



DIOCESE OF KILLALOE

Post Primary Catechetics

<https://www.killaloe-diocese.ie/resources/secondary-catechetics/>

Killaloe Diocese Office
Westbourne
Cusack Road, Ennis
Co. Clare, V95 W63H
Ireland

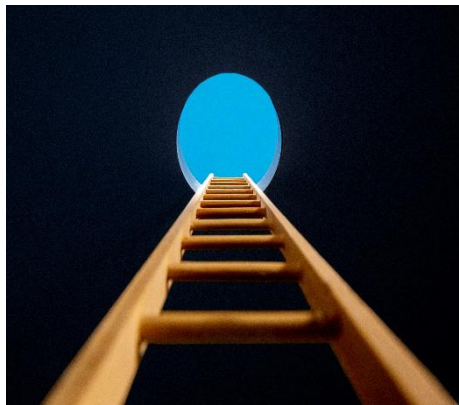
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DIOCESE OF KILLALOE.

GRADUATION REFLECTIONS AND PRAYERS 2026.

THEMES: PEACE, HOPE & THE FUTURE.



Brendan O'Brien,
Diocesan Advisor for
Religious Education.





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God Go With You.

Poet: Catherine Pulsifer

As you step into the world ahead,
May faith be stronger than your dread.
Let wisdom guide the things you do,
And know that God walks close with you.

When doors swing wide or stay closed tight,
May His Word lead you to what's right.
In every joy, in trials too,
Remember this, God walks with you.

Go forth with courage, hope, and grace,
His love will meet you in each place.
This milestone reached, one of many more,
With God beside you, you will soar.

A New Chapter Begins.

Poet: Catherine Pulsifer

Graduation day is finally here,
A time to smile, a time to cheer.
The books are closed, the tests are done,

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A journey ends, a new one's begun.

This chapter now comes to a close,

What's ahead? Nobody knows.

But dreams are waiting, hopes are high,

So spread your wings, prepare to fly.

The road ahead may twist and bend,

But strength and faith will help you mend.

Each step you take, each choice you make,

Will shape the path that you will take.

Mistakes may come, and that's okay,

They help to guide you on your way.

Keep your heart both kind and true,

And blessings will come back to you.

So, take this moment, feel the pride,

With courage, let your fears subside.

This is a new chapter, fresh and bright—

Walk in it boldly, be a shining light.

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Go With God.

Poet: Catherine Pulsifer

As you step into something new,
Know God will always walk with you.
Through every challenge, every test,
He'll guide your path and give you rest.

Your gifts were given from above,
To share with faith, to lead with love.
So, shine His light in all you do,
Let His strong hands keep guiding you.

The road ahead may not be clear,
But trust in Him and have no fear.
Go with God, stand firm, be strong—
With Him, you'll always walk along.

Prayer on Leaving School .

God our Father

We can look back over the last few years
and recall the friendships that have formed
and the good relationships that we have developed.

We give thanks for all who have enriched our lives in various ways:

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At home, in school, in church, and in the local community.

We are conscious too, Father, of mistakes that have been made and relationships that have gone sour.

We ask for healing of what has been negative in the past, as we place ourselves into your hands.

Inspire us in the years ahead to live in such a way that we readily apologise when things go wrong, as well as expressing thanks and encouragement to those who are a part of our lives.

We give thanks, Father, for the gifts, talents and skills that you have given to each one of us. We think of people who may have received less than others but have made much of themselves. We remember, too, those who have overcome great difficulties, and all who have inspired us because they have given of their best.

In giving thanks for what has been in the past, we ask for your blessing on our present and future. We pray for wisdom in setting our priorities and in making our choices that we may live fully and make our part of the world a better place because of the care and compassion that we bring into it.

Amen.

It Couldn't Be Done.

By Edgar Albert Guest.

Somebody said that it couldn't be done

But he with a chuckle replied

That "maybe it couldn't," but he would be one

Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.

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So, he buckled right in with the trace of a grin

On his face. If he worried he hid it.

He started to sing as he tackled the thing

That couldn't be done, and he did it!

Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that.

At least no one ever has done it;"

But he took off his coat, and he took off his hat

And the first thing we knew he'd begun it.

With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin,

Without any doubting or quiddit,

He started to sing as he tackled the thing

That couldn't be done, and he did it.

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,

There are thousands to prophesy failure,

There are thousands to point out to you one by one,

The dangers that wait to assail you.

But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,

Just take off your coat and go to it;

Just start in to sing as you tackle the thing

That "cannot be done," and you'll do it.

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A Prayer for an End to War and Violence.

Dear Heavenly Father, in a world torn by wars and violence, we seek Your powerful hand to bring an end to bloodshed. We pray for ceasefires, peace treaties, and healing among conflicting parties. Comfort the victims of violence and restore hope to the broken-hearted. Grant wisdom to world leaders to choose peace over conflict, dialogue over destruction. We plead for the disarmament of nations and the dismantling of weapons that bring harm. May your peace flood battlefields and transform hearts that hunger for vengeance into hearts seeking forgiveness and reconciliation. Protect innocent lives and bring justice to the oppressed. Lord, You are our refuge and strength, and in You alone we find true peace. Amen.

A Prayer for Peace in Our Homes.

Lord, fill my family with Your peace. Help us to communicate with love and forgive quickly. Guard our hearts against bitterness and strife. May our home be a refuge where peace dwells and Your love grows strong. Teach us to be patient and understanding with one another, reflecting Your grace daily. Amen.

A Prayer for Peace Among Youth and Children.

Heavenly Father, we pray for peace among the young in every corner of the earth. Protect children from violence, exploitation, and neglect. Fill their hearts with joy, safety, and hope. Empower youth to choose paths of peace over conflict, understanding over hatred. Help us adults to be role models, guiding them toward compassion and justice. May schools, playgrounds, and communities become places of peace where every child can flourish. Guard their innocence and bless their dreams for a better, peaceful future. Amen.

A Prayer for Peace in the Environment and Creation.

Creator God, You made the heavens, the earth, and all living things. Help us to live in peace with Your creation. Teach us to care for the environment and to be good stewards of the resources you have entrusted to us. Protect endangered species, preserve forests, rivers, and seas. Heal the damage caused by pollution and greed. Let peace extend to the natural world, reflecting Your harmony in all creation. Inspire people everywhere to live sustainably and to cherish the beauty of the earth. Amen.

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A Prayer for Peace Among Different Religions and Faiths.

Lord of all, we pray for peaceful coexistence among people of all faiths and beliefs. Teach us to respect one another's traditions and to seek common ground in our shared humanity. Help religious leaders promote love, tolerance, and understanding. Break down barriers of prejudice and fear. May Your Spirit bring harmony among diverse communities, showing the world that peace is possible through mutual respect and compassion. Amen.

Christ our light. Prayer by Matthew Dear and Susy Brouard.

Christ our light,
your love burns in our hearts
and builds in us a thirst for justice.
Jesus, light of the world,
you taught us how to reach out to others,
open our ears
to the stories that beg to be heard.
You who are light and warmth,
banish the darkness
and bring us hope.
Jesus, light of life,
enfold us all with your love
and incline our hearts
to the leading of your healing spirit.
Amen.

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The Peace Prayer of St. Francis is a timeless prayer asking God to make us instruments of peace, emphasizing love, forgiveness, and hope.

Full Text of the Prayer.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love.

where there is injury, pardon.

where there is doubt, faith.

where there is despair, hope.

where there is darkness, light.

where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

for it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Short Prayer for Renewed Hope.

Dear Lord, I ask You to fill my heart with renewed hope today. When the world around me seems uncertain, remind me of Your steadfast love and Your promises that never fail. Let Your peace settle over my anxieties and let Your Spirit uplift my spirit. Infuse my day with a renewed sense of purpose and joy, grounded in the hope that only You can provide. Amen.

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Prayer for Hope Among Youth.

Lord, I lift up the younger generation before You, asking that You instil in them a robust hope for the future. In a world that often seems fraught with challenges and uncertainties, empower them with courage and optimism. Equip them with the tools they need to navigate life's complexities with confidence and grace. Inspire them to dream big, to pursue those dreams with Your wisdom, and to make a positive impact on the world around them. Protect their hearts from despair and fill them with the light of Your hope that shines brightly, guiding their path toward a hopeful and promising future. Amen.

Another Short Prayer for Hope.

The Bible teaches us the vitality of hope, assuring us that with God, hope is never misplaced. As St. Paul writes:

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 15:13)

A prayer for a bright future.

Dear Heavenly Father, I come before you today seeking your guidance and blessings for a bright future. Lord, you know the desires of my heart and the dreams that I carry within me. I ask that you align my path with your perfect will and purpose for my life. Father, I surrender my plans and ambitions to you, knowing that you have a greater plan in store for me. I pray that you would give me wisdom and discernment in every decision I make. Help me to choose the path that aligns with your Word and brings glory to your Name. Lord, I ask for your favour and blessings to be upon me. Open doors of opportunity that no man can shut. Guide me to the right opportunities and surround me with people who will inspire and encourage me. Let your light shine upon me so that others may see your goodness and grace in my life. I pray that you would equip me with the necessary skills, knowledge, and resources to excel in every area of my life. May I be diligent in my studies, work, and relationships, always striving for excellence and desiring to bring honour to you. Father, I also pray for your protection over me. Shield me from any harm or evil that may come my way. Give me confidence and courage to face any challenges that may arise. Help me to trust in your unfailing love and know that you are always with me, guiding and protecting me. Lord, I surrender my future into your hands. May your will be done in my life, no matter where it may lead me. I trust in your goodness and faithfulness, knowing that you have great plans in store for me. Thank you for hearing my prayer, and I trust that you will fulfil your promises for a bright and prosperous future. In Jesus Name I pray. Amen.

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A Prayer Seeking Guidance for The Future.

Our Father, as we stand on the threshold of tomorrow, we seek Your divine guidance.

Illuminate our path with Your wisdom and grant us the clarity to make choices that align with Your will.

Help us to trust in Your plan, embracing each moment with faith and courage.

May we walk forward with hope, knowing You are with us every step of the way.

Amen.

A Prayer for Daily Joy.

"Source of all light, fill my heart with gratitude today.

Help me see beauty in small moments,
and let kindness guide my words and actions.

May joy flow through me and touch those I meet."*

A Prayer for Inner Peace.

"Divine Spirit, calm my restless thoughts.

Replace worry with trust,
and fear with hope.

Let my soul rest in the quiet assurance
that I am loved and guided."*

A Prayer for Gratitude and Abundance.

"Creator of all blessings,

thank You for the gift of this day.

Open my eyes to the abundance around me,
and my heart to share freely. May happiness grow wherever I walk."

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Traditional Irish Blessings.

“Go n-éirí an bóthar leat. Go mbíodh an ghaoth i do dhiaidh. Go dté an ghrian go te ar d’aghaidh, agus go dtitfidh na báistí go bog ar do pháirceanna, agus go gcoinnigh Dia thú i lámh a lá.”

“May the road rise to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.”.

“Go raibh tú bocht i mí-ádh, saibhir i mbeannachtaí, mall le naimhde, tapa le cairde, ach saibhir nó bocht, mall nó tapa, go mbeadh tú eolasach ach ar son sonas ón lá seo amach.”

“May you be poor in misfortune, rich in blessings, slow to make enemies, quick to make friends, and may you know nothing but happiness from this day forward.”.

“Go mbeire Dia an t-ádh duit agus go gcoinnigh sé tú slán.”

“May God give you luck and keep you safe.”.



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