

## Back to School: Intentions for the Start of the School Year.

### **These petitions could be incorporated into a prayer service or opening liturgy.**

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*Response: "Lord hear our prayer"*

Let us pray for all Believers around the world and those who seek Christ,  
that they may receive blessings and open their hearts to God's word...

*We pray to the Lord*

For all experiencing some form of social injustice,  
that they may feel physical and spiritual relief...

*We pray to the Lord*

For all of the new students joining our community,  
may they find a community that welcomes them and makes them  
comfortable in their new surroundings...

*We pray to the Lord*

For the students, faculty, and staff of our school,  
may we be able to work together as a community to accomplish all the goals  
set before us this school year...

*We pray to the Lord*

For all the sick and suffering,  
may they experience healing and a full recovery with God's grace...

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For all those connected to our community who have recently passed away,  
may they feel the grace of the Spirit as they enter the heavenly reign of God...

*We pray to the Lord*

For all the special intentions we hold in our hearts...(Pause for 5 seconds)

*We pray to the Lord*

## **Reflection for the Start of new School Year.**

### ***What will this year bring?***

We do not know; It will likely bring us its usual times of work and play, experiences of learning, newness, success and challenges, all things that are part of school life.

It's a new beginning; The planting of a seed that will grow for a year, The seed of fruit that will blossom in times to come. It offers new hope, Hope for good work, for successful results, For friendship, for fun, for learning.

In this coming year, may there be learning, prayer, and fun. May there be hard work, faith and friendship. May no one in school be lonely; May no one be left out in class; May no one suffer because of how others treat them.

As we begin this new school year in hope, in prayer and friendship, May God begin it with us, be with us during it, and successfully bring it to its conclusion.

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### ***A Prayer for the New School Year.***

Lord Jesus, we ask for Your help as we begin this new school year. Allow us to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before us. Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings. Open our heart and mind to new friends and new teachers. Give us a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with our studies and

courage to accept new opportunities. Help us to be attentive to one another and let us experience Your presence in our new friends. Jesus, inspire us to do our best this year!

Amen.

(Dublin Archdiocese Education Secretariat).

***Reflection:***

We give you praise, O God, for everything that is new and beautiful, for everything which holds promise and brings us joy. Bless us as we start this new year with our friends and teachers. Help us to make the most of every chance we have to start afresh. May we show love to one another and to all. May the new beginning of this school year remind us that you give us chances to start over again and again. Help us to forgive others as we receive your forgiveness. Help us to learn and to work together. Help us to listen when we should and to know the best words when we speak and when it is better not to speak. We thank you for our friends. Help us to be good friends this year. Help us to be patient with ourselves and with others. Bless our school and keep us safe. Be with us as we travel each day. Help us to be aware of your love shown to us in the people around us. Bless all those who care for us in school and at home. Help us show our care for them.

and to say sorry when we need to. May the Lord protect us and help us to live as well as we can giving thanks and glory to God as they did.

Amen.

(Dublin Archdiocese Education Secretariat).

***A Blessing for the Beginning of the School Year.***

May Wisdom be in our minds and in our thinking.

May Wisdom be in our hearts and in our perceiving.

May Wisdom be in our mouths and in our speaking.

May Wisdom be in our hands and in our working.

May Wisdom be with us, all the days of our lives.

Amen. (Dublin Archdiocese Education Secretariat).

***A September Prayer***

I thank you, Lord, God our Father,

For all that was good during the summer, For the love my family gave me,

For the company of friends and for the sunshine and warm days.

I thank you for the people who cared for me.

At those times when I felt sad and down at heart.

Now I ask for your help as I begin a new school year,

And I pray your blessing on every day in this school.

Show us how to work together for the good of all.

May we share our talents and abilities to the full and grow in knowledge, wisdom and happiness.

During this school year,

Let us become builders of your ways and instruments of your peace.

In our part of the world.

We ask this school year blessing,

Through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen. (Dublin Archdiocese Education Secretariat).