

Octave of Easter Prayer Service for Catholic Educators

INTRODUCTION

Good morning, and welcome to our prayer service to begin our meeting during this Octave of Easter. Our days of rejoicing continue from Easter Sunday with a week in which each day is a solemnity – the highest form of celebration in the Church’s liturgical year.

OPENING SONG

In the spirit of this joyful season, please join in our opening song:

OPENING PRAYER

Let us begin our prayer: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen
God our Father, basking in the radiant hope of your risen Son, we turn to you now with Easter joy. Open our hearts to hear your holy word, that it may shape and direct our work this day and always in the service of Catholic education. We make this prayer to you in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.

READING

(Any Mass reading from the Octave of Easter will be suitable)

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

1. Let us pray for the Church. That in this Easter season, all who share a common Baptism will find greater unity in their shared joy of Christ’s resurrection. We pray to the Lord... *Lord, hear our prayer.*
2. Let us pray for the world. That peoples of all nations will open their hearts to the victorious and risen Christ’s gift of peace. We pray to the Lord... *Lord, hear our prayer.*
3. Let us pray for those who struggle to experience the joy of Easter in their lives. That God might remove all obstacles to their peace, freedom and joy . We pray to the Lord... *Lord, hear our prayer.*
4. Let us pray for our Catholic schools here at home and everywhere. That the hope and joy of Easter might deepen the commitment of all involved in Catholic education to placing their gifts and talents at the service of Christ’s Gospel through our distinctive mission. We pray to the Lord... *Lord, hear our prayer.*
5. Let us pray for ourselves. That in this Easter season, we might find what we need to continue leading and serving with hope, peace and joy. We pray to the Lord... *Lord, hear our prayer.*
6. For our personal intentions... We pray to the Lord... *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Let us unite all the prayers spoken and those in the silence of our hearts, to the constant prayer of Jesus on our behalf before the Father, using the words he gave us: ***Our Father...***

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord, we praise you for the continual grace that flows into our lives, sustaining our labours for the sake of your risen Son and his Gospel. May all that we do for our Catholic schools enable the young persons in our care to grow in knowledge, wisdom and joy that find their fulfillment in you. We make this prayer to you in the name of Jesus, our risen Lord. Amen.

And may Almighty God bless us: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.