#### Intercessions

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

That we give priority to religious instruction with opportunities for faith development and theological understanding, We pray to the Lord...

That we participate in the sacramental life of the Church and model a living faith through the use of rituals and symbols, We pray to the Lord...

That we foster devotion to Mary and the communion of saints, We pray to the Lord...

That we ensure that Catholic identity permeates all endeavors: all classes and activities, procedures and policies, services and programs,

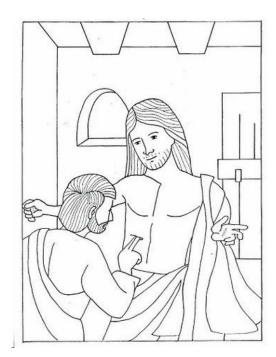
We pray to the Lord...

(Spontaneous Intercessions)

#### **Closing Prayer**

Grant, all-powerful God, that your life which we share may never cease to touch our hearts with the force of its saving grace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.



# Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America

**Essential Element II** 

# We Proclaim and Witness to Catholic Identity

# **Opening Prayer**

God of mercy, grant that the grace we seek and find when celebrating the Eucharist may grow within us and in every season bear much fruit.

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 Acts of the Apostles

When the court officers had brought the Apostles in and made them stand before the Sanhedrin, the high priest questioned them, "We gave you strict orders did we not, to stop teaching in that name. Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and want to bring this man's blood upon us." But Peter and the Apostles said in reply, "We must obey God rather than men. The God of our ancestors raised Jesus, though you had him killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as leader and savior to grant Israel repentance and forgiveness of sins. We are witnesses of these things, as is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

# Psalm Response

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; cry out to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before God with a song of praise, joyfully sing out our psalms.

# We Proclaim and Witness to Our Catholic Identity.

For the Lord is the great God, the great king over all gods, Whose hand holds the depths of the earth; who owns the tops of the mountains.

# We Proclaim and Witness to Our Catholic Identity.

The sea and dry land belong to God, who made them, formed them by hand. Enter, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the Lord who made us.

# We Proclaim and Witness to Our Catholic Identity.

For this is our God, we are the people God shepherds, the sheep in God's hands.

#### We Proclaim and Witness to Our Catholic Identity.

Oh, that today you would hear God's voice: Do not harden your hearts as at Meribah, as on the day of Massah in the desert. There your ancestors tested me; they tried me though they had seen my works.

# We Proclaim and Witness to Our Catholic Identity.

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.

**Quiet Reflection** 

**Shared Reflections**