

CATHOLIC EDUCATION:

**WE ARE
MANY,
WE ARE
ONE**



“We, who are many, are one body
in Christ, and individually we are
members, one of another.”

(Romans 12:5)

February Prayer Service

When we reflect

"Reflect on the Statutes of the Lord"
Sirach 6:27





“All That Is Hidden”
Bernadette Farrell

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FM-CTZKg9U8>

“God Be In My Head”
Grayson Warren Brown

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=leNzhW5Y9xo&list=RDIeNzhW5Y9xo&start_radio=1

“All Are Welcome, All Belong”
Jesse Manibusan

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3jeK-QdOXg>





Opening Prayer

We are so blessed Jesus because you formed us as a community of faith.

We do not have to walk the path alone.

Help us to reflect on your word so we are guided on our journey.

We ask this through the Holy Spirit. Amen. +

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Sirach 6: 34-37

A reading from the book of Sirach.

Stand in the company of the elders: Who is wise?
Attach yourself to such a one.

Be ready to listen to every godly discourse,
And let no wise proverbs escape you.

If you see an intelligent person, rise early to visit him;
Let your foot wear out his door.

Reflect on the statutes of the Lord,
and meditate at all times on his commandments.

It is he who will give insight to your mind, and
your desire for wisdom will be granted.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



Questions for Personal Reflection



“The Book of Sirach is unique in the Jewish Scriptures because it clearly identifies its author: Jesus Ben Sira, a wise teacher who lived early in the second century BCE. Living in Jerusalem during a time of great change, he saw many of his people especially those who were rich - deserting traditional Jewish beliefs in favour of more fashionable ideas coming from Greece.” The Catholic Youth Bible - NRSV Catholic Education

1. *Do you think we live in a time of great change in 2023?*
2. *How do you see people around you deserting traditional Christian beliefs in favour of the more fashionable secular values?*
3. *Do you think Sirach’s solution to the problem would work leaders in Catholic Education?*





Contemporary Writing

“Woven throughout the daily and seasonal cycles of Catholic life is a practical emphasis on self-reflection. This practice is given special focus during particular liturgical seasons of the Church year (Lent/Advent), and in particular traditional activities (the ‘parish mission’) and groups...encouraged personally and communally in the parish pastoral context. It is part of Catholic culture. There are two important aspects of this broad practice to which I draw your attention: ‘theological reflection’, and ‘life narrative reflection’. While these have long been a part of Catholic practice, they are meeting contemporary needs in new ways.”

Jill Gowdie, *Stirring the Soul of Catholic Education - Formation for Mission*, 2017, page 80

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Questions for Guided Reflection

- ❖ *How much do you reflect on your praxis as a Catholic leader in education?*
- ❖ *Does your reflection provide you with awareness of how you can improve your practice?*





Closing Prayer

Gracious God, inspire us to gather wisdom from holy mentors, saints and children.

We want to serve you and the Gospel with all our hearts, minds and spirits. Remind us to reflect regularly on Scripture and tradition so we can build our Catholic learning community of joy, peace and gratitude.

Amen. +

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