

# Prayers for the Pandemic: A Morning Prayer for a School Community

God our loving Father  
we gather together this morning  
but it's not the same: many of us are not here  
and there is distance between those who are –  
not the distance of fear or mistrust,  
but the distance of care, of thoughtfulness,  
the distance that will help us to stop the virus from spreading.

We pray for friends and classmates who are at home.  
We know we will see them again in real life  
and value their real presence even more, the gift of friendship.  
Help us to 'see' more clearly what is important,  
the good things we had perhaps overlooked,  
the small details of everyday life,  
graced with your presence.

We pray for a better world to come out of this –  
more grateful for the people who do the ordinary jobs,  
more just in the way people are treated, more caring for the vulnerable.  
We pray for a world which is more determined  
to look after the earth, our common home;  
a world that will live wisely, think deeply,  
love generously.

We make all our prayers through Christ our Lord. Amen

**Raymond Friel**