

## RESPECT PRAYER SERVICE

### Introduction

Leader: Loving God, you gather us together at the start of a new school year.  
May you bless our learning community with:

- Courage and commitment
- Wisdom and harmony
- Joy and peace
- Justice and hope
- Reverence and respect for all of your creation.

Today we celebrate the sacredness of all God's people,  
And remember we are created in the image of God.  
We praise God for the gift of life and the special place that we have in God's  
creation. Created sacred, we reflect the image of God,  
And are called to respect the same dignity in others.

Leader: Creator God we praise you and thank you for wonderfully creating us.  
Help us to see ourselves and each other as sacred and holy.  
May we always recognize the dignity and worth of every person,  
And may we treat all with deep respect, through your Son Jesus.  
Amen.

### Scripture Readings: Jeremiah 1:4-5

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;  
Before you came to birth I consecrated you;  
I have appointed you as a prophet to the nations."  
The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Leader: Praising God for the gift of human dignity,  
We pray for the hearts to recognize God's image  
In ourselves and in everyone we meet.

We in Catholic schools are mindful of God's plan  
For all creation even before we were born.  
The call to holiness is a call to become the best we can possibly be,  
And to respect all those we meet.

## Prayers of the Faithful

Response: Loving Creator, help us to respect each other.

Creator God, thank you for your amazing gift of creating us in your image.  
May we always respect and honour one another's dignity and holiness.

R Loving Creator, help us to respect each other.

Creator God, thank you for our humanity  
That reminds us of your great love for us.  
May we always reflect your image to all those we meet.

R Loving Creator, help us to respect each other.

## Closing Prayer

Dear God, we know that you are always with us  
No matter where we are or what we are doing.  
Help us to be people of prayer who live always in your love.  
May we follow Jesus Christ in all things and in all ways  
Through the Holy Spirit who guides our lives.

Amen.

As together, we pray...  
Our Father, who art in heaven ....