needs
Of our brothers and sisters on this earth.
Help us to understand what fair trade means
And support those who treat the farmers
With dignity and justice.

Help us to bear good fruit in our own lives,
What it means to reap what we sow.
Help us to grow in responsibility for what we do,
For our earth, our common home,
For our brothers and sisters
Who live in places where life is much harder.
Bless all those who sow and reap.
Bless the harvest of the earth.
Bless the harvest of our lives.

Tips for teachers

You will find a wealth of resources to support your Harvest Day activities and prayers on the CAFOD website at: Cafod.org.uk/Education/fastday. Harvest Fast Day is usually around the beginning of October.

Did you know?

Did you know that CAFOD has an online store with T-shirts, tops and hoodies made from 100 per cent organic cotton made in an ethically accredited wind-powered factory? For more information, visit shop.cafod.org.uk