

Prayer of Intercession

We pray for all who are involved in the work of our schools throughout our diocese. May they continue to respond with joy and generosity to God's call to serve in our schools, and continue to be strengthened by the love of Christ.



Optional additional prayers of intercession

We pray for Francis our Pope,
for our Bishop Peter and all priests and religious that
they may continue to witness to the joy of God's
calling.

We pray for all parents and carers
that they may undertake their responsibility of
educating their children with gentleness and love.

We pray for our children
that they may grow in love of God and neighbour.

We pray for our governors
that they may guide our schools
with wisdom and discernment.

We pray for our teachers and all staff,
that they may strive to live lives of witness
to the children in their care.

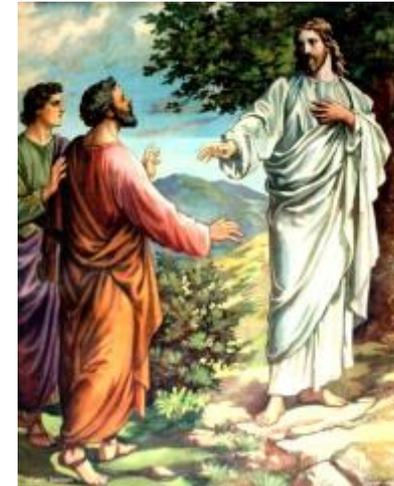
We also pray for our catechists that they may share the
faith with enthusiasm and joy.



**Our Catholic Schools' Week
8 - 15 October 2017**

Our Catholic Schools' Sunday

**For Mass on 15 October 2017
(28th Sunday in Ordinary Time)**



Chosen and Called

Introduction

This Sunday in our parishes we celebrate
Our Catholic Schools' Sunday.

It is a diocesan day of prayer
where we recognise and celebrate the
teaching and learning that takes place in many
different ways and in a variety of settings in our
Catholic schools.

Reflection

Today we thank God for all those who live out the
Good News in our schools, homes and parishes and
for all who have supported us in our faith throughout
our lives. We thank God for the gift of our parents,
carers, teachers and catechists and all who show us
how to live following the example of Jesus.

Today we remember that each of us are called and
loved by God. Today we recall that each of us has
unique gifts to share as part of the Body of Christ.

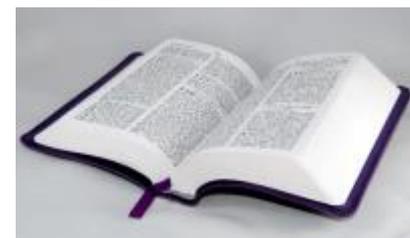
Blessed Cardinal John Henry Newman
famously wrote:

*God has created me to do him some
definite service. He has committed
some work to me which he has not
committed to another.
I have my mission.*



The Liturgy of the Word

Jesus called his disciples and proclaimed the Good News.
He continues to speak to us and call us through his Word.
As we listen to the scripture readings today, with open
hearts and minds, let us be ready to hear his call and
respond as missionary disciples.



Scripture Readings for today

In the first reading Isaiah speaks of the banquet to which
we are called to share.
(Is 25:6-10)

St Paul, in our second reading, knows that the God who
has called and chosen him also strengthens him to respond
to that call.
(Phil 4:12-14, 19-20)

In our Gospel, from Matthew, we hear how the king sends
out invitations to the wedding banquet. Through the work
of our Catholic schools we share the joy of God's Kingdom
with many families and many communities throughout the
diocese. We thank God in this Eucharist for this great
opportunity and privilege.
(Gospel Mt 22:1-14)