

# Prayers by Student Artists at St Joseph's School, Otahuhu

Spirit of God

May we come together as family to weave a cloak of peace and justice in our communities. A cloak that encircles each and every one of us. May we learn to open doors of generosity and welcome everyone. Amen.

*Anna Falaniko, Aged 12, Year 8*

Dear Lord

Let us make the changes in the world, now, instead of later.  
Let us be peacemakers in the world, now, instead of later.  
Let us accept our different skin tones, religions and genders, now, instead of later.  
Let us forgive and forget the wrong others have done to us, now, instead of later.  
Let us weave bonds of love between one another, now, instead of later.  
Let us fill the air with love instead of hatred and judgement, now, instead of later.  
Let us reconcile with one another and start anew, now, instead of later.  
Let us embrace in unity and peace, now, instead of later, Amen

*Miracle Iuvale, Aged 11, Year 8*

God of Justice

May you open up hearts trapped in a blanket of injustice and fear. Bestow them with your healing strength so that we can become advocates for the oppressed so that they can have the freedom to speak. May the radiance of your just commands lead us into pathways of peace. Amen

*Anitimoni Aholeilei, Aged 12, Year 8*

Dear Santo Niño

I pray for people in troubled parts of the world. May you open doors for people who live in violence and unfairness. May reconciliation weave peace into the homes and the hearts of those who long for peace and justice. Amen

*Kiarah Torillo, Aged 11, Year 7*

Dear Santo Niño

I pray that in our homes, streets and neighbourhoods there is peace and justice. Transform the minds of those who are jealous and greedy. Open the hearts of those who don't know how to forgive. Let us go together — show us pathways of peace. Amen

*Kim LaMadrid, Aged 11, Year 7*

Dear Lord

When there is greed there is no equality.  
When there is selfishness there is inequality.  
I ask you to help us stitch together a quilt of generosity  
A blanket of unselfishness,  
Let us go together  
As one family  
As one world  
Kotahi whānau  
Kotahi ao  
Amen

*Theresa Niulevaea, Aged 12, Year 8*

God of peace and justice,  
Our world has become a place of greed. A place where people are treated unfairly. Let peace and justice reign in our world. Let peace overcome war and hate, and justice overcome inequality and unfairness. May we weave the threads of togetherness once and for all. God of peace and justice, hear our prayer. Amen

*Petra Sinclair-Fui, Aged 12, Year 8*

Risen Lord,  
Gather us together as one world, to hoist the flag of peace so our hearts reconnect. May we end divisions between people, so that we all can be at peace. Let us accept the needs of each other. May we cry for justice. May we be empowered to seek fairness and equality. I believe that justice will come. Amen.

*Elaine Tuitupu. Aged 12, Year 8*

Lord Jesus, Ariki Ihu  
Help those today who live in parts of the world  
where people have no say.  
Help those who can't find their way,  
especially refugees with no where to stay.  
Open a door for those in need,  
and help all leaders show no greed.  
Lord hear us. Amen

*Marie-Grace Rusia, Aged 11, Year 7*

God, today the world is unbalanced. Transform and change the world's greed and shape it into selflessness. Let the scales of justice weigh evenly. Help Susan to work together to make our world a fair place for everyone. Kotahi whānau, Kotahi ao. Amene

*Rita Timoti-Hohaia, Aged 11, Year 7*

Gracious God  
Please help the people who keep taking and taking but no giving.  
Give me strength and grace to show them your ways.  
Fill their hearts and minds with peace.  
May a warm hug of love wrap around them, transforming them into giving people. Amen

*Ma'ata Tahafe, Aged 11, Year 7*

E hehu Karaiti  
Help us to be your followers on Earth  
Where people snatch with greed, let us be the ones to care for those in need.  
Where people are thrown out of communities let us stand together in unity.  
When people despise each other, let us recognise the love we have for one another.  
Lord, help us be your followers on Earth. Amene

*Sinama Latailakepa, Aged 11, Year 6*

Tama  
Bring a home to those who have lost it through war and injustice.  
Bless them as they journey through dangerous paths to find a new home.  
May we show them hospitality and welcome them into our country.  
Thank you for our peaceful home. Amen.

*Verozzi Va'aiva, Aged 11, Year 7*

Lord,  
Notice our brothers and sisters who are  
Poor  
Homeless  
Without justice  
Victims of war.  
So often they have no one to advocate for them  
as they struggle to find the life they deserve.  
Encourage others to cooperate and open pathways of peace  
To become one family, one world  
Kotahi whānau, Kotahi ao. Amene  
Lakai Monau, Aged 12, Year 8  
God of fair and just societies,  
Help our brother and sisters in need.  
May we hear their cry  
And not carry on like nothing is wrong.  
May we seek to restore peace  
In our home and wider communities,  
May everyone recognise refugees as our  
lost brothers and sisters.  
May we  
end division  
end suffering  
end inequality  
so that one day we live in harmony.  
But until then ...  
May we continue to fight for  
what is right.  
Amen  
*Leila Schmidt-Sopoaga, Aged 12, Year 8*

E te Atua  
Worldwide peace will begin our generation  
We will lead this world to a new beginning  
A beginning where we will start all over again  
A beginning where there will be no such thing as hate  
A beginning where we will treat each other as our brothers and sisters  
We will walk long roads with hands and hearts held together in love.  
Kotahi whānau, kotahi ao  
One family, one world, Amene  
*Aaliyah Tuimalata, Aged 11, Year 8*