

Prayer for an Awards Ceremony

Graziano Marcheschi

Irenaeus, saint and father of the Church, proclaimed that the Glory of God is humanity fully alive. Students engaged and learning, pursuing new areas of knowledge, discovering their gifts, which they then put at the service of the community . . . faculty sharing wisdom and imparting it to minds and hearts--these surely are signs of life in its fullness; and such vitality surely gives praise to God, our maker.

Together, let us bow our heads and pray:

O Holy One, Creator and Source of all Wisdom . . .

You whom we call by many names, including Father, we humbly give You thanks and praise for our gathering today. We thank You for the support and love of parents and families. We praise You for the years of learning shared here at [college/university], for the wisdom we've acquired and the growth we've experienced through teachers, coaches, staff . . . and one another.

Send Your blessing on us as we honor students whose curiosity, diligence, and scholarship have brought them honor and success. We know all that is good comes from You as generous gift and overwhelming sign of Your love.

May we learn to be as generous as You are, dear God. Inspire us, we pray, to live lives dedicated to the service of peace and holy justice, now and forever.

Amen.

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