

Student Handbook

ST. ANGELA SCHOOL



Principal

Mrs. O. Kowaluk

Vice Principal

Mrs. F. Bugler

Office Coordinator

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St. Anne's Pastor

Father Matthew Ramsay

**302 Russell Road
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
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Our Mission

St. Angela School is a faith filled family.

We are called to teach, learn,
nurture, and inspire each other.

'Together we are the best we can be!'

Our Vision

At St. Angela School, we will model a **LOVE** of **LEARNING** to foster the **GROWTH** and **DIGNITY** of each person in a **NURTURING** and **SAFE** environment. Together, we will build the foundation to share our gifts with the world.

*'Let all that you do be done
in love.'*

1 Corinthians 16:14



Principal's Message

The beginning of a new school year is always filled with excitement! On behalf of the staff of St. Angela Catholic School, we would like to welcome back all former students and their families, with a very special welcome extended to the students and parents who are new to our school community.

At St. Angela Catholic School we seek to promote academic excellence in a community of faith where the needs of the students are met in a safe and caring Catholic environment. We are a partnership where home, school, community and Church come together to nurture and teach our children to become caring, responsible, lifelong learners.

Our dedicated school staff works extremely hard to provide challenging and meaningful experiences for our students. We encourage our students to develop their unique and special God-given talents.

This handbook contains information that will assist you throughout the school year. I encourage you to review the handbook with your child(ren) so that all policies and routines are familiar and clearly understood.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the school at (306) 659-7250. We look forward to serving you as the principal and vice principal of St. Angela. On behalf of the staff, we wish each and every one of you a successful and enjoyable year at St. Angela Catholic School.

Mrs. O. Kowaluk, Principal

GREATER SASKATOON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT

*Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools:
a welcoming community
where we nurture faith,
encourage excellence in learning
and inspire students to serve others making the world a better place.*

We love because he first loved us.

Belief Statement

St. Angela students, parents and staff believe in the following principles:

FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY

We come to know, to love, and to serve God, our creator, and each other. Through Christ's example of unconditional, endless love and with guidance of the Holy Spirit, we hope each of us accepts the challenges in our lives to be Christ-like.

RESPECT

We respect ourselves, others, property and our environment.

HONESTY

We know that honesty is the basis for trust.

FORGIVENESS

We all make mistakes. Mistakes are an opportunity for growth and forgiveness.

INDIVIDUALITY

We are unique. Each of us has special gifts to offer.

BELONGING

We care about each other. We feel we belong. We know we belong.

LEARNING

We take responsibility for our learning. We do our best.

COOPERATION

We work together to have a peaceful school and community.

SAFETY

We have the right to feel safe. We have the responsibility for the safety of others.

Each of us strive toward a positive attitude.

ST ANGELA SCHOOL SONG

In nineteen eighty-seven they opened the door, then before you knew it,
everyone was coming singing. Soon to be one family. First came all the stu-
dents they added some class, they rounded up some teachers everyone was
groovin' at St. Angela, St. Angela, St. Angela, I have my heart set on St.
Angela. How we love our jazzy school. Oh what a gem, what a joy, for every
single girl and boy. Love St. Angela, we thank the Lord each day now.

We wanna tell you come join the gang now,
Ya, St. Angela.

SCHOOL BELLS

8:45 a.m. - Warning Bell
 8:50 a.m. - Classes Begin
 10:00 a.m. - Recess cohort 1
 10:15 a.m. - Recess cohort 2
 11:35 a.m. - Lunch Begins
 12:15 p.m. - Lunch Ends
 1:10 p.m. - Recess cohort 1
 1:25 p.m. - Recess cohort 2
 3:10 p.m. - Dismissal



ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

If your child will be absent from school because of an illness or any other reason we need to be notified via School Messenger. We will attempt to reach any parent whose child is absent without notice before 9:15 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. According to the Education Act, children may not be absent from school without reasonable cause for more than four days in a month.

All absences must be reported prior to the school start time of 8:50 a.m. All absences are to be reported via the school messenger app, the safe arrival website:

<https://go.schoolmessenger.com>
 or by calling the toll free number 1-844-425-7221.

PARENTS OF ST. ANGELA SCHOOL

On behalf of the St. Angela School Council, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome students and their families back for the new school year. A special welcome to our new families and to the new Kindergarten students.

Here at St. Angela you will find a strong school spirit, friendly and encouraging learning atmosphere. We encourage parent involvement in all aspects of our school community, whether it is as a member of school council or as a volunteer for some of the many activities that happen throughout the year.

Our continued success relies on the St. Angela community coming together to work toward the success for everyone.

Sincerely,
 St. Angela Catholic School Community Council

CODE OF CONDUCT

Our school is a place where our students come to grow spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, physically and socially in an atmosphere that is safe, positive and secure. Our school is a place where we come to know, to love and to serve our God and each other.

All people are "LIFELONG LEARNERS": sharing, supporting and growing together. To succeed is to have the skills needed to become responsible adults occupying meaningful and fulfilling roles in society. Each one of us - students, parent and staff-support, encourage and provide opportunities to be successful in our learning.

These guidelines were written by our school community, students, parents and staff, for our school community. The expectation is that everyone who enters our school honors our common belief system.

EXPECTATIONS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Positive Behaviors

Everyone participates by modeling, reinforcing and practicing positive behavior by the following:

- Committing to the principles outlined in our Belief Statement.
- Attending school regularly and being on time.
- Committing to do our best.
- Willingness to learn and share knowledge.
- Behaving respectfully.
- Participating in creating a safe positive environment for learning.
- Being accountable for behavior.
- Accepting consequences respectfully.
- Making healthy choices which promote the ability to learn.
- Being responsible for clear communication of expectations, feelings and actions.

Bottom Line Behaviours...

These expectations apply to all members of our school community ...Bottom line behaviours exist at the extremes of a continuum from behaviours directed inwardly (extreme passive behaviours - eg. Social isolation) to behaviours that are directed outwardly (extreme aggressive behaviours - eg. fighting). These actions are recognized as serious and will not be tolerated. Bottom line behaviours require immediate action to determine consequences and to provide opportunities for learning appropriate behaviour.

The following behaviours, will not be tolerated coming to and from school, on school property, or on school sponsored activities (eg. field trips, track meets).

Defiance - willfully disobeying a person in authority.

Violence - actions which physically injure someone.

Shunning - making fun of putting others down and ignoring people which isolate them.

Intimidation and Bullying - using threats, size or behaviours which impose on others.

Harassment - Inappropriate conversation or touching.

Foul Language - language such as swearing which is offensive, unkind or disrespectful.

Lying and Cheating - not being truthful or honest with yourself or to others.

Inappropriate Dress - the expectations is to wear modest clothes free from inappropriate words and/or pictures which devalue our gift of life (ie: verbal or visual reference to alcohol, drugs, sex, violence, race or Satan).

Pornography - creating, searching on the internet or possessing inappropriate pictures or written material which devalues our gift of life.

Stealing and Vandalism - damaging, destroying or stealing personal or public property.

Possessing Weapons - carrying any kind of weapon that may hurt someone.

Possessing Drugs - carrying any kind of illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco in school or on school property.

General Consequences

The purpose of discipline is to teach self-discipline. Consequences will be related, respectful and reasonable.

Consequences are used both as a deterrent and a learning tool for negative behavior. Privileges are earned by demonstrating responsible behavior. With unacceptable behaviors, related privileges will be withdrawn until trust and confidence have been restored. Consequences also allow for the development of coping skills, to deal emotionally and practically, with the impact of bottom line behavior.

In the event that bottom line behaviors impact on others, support will be provided.

All those people critical to the problem solving process will be informed and/or involved directly in a plan for change. This may include:

Student, Parent/Guardian, Teacher/Staff, Principal/Vice Principal, Mediator, School Board Personnel (counselor, consultants, superintendents), Public Health, Social Services, Legal Authorities.

2. The individual will complete an **STARR PLAN** with support, guidance, supervision appropriate to age and skill level.

S SAFETY
T TEAMWORK
A ATTITUDE
R RESPECT
R RESPONSIBILITY

3. Removal from classroom - is an opportunity to start the S.T.P. process. The length of Time Out will vary according to frequency and severity of the behavior. Return to the classroom or school depends on the willingness of those involved to agree to and proceed with an effective plan of action.

Removal from classroom - ex: 5 minutes out of the classroom to full day out of the classroom.

Suspension - ex: student released into the care of the parent/guardian. If the suspension out of school exceeds three concurrent days, parents will receive a formal report detailing options.

4. Change of school may be necessary to allow the person involved another opportunity to develop skills in a different setting where their needs may be better addressed.

These consequences apply to all members of our school community.

Reporting Bottom Line Behaviors

Bottomline behaviors have implications that affect the nature of the entire school community. It is our responsibility to each other to support and encourage positive behavior. It is our responsibility to report negative behavior in a respectful and thoughtful manner.

This is necessary so that change can occur before irreversible harm comes to the individual and/or to those who share that space.

Protocol for Reporting

When an individual, student or adult witnesses inappropriate behavior or is the receiver of undesirable behavior, a stand for what you believe in should be taken. To take a stand, it may mean doing one or more of the following:

- Say "NO", "STOP" or "That is unacceptable".
- Shout or holler for help.
- Report the action to a staff member, the vice principal or principal.
- Report the action to your parent or guardian.
- Run to a safe place and find support to resolve the conflict.

ST. ANGELA ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Statement of Policy

St. Angela School students, parents and staff will not tolerate bullying behavior. Guided by Gospel values, the behavior will be dealt with in a serious and timely manner.

Rationale

St. Angela School students, parents and staff believe that all students have the right to be safe, caring and respectful school environment, free from bullying behavior. The research clearly indicates that a school community of staff, students and parents working together to emphasize a positive school climate and challenge bullying behaviors of students can make a difference.

Authority -The education Act, Section 150, 151
- Division Code of Conduct

Definition of Bullying

A student is bullied when he or she is exposed to negative hurtful acts on the part of one or more students causing emotional, psychological, and/or physical harm. These negative actions are intentional and hurtful and they can be direct (face to face) or indirect (behind the back). Bullying can be verbal, physical, relational or reactive and is often a repeated behavior. Bullying involves an imbalance of power, creates fear and is not gender specific.

Cyber-Bullying

We are aware of the fact that cyber-bullying is an issue in today's society. St. Angela's Anti-Bullying Policy has three responses to this issue:

As with conventional bullying, we at St. Angela believe the key is prevention. We have and will continue to educate students and parents when the opportunity arises, in the form of information and presentations regarding the Cyber-Bullying issue, the damage it causes, and how to deal with it. Any Cyber-Bullying that occurs through the use of school or school division technology will be dealt with in the same fashion as we would deal with bullying in any other case. When made aware of Cyber-Bullying that has happened outside school hours and technology, we will advise parents and students to contact the proper authorities for dealing with the problem.

BULLY RADAR

Bullying Radar is an ongoing project at St. Angela for providing support to those who are being hurt by bullying and, just as importantly, to those who are doing the bullying. Bullying Radar judiciously uses information supplied by students to start dialogues and provide counselling, but never to punish or embarrass.

Bullying Radar depends on students having a very strong sense of responsibility for the well being of others in their school community. Students, staff and parents must be committed to working towards the same end:

‘Everyone Goes Home
Happy’!

Guidelines

1. Roles & Responsibilities

In addition to the expectations outlined in the St. Angela Code of Conduct:

Students are expected to:

- Promote a positive and caring environment.
- Refuse to bully others and to be respectful of differences in individuals.
- Refuse to be a bystander which encourages bullying behaviors.
- Report all acts of bullying that they may experience or observe to appropriate school personnel.
- Actively participate in school-wide and classroom anti-bullying initiatives and social skills programs.

St. Angela staff are expected to:

- Provide a supportive environment that upholds Gospel values and encourages positive relations between students, staff and parents/guardians.
- Address bullying behavior in an age appropriate manner.
- Implement a comprehensive anti-bullying strategy comprised of: Anti-bullying prevention programs and investigation of reports of bullying, intervention and follow-up.
- Keep lines of communication open between home and school.
- Encourage and teach students to report incidents of bullying behavior.
- Assist in the development of empathy by helping the students recognize and interpret cues that signal other's feelings and needs, understand the impact of bullying behaviors on others and treat others with respect.
- Promote accountability in our students by helping the students develop the ability to stop and think before they act, resist peer pressure and take responsibility for their actions by making reparation for harm they inflicted on others.
- Conduct themselves in a manner consistent with Gospel values and the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Parents, Guardians and School community members are expected to:

- Contribute to a safe, caring and respectful school community.
- Teach their children good communication and social skills at home as this will go a long way toward success at school.
- Promote accountability in their children.
- Frequently talk with their child about school and friends.
- Learn about bullying behavior and related issues.
- Be observant for signs of being bullied and bullying behaviors.
- Inform the school if bullying is suspected.
- Work together with the staff and administrators at the school to resolve identified incidents of bullying.

Procedures

Prevention:

1. Prevention of bullying behavior is the ultimate goal. Prevention strategies are ongoing and should include: a broad-range of educational experiences for students, staff, parents/guardians and community; Common language and understanding of bullying; Open communication and collaboration.
2. Establish clear school wide and classroom rules about bullying.
3. Encourage staff to respond sensitively and consistently to bullying.
4. Provide adequate adult supervision at recesses and less structures times and locations such as the playground and hallways.
5. Providing parents/guardians with resources in dealing with their children who are bullied and their children who are bullying.
6. Improving parental and student awareness of the distinction between bullying behaviors and student conflict.
7. Improving the students knowledge and practice of the positive power of the bystander.
8. Adults identifying instances of bullying and taking initiative to respond as needed even when the children do not report it.
9. Watching for opportunities during the school day to reinforce social skills learned from the programs and instruction in the classroom.
10. Teaching students coping strategies such as assertiveness and friendship skills.

Investigation of Reported Bullying Behavior:

1. The safety and well-being of all students involved shall be of primary concern. The student(s) allegedly engaging in bullying behavior shall be separated, be given the opportunity to speak, and shall be dealt with individually.
2. Information related to bullying behaviors shall be gathered and documented from all students involved, including all witnesses.
3. A Bullying Incident Report shall be completed. The report placed in a common binder to communicate the incidents for other staff in the event they must take action with the same students involved with bullying at a different time.
4. Communicating with the classroom teachers of the student involved.



Public Health Nurse

Saskatoon District Health assists in health promotion in our school. Grade six and eight students and students in need receive immunization. The health nurse consults on topics such as nutrition, smoking, hygiene, communicable diseases, spread of germs, self-esteem and family life. You can contact our public health nurse, Linda Lund, through a phone call directly to the North Health Centre 655-4700.

Hallway & Playground Supervision

There will be a minimum of four staff members on supervision on all breaks. Students should be dressed to go outside for recess breaks. If the wind chill factor is greater than 1600 or the weather is not suitable for outdoor play, all students are expected to stay indoors. There is no playground supervision before morning classes or following classes at the end of the day.

Lunch Room Policies

Eating lunch at school is a privilege and students are asked to respect it. We try to provide a safe, quiet and orderly eating atmosphere. Students eat at their own desks in their homeroom. The supervised lunch period begins at 11:50 a.m. and extends to 12:05 p.m. Each child is expected to clean their own area and wait for dismissal from the supervisor. If a child abuses the lunchroom privilege, they will receive a warning and parents will be informed. If a second incident occurs, the student will lose the lunchroom privilege for one week, two weeks, one month or until the end of the year. Please talk to your children about the need to cooperate with this guideline and the consequences if the privilege is lost.


Lost or Stolen Items

Unfortunately we do not live in a perfect society and personal property is not always respected by everyone. To ensure the safety of all property, we encourage you to mark your child's name on personal items. Bicycles should be locked to the fence or bike racks with a secure lock. Serial numbers and bike identification are essential when reporting stolen bikes to police officers.

There is a lost and found box located in the back left hallway near the Staff Parking Lot doors. Feel free to look through the box any time. As well, we will display all found items before parent-teacher conferences. Unclaimed items are donated twice per year after the first and second reporting periods.

River of News Edsby

Every Friday we post a Peek at the Week with events and information for the coming week. The calendar in Edsby is updated weekly making it an excellent tool for making sure that you are kept up to date.



Progress Reporting

Student-led conferences have been implemented. At the beginning of each term, each student will identify personal and academic goals and a plan of action to achieve these desired goals. Each student has a portfolio which is divided into a working portfolio and a showcase portfolio. The portfolio is used to reflect on learning taking place and assisting in planning for improvement. At the end of the first and second terms the students will share their learning with their parents. Parents are asked to be good listeners and be prepared to support the student as requested. The ultimate goal is for each student to take ownership for their learning. Reporting periods will take place mid November and mid March. Report cards are sent home following the conferences. If parents wish to discuss their child's progress without the child being present please communicate this to the homeroom teacher.

Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO)

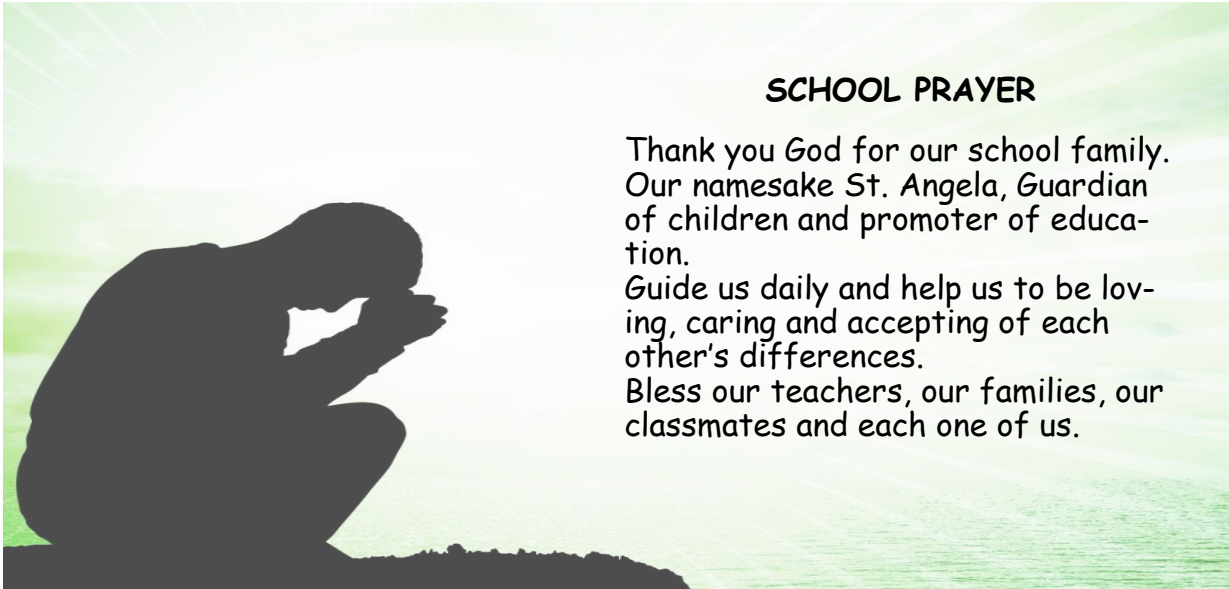
ELO is an optional program for students recognized as gifted. This program starts in grade four. The ELO students from grade 4-8 work with a catalyst teacher and their classroom teacher in their classroom. All students participate in activities to develop critical thinking skills.

Use of Cell Phones and Student Owned Electronic Devices

The use of cell phones and student owned electronic devices has become more widespread than ever before in our schools. These devices are a regular part of our world and has transformed the way that we learn, do business, and communicate with each other in a profound way. Many of our students have these devices so they can communicate with parents to and from school and it provides an added layer of security and piece of mind.

At St. Angela School, we are open to electronic devices being brought to school under the following conditions...

- Students can only have their device out under the direction of a teacher/staff member during the school day.
- Students must follow the school and classroom Acceptable Use Policy when using their device under the direction of the classroom teacher.
- It is our goal to encourage physical play and games during recess and lunch breaks rather than utilizing electronics for entertainment purposes. In order to accomplish this, students will not be permitted to take electronic devices out at recess and lunch.
- Students understand that if they do not follow these expectations, they may have the device confiscated and it will need to be picked up at the office at the end of the day.
- Students are responsible for their devices. The school can not take responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged property.



SCHOOL PRAYER

Thank you God for our school family. Our namesake St. Angela, Guardian of children and promoter of education.

Guide us daily and help us to be loving, caring and accepting of each other's differences.

Bless our teachers, our families, our classmates and each one of us.

Our Catholic Faith

The Roman Catholic Church is over 2000 years old, it is a church in the Christian tradition, with Jewish roots. Jesus is the founder and St. Peter was the first leader. The Pope is St. Peter's successor in our day. There are many beliefs, practices and devotions unique to the Catholic Church. They include the Mass, the Sign of the Cross, the Seven Sacraments, the Rosary and other forms of devotion. The Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes teach us how we can live our lives in the best way possible. What follows on these pages are some explanations and examples of rituals and prayers used in our Catholic Faith.

The Church Year

Did you know that the Church has its own calendar? Advent, Lent and Easter are the most important parts of the Church Year. The Church Year begins on the First Sunday of Advent. The First Sunday of Advent is four Sundays before Christmas (December 25th). Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, forty days before Easter, and ends on Good Friday, two days before Easter. Easter is celebrated for fifty days and ends on Pentecost Sunday. During this time, we celebrate the new life of Christ. After the Easter season, there is a return to Ordinary Time until the end of the Church Year.

The Mass

The Mass, often referred to as the Eucharist, is the center of the Catholic communal worship. Catholics are invited to participate in Mass every Sunday, in keeping with the commandment to keep holy the Sabbath. The Mass was celebrated in Latin until 1963, when the Second Vatican Council approved the use of the language of the people.

The Sign of the Cross

The Sign of the Cross is a very short prayer. It shows our faith in the Holy Trinity - the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit - and it shows we understand that Jesus died on the cross to save us. Make this prayer using a gesture with your hand against the forehead (the Father), the navel (the Son) and the left shoulder and the right shoulder (the Holy Spirit).

The Seven Sacraments

The Church celebrates seven sacraments. Sacraments are sacred moments that celebrate the presence of the risen Christ in our lives. The sacraments give us God's grace so we can love, heal and transform.



Baptism

Baptism initiates new members into the Church. Catholic parents usually baptize their children when they are babies.



Eucharist

The Eucharist celebrates Jesus' last supper with his apostles, when he shared his body and blood for the salvation of the world.



Confirmation

Confirmation is the completion of Christian initiation. After a period of instruction, the bishop or priest anoints the candidate and "lays on hands" to bestow the gifts of the Holy Ghost.



Reconciliation

(Penance or Confession) Reconciliation is when people seek God's mercy by confessing their sins to a priest, who gives counsel and grants them absolution (forgiveness) in God's name.



Anointing the Sick

The sacrament of anointing brings comfort to the sick through the blessing of the priest, who uses a special holy oil.



Marriage

Marriage gives grace to the relationship between a man and a woman who have promised to live life together in union with Christ.



Holy Orders

Holy Orders is a sacrament offered to men who choose to become a deacon, priest or a bishop.

The Ten

Commandments

1. You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
3. Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy.
4. Honour your father and mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
9. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife.
10. You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbour.

The Beatitudes

1. Happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.
2. Happy are the gentle; they shall have the Earth for their heritage.
3. Happy are those who mourn; they shall be comforted.
4. Happy are those who hunger and thirst for what is right; they shall be satisfied.
5. Happy are the merciful; they shall have mercy shown to them.
6. Happy are the pure in heart; they shall see God.
7. Happy are the peacemakers; they shall be called the children of God.
8. Happy are those who are persecuted in the cause of right; theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Traditional Prayers

The Sign of the Cross

(Say before and after each prayer)

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

The Apostles' Creed

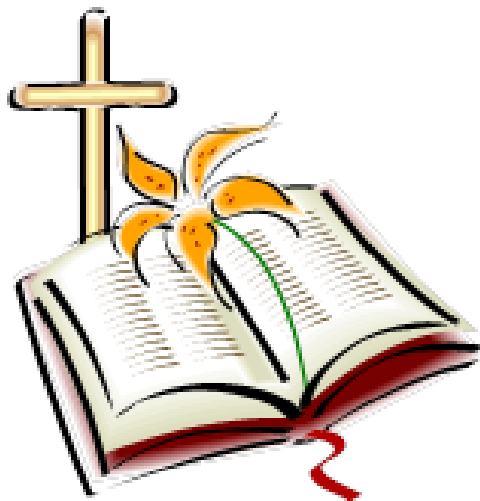
I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of Heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son,
our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and was born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again. He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.



Act of Contrition

O my God, I am very sorry for having offended you because you are all good and deserving of all my love. I will try to be faithful to your Spirit and sin no more. Amen.

Our Father

Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done
on earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day
our daily bread
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass
against us
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners. Now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Doxology (Glory Be)

Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen