



Title: Celebrating success

Scripture

Matthew 11:25-30

At that time Jesus said, "Father, Lord of heaven and earth! I thank you because you have shown to the unlearned what you have hidden from the wise and learned. Yes, Father, this was how you were pleased to have it happen. "My Father has given me all things. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. For the yoke I will give you is easy, and the load I will put on you is light."

Pray for:

- continuing personal and community success.
- the ability to learn from struggles or mistakes.
- those who are worried at the moment.
- those we know who are unwell, close to death or who have died.

Prayer in action this week:

- Take time to think about all you have achieved.
- Encourage others to be proud of their successes.
- Use your gifts and talents fully and positively.
- Be pleased about all this community is.
- Be joyful!

Prayer to St Julie Billiart

Saint Julie, through your great devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, you were miraculously cured and favoured by many graces.

By your powerful intercession, obtain for us above all, a great trust in God in all the difficulties of life, the strength to accomplish in all things the adorable will of God, and the special grace we now ardently ask of you.

"We must have courage in the times we live in. Great souls are needed, souls having the interest of God at heart"

St Julie Billiart

Reflect: Can you believe that we are as close as we are to the end of another year in College? I wonder how you are all feeling at this moment. Excited about the summer perhaps? Maybe some of you are feeling a little like those Jesus was talking to in Sunday's Gospel reading? (Opposite) Have you spent any time looking back over this year? At this time of year we spend lots of time rewarding and celebrating all the achievements we have had, as individuals and as a whole community, a family. Any year is filled with ups and downs. We all have times of struggle where we perhaps fail to have done what we hoped we might. Hopefully we learn from these times and they help us to move forward. A sign of maturity and growth is the ability to find the learning opportunity in the tough times and disappointments. At the same time, every single one of us has had successes this year - ALL of us, without exception! Congratulations on all YOU have achieved this year!

- What has been the biggest lesson you have learned this year?
- What has been your greatest academic achievement?

Lord Jesus,

Thank you for the person you made me to be - even my struggles and disappointments, the times I am least proud of, all these things make up how I am and the person I will be. Through your love and strength, help me to keep learning and moving forward, taking my successes with me and leaving my failures behind. Help me to continue to try my best, to use all that you have given me, and to remember that who I am is good, and is enough for you. Thank you for all those you have given me this year, all those who have wanted the best for me, who have tried their best for me and have encouraged me to be the best I can be; help me to show my appreciation to them. I ask this in your name,

Amen.

Lord, thank you!

For all the opportunities we have been given this year: the time people have spent trying to get the best from us; the way we have been cared for and the chances we were given to try again. Thank you that we all have things that we can feel proud of.

Grant, we pray, that we will continue to want to achieve our best in all areas of our lives. Amen



Father, we thank you for our College community, knowing we can learn from others and grow in faith here. We pray for all involved in our College that, in our daily lives, we may recognise Jesus in each other.

Amen

We give thanks and rejoice in the hard work, fun, and friendship that everyone in our College community have helped to create this year. We pray that we will find gladness and satisfaction in all of our successes, and even in the challenges we have faced and the struggles we have met, for it is through these that we have grown.

Amen.

Lord, we are grateful that you made us compassionate human beings, able to think of others before ourselves. As Christians we know that it is our duty to 'love our neighbours', forgive us for the times when we didn't do this and give us the inspiration to continue trying to be the best we can be, for your sake. Amen