Quiet Reflection

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Shared Reflections

Intercessions

Let us pray that our schools exhibit the ideals we profess.

That we proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and deed,
   We pray to the Lord...

That we continue to permeate our entire curriculum, activities,
   and all aspects of the educational process with the Gospel message
   of Jesus Christ,
   We pray to the Lord...

That we always encourage young people to a deeper relationship
   with Jesus Christ,
   We pray to the Lord...

That we continue to provide opportunities for liturgies, retreats,
   vocation awareness workshops and daily prayer,
   We pray to the Lord...

Our Father

Closing Prayer

   Protect with loving-kindness, Lord, the people you have
   renewed through the paschal mystery of Christ, and grant
   them this reward: the resurrection of the body to glory
   everlasting.
   We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
   Amen.

Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America

Essential Element I

We Evangelize Youth Within the Mission of the Church

Opening Prayer

   God of truth, you have given us the grace to know and
   confess that the Lord is risen; grant that through the Spirit
   who is love we may rise with Christ to newness of life.

   We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who
   lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God
   for ever and ever.
   Amen.
A Reading from the Apostolic Exhortation to Young People

Schools are unquestionably a platform for drawing close to children and young people. In this field of educating the young, the Spirit has raised up countless charisms and examples of holiness. Catholic schools remain essential places for the evangelization of the young. Account should be taken of a number of guiding principles set forth in Veritatis Gaudium for the renewal and revival of missionary outreach on the part of schools and universities. These include a fresh experience of the kerygma, wide-ranging dialogue, interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary approaches, the promotion of a culture of encounter, the urgency of creating networks, and an option in favor of those who are least, those whom society discards.

Similarly important is the ability to integrate the knowledge of head, heart and hands. Christian service represents a unique opportunity for growth and openness to God’s gifts of faith and charity. Many young people are attracted by the possibility of helping others, especially children and the poor. Often this service is the first step to a discovery or rediscovery of life in Christ and the Church. Many young people grow weary of our programs of doctrinal and spiritual formation, and at times demand a chance to be active participants in activities that benefit others.

Psalm Response

Blessed those whose way is blameless, who walk by the law of the Lord.
Blessed those who keep God’s testimonies, who seek God with all their heart.

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They do no wrong; they walk in his ways.
You have given them the command to observe your precepts with care.

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May my ways be firm in the observance of your statutes!
Then I will not be ashamed to ponder all your commands.

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I will praise you with sincere heart as I study your righteous judgments.
I will observe your statutes; do not leave me all alone.

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How can the young keep his way without fault?
Only by observing your words.
With all my heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments.

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In my heart I treasure your promise, that I may not sin against you.
Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

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With my lips I recite all the judgments you have spoken. I find joy in the way of your testimonies more than in all riches.

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I will ponder your precepts and consider your paths. In your statutes I take delight; I will never forget your word.

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Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.