



Notre Dame Morning Prayer Sep. 30 to Oct. 4, 2019

+ = In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

Monday, September 30, 2019 - Orange Shirt Day

We start our day by acknowledging that our school stands on unceded territory of the Anishinabe First Nation.

Let us pray. + O God, Great Spirit and Creator, we praise You for Your gifts that surround us - for the gift of the land that gives us food, shelter, and water; for the gift of the sun that gives warmth and light to all that grows; for the gifts of the moon and stars which You have arranged for Your glory; for the gifts of language and culture, through which Your peoples praise You and share the most deeply held values You have engraved on their hearts. Come upon us, O Divine Healer and open our eyes to the injustices brought against our Indigenous Peoples, their languages and cultures in Canada's Indian Residential Schools. Give us repentant hearts that ache with sorrow for their violence against First Nations, Métis, and Inuit families and their children. Give us determined hearts that refuse to stand by when the dignity of our Indigenous brothers and sisters is trampled. Give us healing hearts that beat with the drum of Jesus' Gospel, to defend and honour our Indigenous neighbour, their language and way of life. Give us flaming hearts that burn with love for You, Who come to us in every human face; in every language and culture; in every gift of creation. We ask this through the prayers of the Mother of God: *Hail Mary*. + Amen.

Tuesday, October 1, 2019 - St. Vincent de Paul

Last Friday on the Church calendar was the feast day of St. Vincent de Paul, a priest who lived in France in the 17th century. St. Vincent dedicated himself to serving those in need. He established homes for the poor, for the sick, and for abandoned babies. He founded several hospitals and collected relief funds for the victims of war. He arranged for the freedom of over 1,200 slaves. He was also concerned about education, especially of priests so that they could be better ministers. You may recognize the name St. Vincent de Paul because there are two thrift stores in Ottawa named in his honour.

Let us pray. + Dear God, help all of us be compassionate people. When we look and see the needs that exist around us, let us not be overwhelmed. Instead, let us respond by contributing in any way we can. May we have the strength and self-confidence to stand up for the oppressed and isolated, the teased and bullied, and bring them happiness and pride. May we rise to the challenges that surround us just as St. Vincent did. We ask this through the prayers of the Mother of our Lord: *Hail Mary*. St. Vincent de Paul, pray for us. + Amen.

Wednesday, October 2, 2019 - Holy Guardian Angels

Today on the Church calendar we celebrate the feast of the Holy Guardian Angels when we remember that we are constantly surrounded by these messengers of God who look out for us.

Let us pray. + O God, Who in Your unfathomable providence are pleased to send Your holy angels to guard us, hear our supplications as we cry to You, that we may always be defended by their protection and rejoice eternally in their company. We ask all this through the prayers of the Mother of God: *Hail Mary*. Holy Guardian Angels, pray for us. + Amen.

Thursday, October 3, 2019 - Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael

Yesterday was the feast day of the Holy Guardian Angels and last Sunday was the feast day of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, the only angels mentioned in the Bible. The word angel means messenger and an archangel is an angel who carries an important message. Gabriel, for example, announced to Mary that she would be the Mother of Jesus.

Let us pray. + Angels of God, we ask you to encircle us through your prayers under the shelter of the wings of your spiritual glory. Guard us and deliver us from dangers, O princes of the powers on high. We ask this through the prayers of the Mother of God: *Hail Mary*. Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, pray for us. + Amen.

Friday, October 4, 2019 - St. Francis of Assisi and labour unrest

Today on the Church calendar is the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. Born into a wealthy family, Francis gave up all his possessions in order to dedicate himself completely to God and the service of others. Our current Pope, Francis, took his name when he became Pope. We will pray today a prayer that is named after St. Francis called the Peace Prayer.

Let us pray. + 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; and 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; it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.

We also ask that You guide all the current contract talks. May the unions and the province strike fair deals that respect all those who make our schools possible. If there is a strike, may it be short and please help those who need to find alternate arrangements.

We ask all this through the prayers of the Mother of God: *Hail Mary*. St. Francis of Assisi, pray for us. + Amen.