

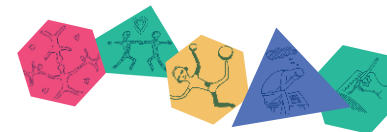
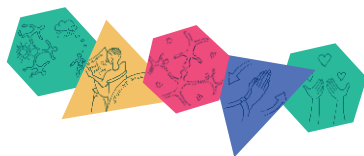
# *Enabling Communities*

**EVERYONE HAS A PART TO PLAY**



***Daily prayers during Social Justice Week***

*Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini;  
My achievements and strengths are not those of the individual, but those of the many.*



## How to use these prayers

This prayer resource contains 15 prayers that have been written or adapted to be used during Social Justice Week 2018. With the theme of *Enabling Communities: Everyone has a part to play*, these prayers are designed to help guide our focus on issues around disability and inclusion.

Prayers are divided into three sections to cater for the different levels: junior primary (Y1-4), upper primary (Y5-8), and secondary (Y9-13). Five prayers are available for each level, so classes may choose to use one prayer each day.

As disability and inclusion are central to the unit, there are multiple ways that the prayers can be communicated:

- Displayed on a screen (or printed out)
- Listened to via the link on the page
- Through New Zealand Sign Language via the link on the page

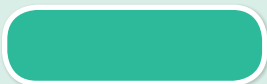
The following table lists the prayers by focus and level and provides easy hyperlink access to every available prayer.

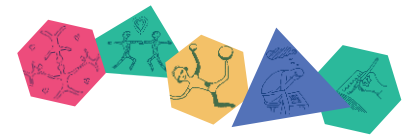
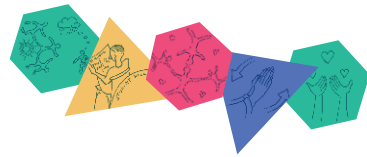
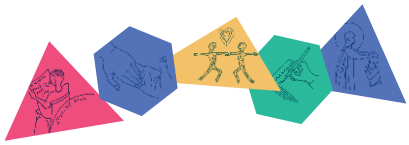
Prayer Focus	Junior Primary	Upper Primary	Secondary
Thankfulness	Thank you	Unique	Celebrate
Those around us	See others	Around us	Human blindness
Forgiveness	Sorry	Full not less	Closed off
Solidarity	Help	Weak and strong	Side by side
Participation	Our part	Extraordinary	Together



### Acknowledgements

Writing – Michael Stewart and Gemma Sinnott  
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 Hannah Stewart and Michael Stewart





## ***Thank you***

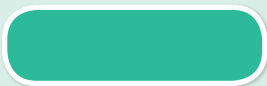
**Junior Primary**

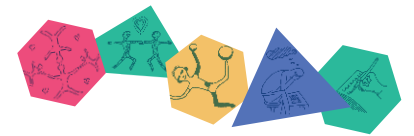
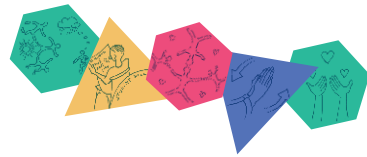
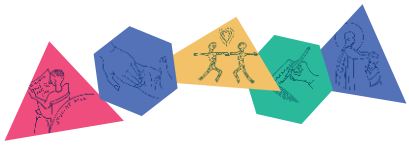
E te Atua, God of all,  
Thank you for your love.  
Thank you for giving us life.  
Thank you for the way we have been made,  
for what we can do,  
for what we can share,  
and for all that is good.  
Help us to remember  
that you are always with us.  
Hear our prayer.

Amen.

***'May we learn to say  
thank you to God and to  
one another.'***

*Pope Francis*



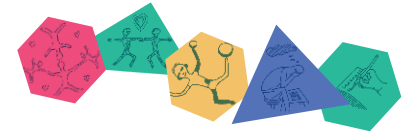
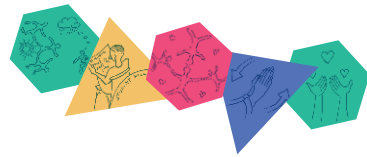
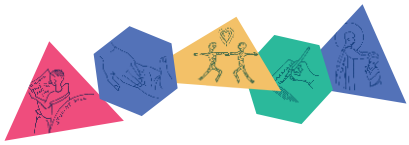


## See others

Junior Primary

God,  
You see us as we are,  
and know our hearts.  
Help us to see others,  
in the way that you do.  
We pray for everyone in need,  
those who are sad,  
those who are sick,  
those who are in pain.  
Help us to see others,  
to reveal your love.  
  
Amen.





# Sorry

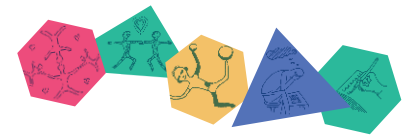
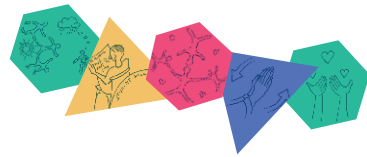
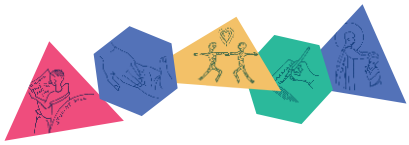
Sorry God for all the times  
I have caused others to be sad.  
When I haven't shown people love  
just because they are a bit different.  
Forgive my words and actions.  
Help me to be more like Jesus.  
I want to bring a smile,  
caring words,  
and helping hands.  
Sorry for my mistakes,  
help me to share your love.  
  
Amen.

Junior Primary

***'It only takes one smile to  
stop one thousand tears'***

*Anonymous*





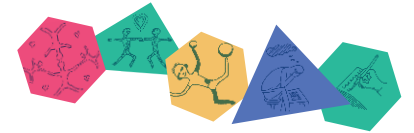
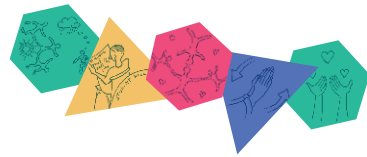
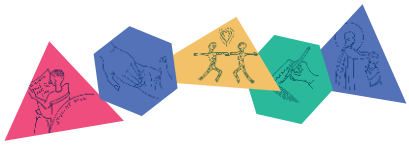
## Help

Junior Primary

E te Atua, Creator God,  
You made us to be together.  
Help me to stand with others,  
when people need help.  
Help me to say the right words,  
when people need help.  
Help me to offer a helping hand,  
when people need help.  
Help me to think of others,  
so I can always help.  
Help us all to be strong together.  
  
Amen.

***'The world is full of good people.  
If you can't find one, be one.'***

*Anonymous*



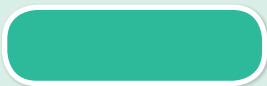
## ***Our part***

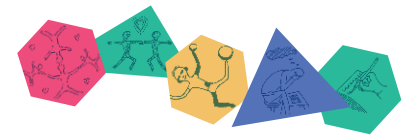
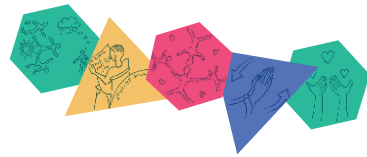
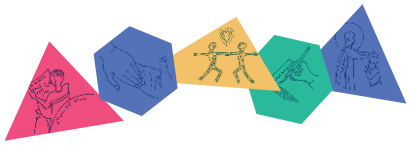
**Junior Primary**

E Hēhu Karaiti, Lord Jesus,  
Thank you that we share life with others.  
Good times and hard times.  
At home, in school and with friends.  
You made us to live together.  
Help us to each use our skills.  
Your Church is one body,  
made of many parts.  
Help us be the people  
you want us to be  
bringing your love.  
  
Amen.

***'None of us can  
live without love.'***

*Pope Francis*





# Unique

Upper Primary

E te Atua, kaha rawa,

Creator God,

Thank you for making each of us unique,  
created in your image.

Thank you that we can learn from each other,  
as we are all so different and have lots to share.

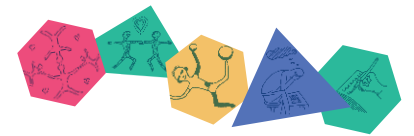
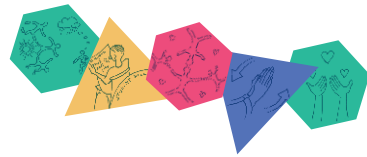
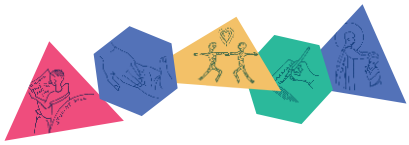
Help us see the special gifts in those around us,  
especially when they may be different to our own.

Thank you for your love,  
and for those in our lives  
who love us for who we are.

Amen.







## ***Around us***

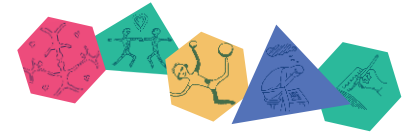
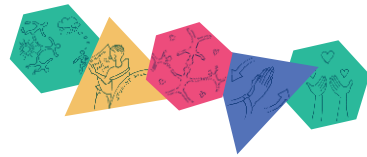
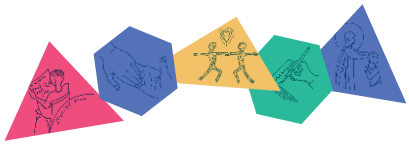
E Hēhu Karaiti, Lord Jesus,  
Thank you for the life you lived,  
the most amazing example of love,  
always looking out for others.  
Help us to be aware of those around us,  
to consider those beyond ourselves.  
May we be more like you,  
for those who feel alone,  
for those who are in pain,  
for those who struggle,  
so that your love overflows.

Amen.

**Upper Primary**

***'When you forget yourself  
and think of others,  
this is love!'***

*Pope Francis*



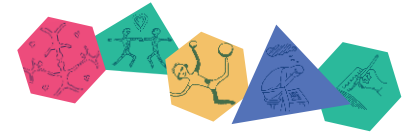
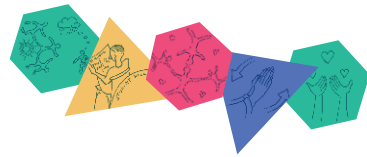
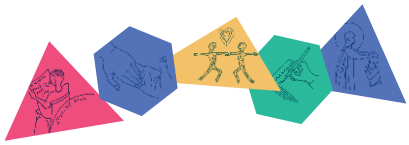
## Full not less

Upper Primary

God of grace,  
Please forgive us,  
for all the times we have been thoughtless.  
For the times when we have  
used our words to hurt others,  
used our actions to bring tears,  
or ignored those in need.  
We pray that you will help us  
to be more thoughtful  
especially towards those  
who are less able than others.

Amen.





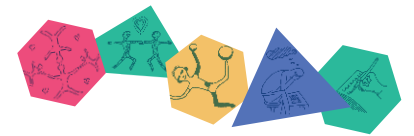
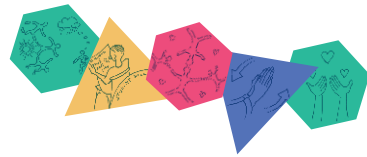
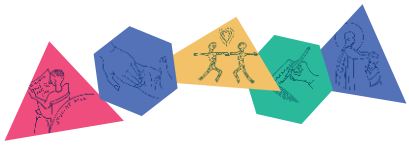
## *Weak and strong*

**Upper Primary**

E Hēhu Karaiti, Lord Jesus,  
You learned, like us,  
that being human means  
experiencing times of weakness  
and times of strength.  
But you tell us,  
that when we are weak,  
we are strong.  
It is then that we know  
that we need you and one another.  
Help us to stand alongside each other,  
in good times and in bad.

Amen.





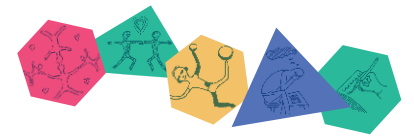
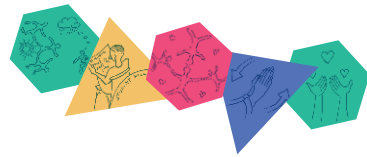
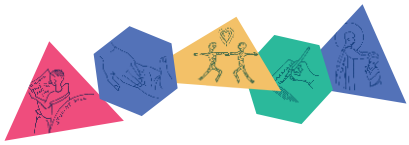
# Extraordinary

Upper Primary

Loving God,  
Sometimes I would like  
to be a super hero,  
to solve all the problems  
I see around me.  
But you call me to be myself,  
to do ordinary things for others.  
So, help me  
to do these ordinary things  
with extraordinary love.  
  
Amen.

***'We are not called by God to do extraordinary things, but to do ordinary things with extraordinary love'***

*Jean Vanier*



## Celebrate

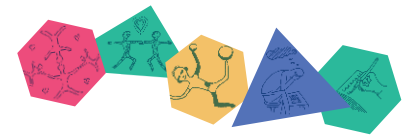
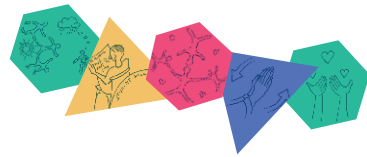
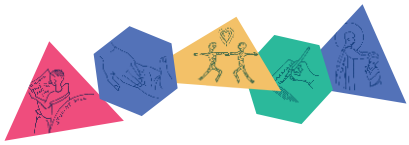
**Secondary**

E te Atua, kaha rawa,  
Author of life,  
Fill us full every morning with your faithful love,  
so we can rejoice and celebrate our whole life long.  
You know better than anyone that we often focus  
on what we don't have and what we can't do.  
Help us to celebrate the good things,  
the many blessings we experience every day,  
the opportunities we have in our lives,  
the abilities you have given us,  
the very breath we breathe right now.  
Remind us to value all that we are,  
just as you do,  
your very creation on Earth.  
Amen.

**'Fill us full every morning  
with your faithful love so we  
can rejoice and celebrate our  
whole life long.'**

*Psalm 90:14*





## Human blindness

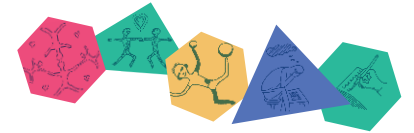
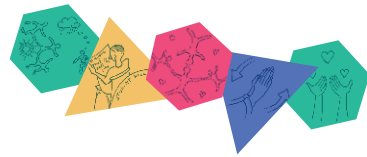
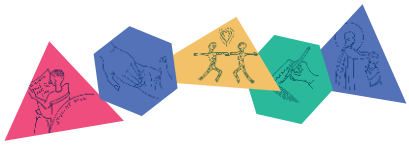
Secondary

E Hēhu Karaiti,  
You told a story once  
about a rich man  
who walked past a blind beggar every day.  
But it was the rich man  
who was blind;  
blind to the needs of his neighbour,  
and to what God was asking of him.  
Open our eyes, Lord Jesus,  
in a spiritual sense,  
so we can see the needs  
of those around us.  
Amen.

***‘Whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others ... and the desire to do good fades.’***

*Pope Francis*





## Closed off

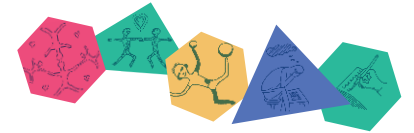
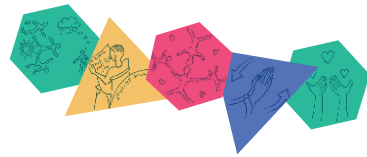
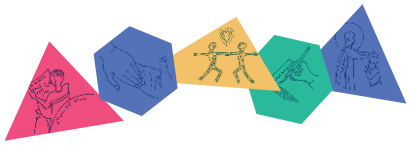
Forgiving God,  
Please forgive me for all the times  
when I have ignored someone in need.  
If I'm honest, I find it easier to close myself off  
and get caught up in countless distractions  
from our often self-focused and heartless culture.  
Lead me,  
so that I may be willing to help  
wherever, whenever and however I can.  
Help us all to truly see reality,  
true feelings and  
authentic needs  
and respond.  
May your will be done... everywhere.  
Amen.

**Secondary**

***'What an illusion it is when  
people today shut their eyes  
in the face of sickness and  
disability!'***

*Pope Francis*





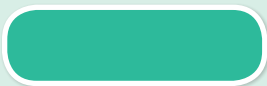
## Side by side

**Secondary**

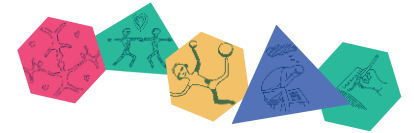
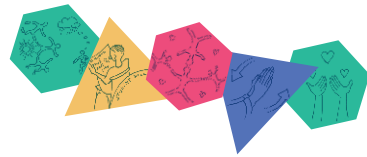
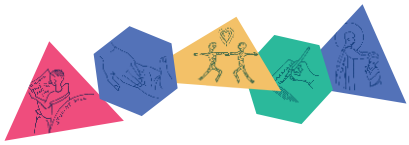
E te Atua o te aroha,  
God of love,  
Give us the courage and compassion to walk with others.  
Side by side.  
Help us to overcome our own competitiveness;  
we don't always need to lead.  
Help us to slow down and encounter others  
who can't live life at such a frantic pace.  
Teach us the joy  
of simply 'being with'  
our brothers and sisters.  
Amen.

**'Don't walk behind me; I may not lead. Don't walk in front of me; I may not follow. Just walk beside me and be my friend.'**

*Albert Camus*







# Together

**Secondary**

Ever-present, ever-loving God,  
May your Spirit remind us  
that we are all part of your family;  
a Church that extends beyond  
country, culture, gender or ability.  
May your Spirit empower us  
to always live out your love,  
so all experience that you are  
ever-present and ever-loving.  
May your Spirit work within us  
so that all can play their part,  
and feel enabled  
to contribute in your world.  
May your Spirit  
draw us together.  
Amen.

