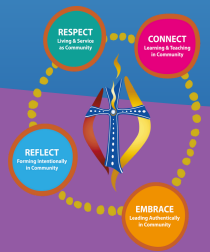


# Family Prayer

## Embracing Faith, Hope & Love

by Maureen Gaul

Leader Formation - Identity and Outreach Directorate



## Acknowledgement of Land, Seas, Skies and Waterways

“Country was the first classroom for the Traditional Custodians on whose land our schools and colleges now stand.”[1]

## Context - Embracing Faith, Hope & Love

In this Jubilee Year of Hope, the 2025 theme for Catholic Education Week Embracing Faith, Hope & Love in our school communities seems to augment the significance of the work of educators within the Catholic faith context. Symbolically, we are pilgrims of hope, invited to be disciples who walk with Christ, where we set out to discover new ways of being in communion with the world.[2]

## Scripture

*Do all things for the glory of God.*

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jew or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.  
1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1

Pope Leo XIV



Leo PP. XIV



**Catholic Education**  
Diocese of Cairns  
*Learning with Faith and Vision*

## Reflection

At the commencement of Pope Leo XIV's petrine ministry, he expressed a desire for unity in the Church and genuine love for one another towards a peaceful reconciled world.[3] The importance of his message cannot be overstated in these seemingly perilous times, when narratives of division and divisiveness appear to be amplified on various platforms. There is unrest and humanity is in a fragile state. From the beginnings of his papacy - two months now - Pope Leo's messages to audiences have centred on dialogue and peace, and true to his namesake, the need to discern new approaches to social issues.[4]

In a continuance of the work of Pope Francis, Pope Leo has reiterated the essential points of a papal document known as *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel), namely for the Church to: proclaim the message of Christ and remain faithful to her missionary endeavour; grow in her practice of synodality and listen attentively to the *sensus fidei*; care for those who are marginalised and vulnerable and engage in courageous dialogue with contemporary society.[5] This is a reenergising of the Universal Church towards renewal, stemming from the Second Vatican Council.[6]

While some seek security in technology, status from wealth or power, or hedonistic lifestyles, people of faith are encouraged to live authentically in witness to the Gospel and build communities of peace and mercy.[7] This is our shared truth, our path as fellow pilgrims on a journey of self-discovery towards a hope-filled future, enlivened by God's grace.

In celebration of Catholic Education Week across Queensland, and as a momento the significant transition from the passing of Pope Francis to the election of Pope Leo XIV, each staff member and student within Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns received a card featuring a specially composed prayer that speaks to our Far North Queensland education and faith context. This prayer can be read below, and the image on the front of the card was featured above.

The three pillars of faith, hope and love are the essence of Catholic education: "Faith ignites growth. Hope fuels support. Love welcomes all." [8] At Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns, our learning communities are permeated by these three virtues, where we endeavour to "nurture the spirits of our young people, empower educators, and embrace our families to [...] bring about human thriving." [9] This happens within communities of care, with God at the centre of our mission in education.[10]

## Prayer

Pope Leo,  
Inspired by your vision for peace and unity...

Engage our thoughts  
to be courageous and humble, a reflection beyond ourselves;

Embrace our hearts  
to be tender and bold, respectful of all within creation;

Enliven our hands  
to be charitable and welcoming, connected to all that is just.

Across our lands, seas, skies and waterways, may we listen deeply and share dreams of faith, hope and love. Amen.

## Call to Action

- Check out [Catholic Diocese of Cairns'](#) site for latest news and events from across the diocese.
- Visit [Archdiocesan Ministries – Children and Families](#) site for access to weekly downloadable PDF resources based on Scripture that contain activities, craft activities and suggestions for family prayer.
- Take some time out to consider how you are a model of faith, hope and love for those around you. And... how you can grow this!

## References

- [1] Celebrating Catholic Education in QLD. "Communities of Faith Hope Love". © 2025 Celebrating Catholic Education in QLD. <https://catholiceducationweek.com.au/>
- [2] Dicastery for Evangelisation."Pilgrimage".©2022 2025 - Copyright Dicastery for Evangelisation. <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025/segni-del-giubileo/il-pellegrinaggio.html>
- [3] Nuno da Silva Goncalves SJ and Gianni Augello, The Beginning of the Pontificate of Pope Leo XIV. La Civiltà Cattolica posted 4 July 2025. <https://www.laciviltacattolica.com/the-beginning-of-the-pontificate-of-pope-leo-xiv/>
- [4] Goncalves and Augello, The Beginning of the Pontificate of Pope Leo XIV.
- [5] Goncalves and Augello, The Beginning of the Pontificate of Pope Leo XIV.
- [6] Goncalves and Augello, The Beginning of the Pontificate of Pope Leo XIV.
- [7] Goncalves and Augello, The Beginning of the Pontificate of Pope Leo XIV.
- [8] Celebrating Catholic Education in QLD. "Communities of Faith Hope Love". © 2025 Celebrating Catholic Education in QLD. <https://catholiceducationweek.com.au/>
- [9] Celebrating Catholic Education in QLD. "Communities of Faith Hope Love". © 2025 Celebrating Catholic Education in QLD.
- [10] Dicastery for Evangelisation."Reconciliation". ©2022 2025 - Copyright Dicastery for Evangelisation. <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025/segni-del-giubileo/riconciliazione.html>