

## **PRAYERS FOR THE OPENING WEEK OF SCHOOL, SECONDARY SEPTEMBER 2015**

### **Tuesday, September 8 - Mercy that Welcomes - La miséricorde qui accueille**

God of Goodness and Mercy,

Help us to be like the Good Samaritan. Open our hearts to hear your voice calling us to do good for others. May we be instruments of peace and God's mercy for each other and may we be always willing to stop on our way to help another.

We make this prayer in the name of Jesus, our teacher and friend. Amen+

### **Wednesday, September 9 - Mercy that Loves - La miséricorde qui aime**

God of mercy and compassion,

We thank you for the gift of your unconditional love.

Through the parable of the Good Samaritan, you showed us how love can transcend all differences. As we begin this school year together, invite us to follow your inspiring example. Give us hearts that cry for those among us who are wounded by the side of the road. Give us hands that can help to heal their wounds. Give us feet that will walk with them to safety.

May our school community be a place of welcome in which strangers are invited to become friends.

Remind us, Lord, that the love we give to others is the greatest gift we can give to you. Bless us this day, O Lord, and bless our days together. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen+

### **Thursday, September 10 - Mercy that Forgives - La miséricorde qui pardonne**

Merciful God,

You sent your Son Jesus to bring forgiveness into the world.

He shared that message in his stories of the Prodigal Son and the Lost Sheep, and he demonstrated it, even in the midst of his passion, by forgiving those who nailed him to the cross.

In our own sinfulness, give us the grace to accept the gift of your Father's mercy, and to extend it to those who have hurt or wronged us.

Help us to be open to receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation as a concrete experience of God's desire to bring us closer to him in love.

Let the beginning of this year be a worthy preparation for the Holy Year of Mercy. Amen+



**Friday, September 11 - Mercy that Lives the Gospel - La miséricorde qui vit l'Évangile**

Gracious God,

Pope Francis invites us to celebrate a Holy Year of Mercy.

During this Jubilee may our mercy welcome everyone.

May our mercy be loving and forgiving.

Throughout these days may we live the gospel more faithfully  
and rejoice that God's kingdom is growing in our midst.

Let us open doors of mercy every day of this year of grace. Amen+

