



Notre Dame Morning Prayer January 6-10, 2020

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

Monday, January 6, 2020 - Culminating exams continue

It is a new year - 2020! A new year can be a fresh start - a time to reflect on what is important to us and to recommit to what is good. For our high school students, January also brings the challenges of final assignments and exams.

Let us pray. + Lord, we thank You for the Christmas break where we could celebrate Your birth and spend time with family and friends as we started a new year. Please give us energy to face the cold of winter and, for high school students, the upcoming culminating exercises and exams. Bless our studies and reward our efforts with the confidence that comes from knowledge. Help us to support one another, knowing that by helping others we further our own understanding. We pray this together with the words that You taught us: *Our Father*. Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. + Amen.

Tuesday, January 7, 2020 - Epiphany

This past Sunday, we celebrated Epiphany, when we remember the visit of the three Wise Men to Jesus. Jesus was a Jew but He came to earth to save both Jews and non-Jews. The three Wise Men were not Jews and the star's invitation to come and worship the Saviour demonstrated God's desire to save all of humankind.

Let us pray. + Lord, we can sometimes think that Your message of salvation is for others. You showed throughout your life that you desire to bless all people, and especially those who are suffering or are outsiders. The visit of the Wise Men was the beginning of Your message of acceptance of those who are different. May we also always be open to embracing those who are not the same as us. We pray this together with the words You taught us: *Our Father*. Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. + Amen.

Wednesday, January 8, 2020 - St. Brother Andre Bessette

Yesterday was the feast day of St. Brother Andre Bessette of Montreal. Brother Andre was born into a large Quebec family in 1845 but was orphaned at age 12. He joined a religious community where, as a simple man, he performed simple tasks. Spiritually, however, Brother Andre was extraordinary. Through his prayers, many were cured of illnesses. He had a strong devotion to St. Joseph which inspired the construction of St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal. When he died in 1937 at the age of 91, a million people filed past his coffin to show their respects.

Let us pray. + God our Father, friend of the humble, Who blessed Your servant Saint Andre Bessette with a great devotion to Saint Joseph and a remarkable concern for the afflicted and the needy, grant that, through his prayers, we may follow his example of prayer and charity and so enter with him to behold the splendor of Your glory. We pray this together with the words Your Son taught us: *Our Father*. Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. + Amen.

Thursday, January 9, 2020

Let us pray. + In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Father, as we settle again into familiar routines, help us celebrate Your Son's presence in every moment of every day, inspire us to use this new year to draw closer to You, and grant us the desire to give our most precious gifts to those in need. Give us the energy, enthusiasm, and strength to withstand the doldrums of January, February, and March, so that when March Break comes, the hard work we have done will blossom into new achievements, successes, and opportunities. Grant this through Christ Your Son, the Light of the World, the hope of the new year, and Your most precious gift to us, as we pray the words He taught us: *Our Father*. Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. + Amen.

Friday, January 10, 2020 - Baptism of Jesus

This Sunday, we celebrate the feast of the baptism of Jesus which occurred right before Jesus started his ministry. The Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, was revealed during the baptism through the voice of the Father calling Jesus His beloved Son and through the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus in the form of a dove.

Let us pray. + Lord, we thank You for sharing Your life and that of the Father and the Holy Spirit with us. May we accept this gift of love and grow in love for You and for others. Jesus was your beloved Son: may we too, as Your children, be well-pleasing to You. We pray all this together with the words You taught us: *Our Father*. Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. + Amen.