

## Back to School

Theresa:

The hot days of August are here, ripening the few tomatoes that are on the vine, sweet corn is being sold on the corners, Zucchini will soon be found in the backseats of cars trying to get rid of the abundance. Shoes are starting to pinch toes and the jeans they wore in the spring are now high water pants even though they were their favorites. The Target ads are selling school supplies right before they start putting out the Halloween and Christmas items. We soon will see the trees starting to turn color and we will be sitting in the bleachers watching our local teams play volleyball and football. Kindergarten physicals are complete and Senior pictures have been taken. The signs are all around us that we must be ready for another school year.

So let us begin this year by praying for all those we love and care for and for those people we have entrusted to do the same :

### **Reader 1** \_\_\_\_\_

We pray for our Montessori children and all the preschools in the area. May these programs open the minds of our little ones to a world of education and learning. We pray especially for our preschool teachers and associates. May they continue to be passionate and patient in the important work they are doing with these young people. We pray to you Lord of all....

R: Hear our prayer and the prayer in our Hearts.

### **Reader 2** \_\_\_\_\_

For the children who are entering school for the first time as a kindergartener, may they know how many people care about them and be confident in their abilities to learn. May they feel excitement rather than nervousness. May they be given many smiles to keep little tears away and many new friends to share the adventure.

We ask this of you, Father of us all.

R: Hear this prayer and the prayer in my heart

### **Reader 3**

As our elementary children run in anticipation of a great year let us pray for the child who was alone and had to get themselves ready this morning, for the children that had no breakfast, for the child that walks to school by themselves. For all the children that love to go to school and for those who still struggle. For the new kid that just moved into town and for the ones that have always lived here but don't feel apart of the class. For those who are learning to spell, multiply and to read and write. May they realize that these are the tools that they will use as their foundation to create their path on this journey of life.

We ask this of you, Creator of us all....

R: Hear this prayer and the prayer in my heart.

### **Reader 4**

For the Middle School children who will be experiencing the joys of puberty. As the hormones bounce off the hallways of the middle school let us pray and remember the child who has grown 6 inches and the one who has not grown at all. Think of the child with the braces and new glasses and the hairstyle that didn't quite work out. Let us remember the days of squeaky voices, lanky legs, zits, odd shaped noses, ears and size 12 feet. May these children know that they are loved and are in the beginning stages of coming out of the cocoon and will someday be the butterfly.

We ask this of you Light of the World.....

R. Hear our prayer and the prayer in our hearts

### **Reader 5**

Let us pray for the young men and women at our high schools and for those who will be attending college. May they be given the gift of good judgment when making decisions. May they know the unconditional love of a parent. Keep them safe as they travel and drive on their journey's. Let them be challenged with new insights to stimulate them to want to learn, and achieve their goals. May they respect their bodies and those of others. Help them to accept the role of being a responsible leader and not a follower. Allow them to be creative and share their many gifts with others. May they believe in themselves and know through the strength that Christ gives them that can do all things! They are not alone. There is a future full of Hope. We ask this of you our Redeemer.....

R. Hear our prayer and the prayer in our hearts.....

