

Prayer in a Recontextualising Catholic Dialogue School

Loving God

For individuals and communities, Christian prayer is an expression of God's loving, personal relationship with us and our desire to know and love God. Prayer opens us to living more fully with God who is the source of all life.

Celebrating Difference

Prayer celebrates the particular details, elements, origins and rituals that comprise various faith traditions including Catholicism. In prayer, we are encouraged to appreciate this difference by not fusing all faith positions into one.

Celebrating Catholic

In a Catholic context, prayer gives authentic witness to the Catholic faith. Such prayer needs to incorporate distinctly Catholic elements that celebrate the rich heritage and story of our tradition.

Spiritual Transformation

Authentic interaction between the Catholic faith and our surrounding culture in prayer enhances the possibility of spiritual growth, a shift in meaning and a greater sense of God in our lives, our world and our universe.

Inviting Participation

All members of a Catholic community are welcome participants at prayer. Catholics and others who hold various belief positions are invited to contribute from their own perspectives. Belief in the Sacred is never enforced through prayer.

Seeking Mystery

Prayer reorients us towards God. As God is present to us through all of creation and all lived experience, it is vital to acknowledge moments of joy, wonder and hope alongside death, tragedy and fear during prayer.

Hospitality for all

In today's Catholic schools that are diverse in nature, the face of God is recognised in all who participate in prayer. The prayer culture is enriched through an openness to spiritual dialogue with individuals who hold various belief positions.

Dialogue & Diversity

Through prayer, Catholic school communities open themselves to the beliefs and spiritualities of all present. This authentic dialogue space can enrich one's experience of God and the Catholic faith.

Sacred Space

Prayer needs to be prioritised. It also needs to be relevant and meaningful to every age and cultural group who participate. The quality of prayer is enhanced when the setting and sacred space is carefully considered and created.

