

A Litany for Graduates

Celebrant: We are gathered together to celebrate the accomplishments of members of our community.

People: We give blessings to you for all that you have achieved and many more achievements yet to come.

Celebrant: One part of your life's journey is complete. You will prepare to begin another phase that will take you to unimaginable places. As you prepare for your next journey, we hope that you remember the ones you leave behind, who have loved and supported you throughout the years.

People: We give you blessings of good will and love as you journey forth into the world. We thank you for the laughter and fellowship that you have shared with us and pray that as you begin your next journey, remember the times that we all have shared with you.

Celebrant: Use those memories as a beacon to guide you on your path. Don't look back; continue only forward, while using those memories to create a new path.

People: We pray that God will give you strength and determination to develop new relationships that will help to strengthen and sustain your faith.

Celebrant: Because we are made in the image of God we have been blessed with free will to make choices and decisions.

People: We pray that you make wise and rational decisions, always turning to God for help. God hears, God listens, God is always with you. Do not forget that. Always keep in mind that God is around and if you turn to him, he will guide you.

A reading from the Book of Matthew: 28:16-20

Celebrant: Just as Jesus commissioned the disciples to go out and spread his word with the world, so do we commission you to do the same through the way you live your life. Always keep Christ in your heart.

People: We send you forth with all our love, all our reverence, all of our perseverance, and all of our support. Strive for only the best rewards that life has to offer you and may the love of Christ shine through you.

Celebrant: Christ is the light of all people. Let him shine in you during tough times and always keep that light alive.

People: Let Christ's light shine always. Thanks be to God.

Developed by Neil Riley, Canon for Faith Formation, Diocese of Colorado



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A Prayer for Discernment for Graduates

Loving God, we pray for the wisdom to discern your call in our lives.
Hear our prayer, O God.

We pray for the wisdom to make healthy choices in the face of endless and confusing options. **Hear our prayer, O God.**

We pray for the grace to redefine our relationships with our parents and our friends as our lives change. **Hear our prayer, O God.**

We pray for the grace to form new relationships with new friends as we move forward from this place. **Hear our prayer, O God.**

We pray for the courage to swim against the current of society as we seek to follow where you lead us. **Hear our prayer, O God.**

We pray for the courage to take a stand with you for justice and peace in this world in this time. **Hear our prayer, O God.**

Prepared for the Tekonsha High School graduates, 1993. Copyright Katherine Hawker.

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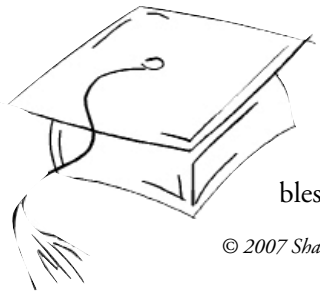
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A Blessing for Graduates

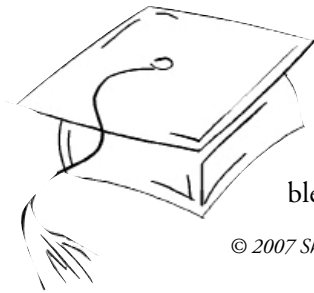
All wise, all loving God, we thank you for all your gifts to us; for making us, for saving us in Christ, for calling us to be your people. Look with love on our graduates and bless them as they complete their years of *high school* (or *school* or *college* or *university*). May your Spirit give them many skills and talents and help them to use these gifts for your glory and for the good of all people. In your kindness, guide them along paths that are level and smooth. We ask these blessings through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



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