

# Perpetual Day of Remembrance

Resources for schools and all church agencies, groups

Thursday September 15, 2022

## Shine the Light of Christ

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## Acknowledgement of Country

*We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as Australia's First Peoples and the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which we work to build a stronger, more equitable, kinder society that values children, young people, families and individuals.*

*We honour the wisdom of and pay respect to, Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge the spiritual culture of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across Australia.*

*The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is located on the traditional lands of the Awabakal, Biripi, Darkinjung, Kamilaroi, Wiradjuri, Wonnarua and Worimi people.*

*This diocese acknowledges the important Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander occupation and care of the land on which we live. We acknowledge our Traditional Custodians' continual spiritual and cultural connection to Country. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as having been on this land for over 60,000 years.*

This is the acknowledgement made in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan launched on 18 August 2022.



## Ode to the Light of Christ

Come, let us walk in the Light of the Lord.  
Let us not fear the past  
when our hearts were heavy. (Is. 2:5)  
Let us Shine the Light of Christ.

Come, let us bring light from the darkness.  
Let us make evil good  
and find sweet in the bitter. (Is. 5:20)  
Let us Shine the Light of Christ.

Come, let us weep together  
when the light grew dark with the clouds,  
from the darkness and distress. (Is. 5:30)  
Let us Shine the Light of Christ.

Come, let us walk with our brothers and sisters,  
those who have walked in darkness. (Is. 9:2)  
Let them see the great Light of God  
and let us Shine the Light of Christ.

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# Introduction

**2022** marks five years since Lina's Project and Bishop Bill Wright establishing 15 September as a *Perpetual day of Remembrance* throughout the diocese.

A lot has happened in these five years, and particularly in the last twelve months or more. Our context is different, and context informs our feelings and understandings, our priorities and choices, our prayer and liturgy.

Two-and-a-half years of living with COVID-19 has opened our eyes, and the eyes of Australian society, to the broad spectrum of abuse including:

- The increasing incidence of domestic violence and abuse
- Ongoing child abuse in families: physical, sexual, emotional
- Lack of care and resources, and the abuse of the elderly both in aged care homes and our neighbourhoods
- Lack of care and resources, and the abuse of people with a disability, including our brothers and sisters who live with a mental health illness in care facilities and our neighbourhoods
- The sexual abuse and intimidation of women in society and some institutions structured around power, including our parliament
- Abuse of power in government institutions that disrespects all of us and our democratic principles including those of equity and justice
- Rampant abuse of creation, particularly of the earth which is our common home.

Our 2022 context also includes war in the Ukraine, and political and military power struggles and posturing in Asia and the Pacific.

Violence in all its forms, and abuse in particular, exist on a very broad spectrum. The examples listed above are on the extreme end. At the other end are the tiny seeds of abuse which, if not challenged, grow into and enable the extremes. Our long standing 'Prayer for Turning on Light'(p.8-9) names some of these seeds: dishonesty, disrespect, hidden agendas, silence, exclusion. Such behaviours continue in our society, communities and workplaces.

What are we – the Catholic community – learning from our experience of abuse within the Church? How are we changing? What are we noticing and speaking up about now our eyes are wide open? What are we doing differently? How can our story and experience of the historical sexual abuse of children break us open to be a force for good and a source of wisdom in our ever-changing context? We know this landscape inside out. We know it because of the courage of survivors who have spoken up, and the media who amplified their voices and told their stories.

The resources that follow support the Church's prayer response to the *Perpetual Day of Remembrance*. Prayer is not our only response. It is, however, our unique response. The social workers, counsellors, police, media, doctors, lawyers, government and the many other support networks, including our own church networks, continue to respond to survivors and their families with their human presence and particular professional expertise.

The community of faith prays with its eyes and hearts wide open. The community of faith prays that it will be changed – 'it' being the church. The community of faith prays: for those who cannot pray, for those who have lost all hope and faith, for those who see no possibility of healing, no hope for a new day. The community of faith prays for the survivors of sexual abuse perpetuated by members of the Catholic Church.

The community of faith prays for those in our society who are standing up and speaking out and demanding change: those who speak up for the environment; those who speak up for women: people like Rosie Batty, Grace Tame and Brittany Higgins who name our unpalatable truths; family members who speak out about elder abuse and abuse of those living with a mental illness; people who are part of unjust systems and who name a truth and demand change.

The community of faith holds hope for those who are no longer able to hope. As the People of God whose life is grounded in Christ's Paschal Mystery we know and seek to proclaim a truth far deeper than human wisdom and logic. It is the truth that in the very worst, the very darkest, the most devastating and hope-less moments of life, God is there with us, suffering with us, waiting with us, and acting to bring new and unimagined life out of death.

In 2022 our context has sharpened the imperative to remember and reflect on the story of historic child sexual abuse in the church of Maitland-Newcastle. The need for prayer is even more urgent. As always, the point of our remembering and praying is that we will be changed so we will help to shine the light of Christ in all the dark places of our Church and our world. We pray as Jesus taught the disciples

*that God's Kingdom will come and God's will be done.*

In 2021 we were in lockdown for the *Perpetual Day of Remembrance*. That limited what parishes, schools and agencies could do. There has been little change to the three main resources this year. We listened to feedback from last year and have tweaked and added a few things.

In keeping with the wisdom of our Catholic liturgy, we know it is not about doing things differently, but rather doing things ever more intentionally, ever more deeply, so our prayer moves us to surrender to and to become so at one with God that, with Christ, we continue to pour ourselves out in love for the life of the world.

The main development this year is the inclusion of a version of the 'Stations of the Cross' prepared specifically for the *Perpetual Day of Remembrance*. It is available on the [diocesan website](#) as a separate document.

The background information tracing the year-by-year development of the day and our prayer response is retained in an edited form. Feedback indicates that people find it helpful to revisit the background, rationale, intention and story.

The diverse and strong feeling about this day remains. Diverse and strong feeling exists about all abuse. 'Catholic' implies diversity and appreciates that it strengthens unity. The range of resources seeks to respect our diversity.

Let's be 'catholic'. Let us pray well using strong symbols. Our context calls for renewed boldness. Let's get on with it.

This year the survivor aspect of the *Perpetual Day of Remembrance* focuses on the Bishop's Healing Fund and commissioning a piece of music by a well-respected local Australian composer.

It is also important to note that the imperative to pray is further strengthened by the recently released Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2022-2023, [Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse](#).

## Background

**2017** As part of [Lina's Project](#), Bishop Bill Wright established September 15 as a *Perpetual Day of Remembrance* throughout the diocese. Such a day holds before us our history of child sexual abuse and the reality of its continual unfolding in the lives of those directly and indirectly affected.

The intention is that this day be marked by both survivor-led events and prayer, ritual and worship.

As a people of faith, commissioned by Jesus to live in remembrance of him, we know the importance and power of remembering. Our remembering not only functions to ensure that such abuse never happens again. Most significantly our liturgical remembering immerses us in Christ's Paschal Mystery which is the source of our ongoing conversion and hope. It is only with the light of this Mystery that our eyes and hearts will be open to discerning the cultural change necessary for the Church to be ever more truly a sign and instrument of God's reign right here and right now.

Our Church response is shaped by our liturgical wisdom, and by the light of the Paschal Mystery. Some aspects will remain the same every year, other things will change, and new things will be included as we continue to change and grow.

**2018** saw a small start in the way the Church community marked the day. Resources were provided to all parishes for the celebration of Mass on Sunday September 16. The focus was on Mass at the Sacred Heart Cathedral where Bishop Bill presided.

**2019** The Diocesan Liturgy Council established a 'Perpetual Day of Remembrance Standing Committee' which worked in collaboration with Healing and Support Services, the Office of Safeguarding and Bishop Bill. The Church's prayer response was named **Shine the light of Christ**. This title captures the essence of the Church's mandate to repent, believe and proclaim the Good News, especially in the darkest places of our human experience. Three resources were developed to enable the participation of all people irrespective of their affiliation with a parish community: a resource for parishes, another for Church agencies, group and schools, and another for individuals and households.

**2020** saw the establishment of the 'Perpetual Day of Remembrance and National Child Protection Week Coordinating Committee'. This enhanced consultation with Healing and Support Services, the Office of Safeguarding and provided a platform for further consultation with Bishop Bill and Fr Andrew Doohan, the Vicar General.

The significant development in the Church response for 2020 was Bishop Bill's decision to [decree](#) *Perpetual Day of Remembrance Sunday* as a feast day to be inscribed in the diocesan liturgical calendar. This was explained in the [letter](#) accompanying the decree. It

is celebrated on the Sunday of or prior to September 15 replacing the Mass for the Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. This enabled us to determine the readings and prayers used for the celebration of Mass on this Sunday. The decree assisted parishes in resolving clashes with other events, especially those related to Sacraments of Initiation.

**2021** The survivor-led aspect of our response was focused on promotion of the Bishop's Healing Fund.

COVID-19 impacted our prayer and worship response.

The most significant development of the Parish Resource was the 'Sunday Mass Overview' in response to 2020.

## National Child Protection Week

*National Child Protection Week* is not part of the diocesan *Perpetual Day of Remembrance*. However, as an annual national event it stands as an important prelude which helps prepare us for the *Perpetual Day of Remembrance*. *National Child Protection Week* highlights the positive changes that have been made over many years. These include changes to policies, processes and procedures.

In 2022 *National Child Protection Week* runs from Sunday September 4 to Saturday September 10 continuing the theme is **Every child in every community needs a fair go.**

Our diocesan community is committed to support *National Child Protection Week*. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and promote the great work that has been done and continues to be done in this space. An array of resources has been sent to St. Nicholas Early Education, to CatholicCare, to parishes and schools by Connie Peate and Sophie Dougherty from the Office of Safeguarding. Please click on this [link](#) for more information.

## Conclusion

Overall, we recommend keeping it simple.

There will be a review for people to complete after the day. In addition to completing that, you may like to send suggestions for other ways to assist schools, agencies and groups to mark this day. Please send your ideas to the Office of Worship and Prayer via this [email link](#).

The Healing & Support Team – Zimmerman Service is available should any of this cause distress for any person. Please ring 49230636.

Thank you for your commitment to stand with our brothers and sisters who are suffering and to shine the light of Christ in our Church and neighbourhoods. Together we can be a sign of hope.

Louise Gannon rsj, Diocesan Manager Worship and Prayer

With the Diocesan Liturgy Council and the Standing Committee: Perpetual Day of Remembrance  
Allen Brierley, Monique Crick, Fiona Duque, Uta France, Louise Gannon, Daniel Lee, Petrina Massey,  
Cathy White, Ed Wright, Andrew Slater,

# Prayer Resources

for all Church agencies, groups and communities

Note additional resources for schools beginning on p.12

There is an option here and in the school section for everyone!

## Shine the Light of Christ Vigil

**Churches, Schools, Diocesan Agencies and associated groups, individuals, house mates, families and communities.**

To draw a line of continuity with *National Child Protection Week*, we invite you to begin our *Perpetual Day of Remembrance* with a Shine the Light of Christ Vigil.

All communities are invited to turn/leave on a light on Saturday night September 11, the last day of *National Child Protection Week* and the Vigil Mass for *Perpetual Day of Remembrance Sunday*.

This is a simple and public way to show we stand with survivors, their families and friends, and that we are committed to **Shine the Light of Christ** on this issue. See the *Prayer for Turning on the Light of Christ* below.

Schools and agencies may be able to organise someone, or a small group, to turn on the light of Christ and pray the prayer. This would be easy for primary schools adjacent to the parish church. Someone may be able to do that after the Vigil Mass, or some members of the Mass community may move from the church to the school to do it.

It is also hoped that the families who comprise schools, agencies and groups would be encouraged to do this in their homes. This would help to 'shine the light of Christ' more widely.

## Prayer for turning on 'the light of Christ'

*If there is more than one person pray the dialogue as usual. If you are alone, you might also say the response and omit 'Let us pray.'*

Person 1: The light of Christ shines in the darkness

**Response: and the darkness shall never overcome it.**

Let us pray

God with us,  
you have made us in your image  
and filled us with the breath of your divine life.  
Through the life of Jesus  
you show us the way to live in the light of your love.

As darkness falls may these lights remind us  
of our mission to shine the light of your love  
on the darkness of our Church and world.



Create a clean heart in us O God.

Where people are disempowered  
may we shine the light of your justice.  
Where there is privilege and prestige  
may we shine the light of your humility.  
Where there is dishonesty and denial  
may we shine the light of your truth.  
Where transparency is lacking and agendas are hidden  
may we shine the light of your integrity.  
Where there is fear  
may we shine the light of your courage.  
Where there is judgement  
may we shine the light of your compassion.  
Where there is disrespect  
may we shine the light of your love.  
Where people feel silenced  
may we shine the light of your word.  
Where people feel excluded  
may we shine the light of your acceptance.  
Where there is sin  
may we shine the light of your forgiveness.

Create a clean heart in us O God.

### For turning off the lights

Day has dawned.  
As we turn off our lights  
we commit to shining the light of Christ  
in all we do throughout our day.



### 'Ode to the Light of Christ' by Fiona Duque

Fiona Duque from St Bede's Catholic College Chisholm has written a beautiful *Ode to the Light of Christ*.

This can be used for personal or communal prayer, or as part of a more formal prayer. If the latter, in keeping with the traditional way we proclaim an Ode, for example on Anzac Day, we recommend that it be read by one person and listened to by the community. **See p. 3.**

This Ode will remain one of the permanent features of the Church response to the *Perpetual Day of Remembrance*.

## Song: *If not Now* by Carrie Newcomer

Carrie Newcomer and her manager have given us permission again to use her beautiful song 'If Not Now' **in prayer and worship associated with the 2022 Day of Perpetual Remembrance.**

The song is not about abuse. It is about a change of heart. Those who used it last year found it very meaningful.

You might consider the following options

- Permission includes the use of the video available [here](#).
- The song can be played from various music platforms and also purchased. You might like to do that in return for Carrie's generous response to our request to use her work.

Listening to this song or watching the video is a very prayerful experience for individuals and communities.

Some of Carrie's other songs are also a rich source for reflection and prayer.

Interestingly, in referring to his recent call for a referendum on altering the Constitution to give Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders a voice, Prime Minister Albanese used the phrase 'if not now'. Once again, our context is informing the imperatives enshrined in our Perpetual Day of Remembrance.

## Our Father

Within our rich tradition of Christian prayer, the *Our Father* is a centre piece. It is often recommended as the starting place for people wanting to learn to pray 'The Prayer of the Church' particularly its hinge pieces of Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer.

Some who find The Our Father deeply meaningful might commit to praying it at a specific time every day during Child Protection Week, up to and including the Perpetual Day of Remembrance on 15 September.

Use the version and language with which you are most familiar and comfortable. The Inclusive Bible uses the phrase 'Abba God'.

## For those looking for something more ... Praying with the Scripture

COVID has helped us see some things more clearly, particularly the importance of the Word of God as a focus for prayer and a source of nourishment and faith sharing.

As noted in the Introduction, Bishop Bill decreed a special Mass marking *Perpetual Day of Remembrance Sunday* with its own readings and prayers.

Those wanting a more scriptural prayer – such as Lectio Divina – might like to pray with the readings from that Mass. They are available in the parish resource found [here](#).

There you will also find an outline for two prayer forms: Lectio Divina and Mystagogical Reflection.

## Stations of the Cross – We Lament and We Hope

This is a new resource prepared for the diocese and is available on the [diocesan website](#) as a separate document.

Some people and/or communities may wish to use the traditional form of Catholic prayer to mark the day.

## Sunday Mass for September 11 (including the Saturday night Vigil)

In 2022, *Perpetual Day of Remembrance Sunday* falls on Sunday September 11.

As a community of faith we can do nothing better than bring the diocesan *Perpetual Day of Remembrance* to our celebration of eucharist; to join our story of abuse and suffering to Christ's offering, that the light of the mystery of Christ's dying and rising will convert our hearts and lead us forward in faith and hope.

Please invite the members of your community to join the parish Mass on this weekend.

The text for this Mass is available in the parish resource on the diocesan [website](#).

## Mass for September 15 – Our Lady of Sorrows (Memorial)

September 15 falls on Thursday this year. It is the Twenty-Fourth Week of Ordinary Time and the memorial for Our Lady of Sorrows.

Some people may like to join the community for Mass on the day. Parish Mass times can be found on the diocesan [website](#) or the Diocesan [App](#).

# Prayer Resources for Schools

## Schools are important ...

The focus of the Church response to the *Perpetual Day of Remembrance* is the change or conversion that is at the heart of God's call to discipleship.

The need and desire for personal and communal change emerges when we encounter Jesus, the one who shows us how to live a good human life. The more I know and love Jesus, the more I want to become the best person I can be, and the more we want to become the best community we can be, radiating the all-inclusive love and mercy of God. Our task is cultural change and that's the hardest task we face.

School communities are key to forging the path of cultural change which is not only the intent of the *Perpetual Day of Remembrance* but also the imperative of the Gospel 'That all may have life and have it to the full'. (Jn 10:10)

The school community is the ideal place to shape young hearts and minds – children, teenagers and young parents – according to the heart and mind of God. As a Gospel focused community seeking always to embody the mercy and forgiveness of God, the school is the safe place where young and old experience the freedom that comes from being sorry and being forgiven, being other focused and being community focused. The school is the place where societal change begins.

Faced with such possibilities and opportunities, as people of faith ... we pray. We pray about the everyday things we all do that can leave others feeling hurt and knocked about. The 'Prayer for turning on the light of Christ' (p. 8 - 9) focuses on some of these behaviours and prays for the grace to be changed so we better shine the light of Christ. We can do this unafraid because as people of faith we turn to our God who we know is full of mercy.

Schools are privileged places that hold the promise and hope of a culture renewed in the light of Christ. Schools do this every day. Please seize this additional opportunity with both hands and see where the journey takes you. It is important to all of us.

## Introduction

Marking the *Perpetual Day of Remembrance* is challenging for all of us. We appreciate that this is even more so for school communities and that staff are consequently hesitant.

In November 2020 members of the *Perpetual Day of Remembrance and National Child Protection Week Co-ordinating Committee* engaged in conversation with a focus group of School Principals who were representative of the diversity of schools. This was organised by Brian Lacey (Assistant Director), who was then a member of the Co-ordinating Committee. It was an invaluable conversation in which honest sharing broke open the challenges and opportunities of marking both *National Child Protection Week* and the *Perpetual Day of Remembrance* in schools.

The *Perpetual Day of Remembrance* presents most challenges. The Principals in the focus group expressed a desire to lead in this space and a commitment to mark the day as most appropriate for their school. Indeed, the Principals were looking to do more than this resource asks, talking about 'embedding' prayer and worship across the week.

As we have continued to reflect on this Focus Group conversation, we want to say clearly that the hope is for schools to have **ONE prayer** for staff and **ONE prayer** for students that mark the day simply and appropriately. Ideally this would be on 15 September or, if necessary, on another day in the same week.

As we continue to find our way in this space, we can explore ways of 'embedding' this more deeply in the coming years, when hopefully we are not so consumed and constrained by COVID-19.

In 2021 there was an attempt to respond to the Principal's suggestion to provide more support to primary Religious Education Co-ordinators and secondary Ministry Co-ordinators. RECs and MCs were invited to a ZOOM conversation. Only one primary REC took up that opportunity. We will revisit that suggestion in the future.

Living with COVID-19 continues to impact schools significantly and will again this year shape what is possible in schools.

There is little change to the resources this year beyond a few additions and tweaks in response to suggestions. It is hoped this continuity provides those taking responsibility for marking the *Perpetual Day of Remembrance* with the opportunity to deepen their appreciation of the meaning of the day, and their familiarity with the prayer and worship options. Schools are encouraged to consolidate and develop what has been done in previous years.

The resource endeavours to provide comprehensive background information and simple options that offer enough guidance and support to free staff to identify the most appropriate way to mark the day in schools.

Feedback affirmed the need for two different approaches – one for staff and one for students – and the preference for marking the day with students in class/home room groups rather than larger assemblies. Such groups enable simple and meaningful prayer that engages students and staff in a way that is sensitive to their reality and remains COVID safe.

**It may be helpful to pray with staff on Wednesday September 14, as a way of preparing them for prayer with their class group on Thursday.**

Following is a basic 'ritual outline' and a number of prayer options that can be inserted into the ritual outline. It is hoped the options accommodate the needs of different school communities and classes. Some people will develop their own responses. We recommend keeping it simple and doing **one** thing.

## Organisation

Pastoral Care is a strong dimension in all schools and these normal processes will ensure sensitivity and care is shown to all members of the community – staff and students – on this day.

Some schools, particularly secondary schools might consider organising the prayer to be prayed throughout the school at a designated time. This would mean the Introduction could be done by the Principal or another member of the leadership team over the PA or via an interactive platform such as ZOOM. This may relieve some pressure on staff who could focus on being prepared to pray the prayer in their class.

## Preparation

Individual staff will need

- a candle and matches and anything else you might like to use such as a piece of material
- to choose a prayer from the following options
- to be aware of how the Introduction is to be done – by you or the Principal. We recommend going over it ahead of time, so it sounds natural.

## Ritual Outline

It is hoped this outline will assist you to pray the prayer with staff and in classes.

*Once you have the candle in position and the class is settled begin the prayer as follows.*

### Introduction

*You may use the following text as written, or as a guide for your own words.*

Leader: Today is September 15, an important day in our Diocese. It is known as our *Perpetual Day of Remembrance*. Today we pause to remember that children have not always been as safe as you/they are now. Lots of things have changed since then. You will recall that last week we celebrated *National Child Protection Week* when we highlighted all the good things we do today to make sure children and young people feel safe and supported in our schools and the broader church.

It is important that all of us do our part to make sure everyone in our school – students, staff and families – feel safe, respected and supported. Today is a day to focus on Jesus and pray that we will keep changing and growing and behaving in ways that allow all people in our community to be safe, to be respected and to be free to learn and grow.

The prayer is called 'Shine the Light of Christ'. So, let us pray together that Jesus will be our light, helping us to see how to love and respect each other so that our school community radiates the love and compassion of God.

I invite you to be still and silent for about a minute, and open your heart and mind to the light of Christ ...

*Light the candle and allow a period of silence. If possible stretch it to a minute or whatever is comfortable for the group.*

## **Prayer**

*Pray the prayer you have chosen from the options below.*

*Allow 5 - 10 seconds silence at the end of the prayer.*

## **Conclusion**

Leader: As we blow out the candle let us commit ourselves to shine the light of Christ in all we do and say today and every day. Lest we forget.

*Blow out the candle.*

## **Option 1: Prayer for turning on the Light of Christ**

This prayer is one of the permanent elements of the *Perpetual Day of Remembrance*.

Use either the full version of the prayer on **p. 8-9** or the abbreviated version below which may be more appropriate for primary school.

### ***Revised Prayer for turning on the Light of Christ***

God with us,  
you have made us in your image  
and filled us with your love.  
Through the life of Jesus  
you show us the way to live a good life.

Where people are 'put down'  
may we shine the light of your strength.  
Where there is dishonesty and denial  
may we shine the light of your truth.  
Where there is fear  
may we shine the light of your courage.  
Where there is judgement  
may we shine the light of your compassion.  
Where there is disrespect  
may we shine the light of your love.  
Where people feel silenced  
may we shine the light of your word.  
Where people feel excluded  
may we shine the light of your acceptance.  
Where there is sin  
may we shine the light of your forgiveness.

## Option 2: *If not Now* by Carrie Newcomer

Use this song for prayer and reflection. See more detailed information on **p. 10**

## Option 3: Use another suitable song

The following suggestions have been made by some teachers in response to a request for inclusion of age-appropriate songs that promote positive relationships.

- [A Rightful Place](#) by Steve Angrisano.
- [10,000 Reasons \(Bless the Lord\)](#) by Steve Angrisano. This one is not as strongly connected but might work for you.
- [The Commons: Christ our Light has Come](#) by Steve Angrisano and Curtis Stephan. The immediate context for this one is Christmas. It picks up the strong PDoR themes of light and darkness. It provides an opportunity to reflect on the deep truth that the cradle and the cross are all part of the one Paschal Mystery of Christ.
- Richard Cootes music has a variety of possibilities including:
  - *The Lord is my Light*
  - *Breath of God*
- [We Turn To You](#) by Michael Mangan.

This year the parish resource includes the recording of another song 'We Sing for Those Whose Song is Silent'. While this would not be appropriate for students it may be for staff and other diocesan agencies.

## Option 4: Ode to the Light of Christ

Fiona Duque from St Bede's Catholic College Chisholm, has written a beautiful *Ode to the Light of Christ*. In keeping with the traditional way we proclaim an Ode, for example on Anzac Day, we recommend that it be proclaimed by one person and listened to by the community. **See p. 3.**

This Ode is one of the permanent features of the Church's response to the Perpetual Day of Remembrance.

## Option 5: The Our Father

Pray the Our Father. See **p. 10** for more information.



## Option 6: Praying a form of the Examen

This traditional form of prayer lends itself to the *Perpetual Day of Remembrance Prayer*.

The following outline with its examples may help you. If students/staff are not familiar with this prayer it would be best to take only a short time with each step – perhaps 10-15 seconds.

1. Ask God for light.  
*God fill me with the light of your love, so I see this day/time as you see it.*
2. Give God Thanks.  
*Invite people to quietly recall the good they have experienced during the day/lesson ... and to thank God for these gifts.*
3. Review the day/class with God.  
*Invite people to look back over the day/time recalling anything that left them feeling disappointed or hurt ...*
4. Talk to God about what you need or would like to change.  
*Ask God to help you to become more ...*
5. Look forward to the coming day/class/afternoon.  
*Ask God to be with you and guide you ...*

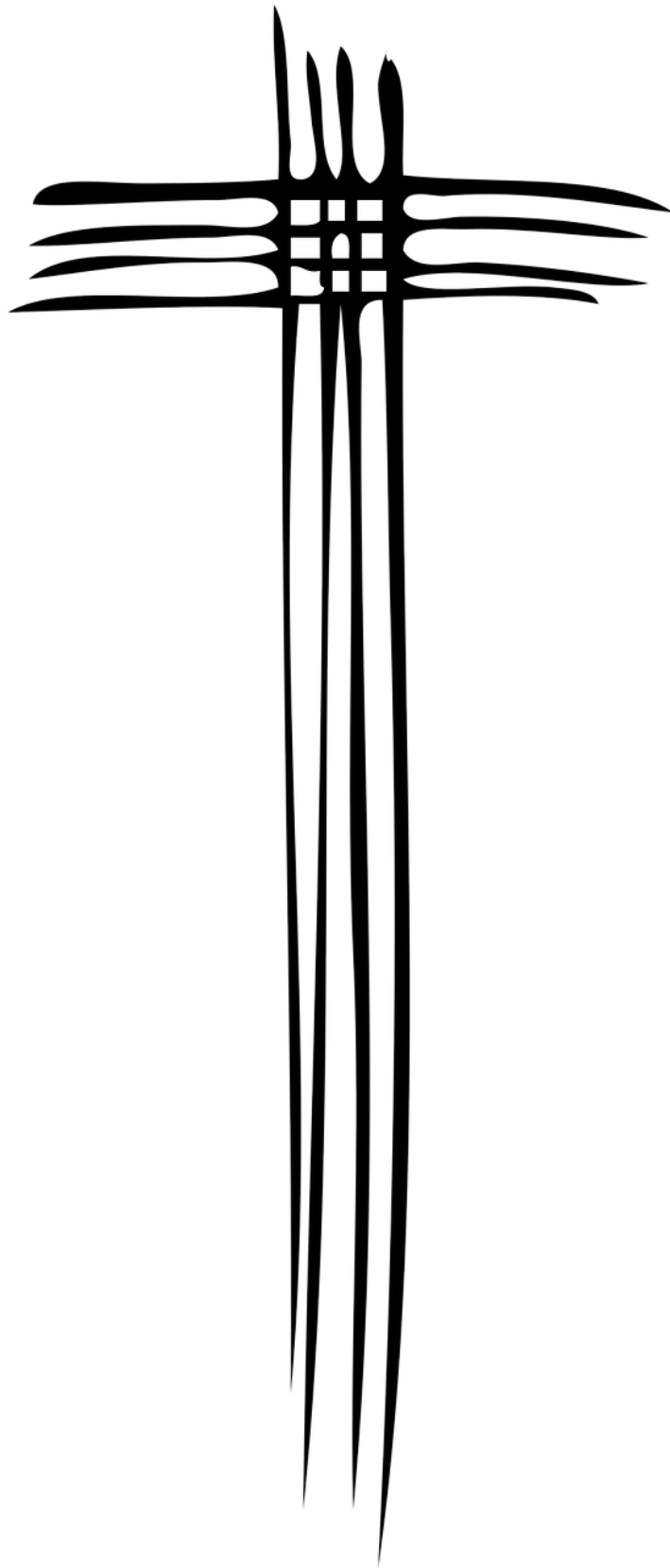
## Other options

Some of the following suggestions are from teachers:

- **Use contemporary images** of people working together, side by side to make the point that working together can heal and mend.
- Provide an opportunity for students to **write their own prayer**.
- The Magnificat is the gospel for *Perpetual Day of Remembrance Sunday*. It would lend itself to **scriptural prayer** with most age groups. You will find it in the Children's Lectionary on p. 564. (Lk 1: 46-56). This could be offered as an option for students who are looking for an extended form of prayer.







Shine the Light of Christ