

**SCRIPTURE
READINGS**



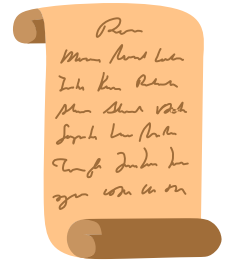
THEMES



MUSIC

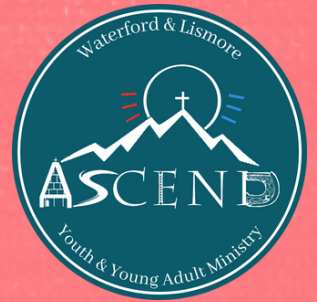


PRAYERS



REFLECTIONS

Graduation Liturgy Resources



Graduation Liturgy Resources

We hope this will be of help to you in planning graduation liturgies / Masses for your youth group or classes. The Scripture references, song titles and websites have all been hyperlinked in this pdf to make life a little easier for you!



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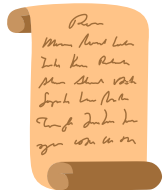
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Useful Websites



For more resources for post-primary schools / youth groups, check out

www.waterfordlismore.ie/youth-ministry

or subscribe to our weekly

To the Heights newsletter by clicking [here](#)

or emailing

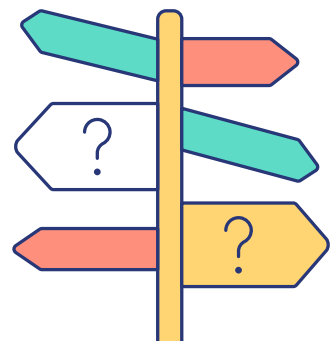
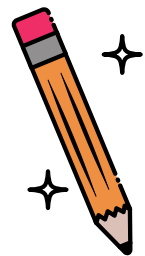
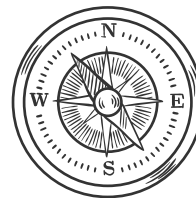
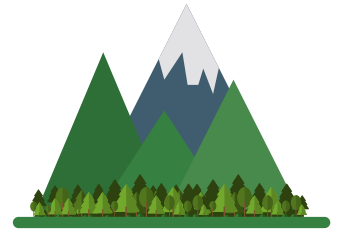
youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie



Graduation Themes



- "Act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8
- Let your light so shine (Matthew 5:16)
- Be truly glad there is wonderful joy ahead. (1 Peter 1:6)
- Choose Joy!
- Verso l'alto (to the heights!) (Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati)
- The best view comes after the hardest climb.
- If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, say to this mountain "Move!" and it will move. (Matthew 17:20)
- If you are what you should be, you will set the world on fire. (St Catherine of Siena)
- Be strong and courageous. Joshua 1:9
- Courage, dear heart! (Aslan, CS Lewis)
- Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. (Proverbs 3:5-6)
- Let all that you do be done in love. (1 Cor 16:14)
- Use the gifts you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you. (St Therese of Lisieux)
- I can do all things in Christ who strengthens me (Phil 4:13)
- The best is yet to come.
- Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders. (Hillsong)
- Let your faith be bigger than your fears
- You can never cross the ocean unless you have the courage to lose sight of the shore
- You are here, moving in our midst (Waymaker)
- Not all who wander are lost (JRR Tolkien)
- Wherever you go, go with all your heart
- I am not afraid. I was born to do this. (Joan of Arc)
- BELIEVE THERE is GOOD in the world
- "For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for peace and not disaster, to give you a future and a hope." Jer 29:11.
- "There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind." (CS Lewis)
- Love Never Fails (1 Corinthians 13)
- I am only a little pencil in the hand of God, who is sending a love letter to the world. (Mother Teresa)
- Your greatness is not what you have, it's what you give.
- "You are precious in my eyes and honoured and I love you." Isaiah 43:4
- There are no shortcuts to any place worth going
- Whatever you do, do it well. (Walt Disney)
- Dreams don't work unless you do
- If it doesn't challenge you, it doesn't change you
- Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. (Psalm 119:105)
- A flower does not think of competing with the flower next to it. It just blooms.
- I thank you for your part in my journey (FOOTPRINTS)
- This above all: to thine own self be true (Shakespeare)
- Know Thyself. Socrates
- It is our choices that show who we truly are, more than our abilities
- You are God's masterpiece (Ephesians 2:10)





Listen to the songs
on Ascend_WL
GraduationPlaylists

Graduation Music



Ascend Youth
Ministry_Waterford &
Lismore Playlist

ENTRANCE / RECESSIONAL

- **And all the people said Amen** (Matt Maher)
- **A rightful place** (Steve Angrisano)
- **Blessed be Your Name** (Matt Redman)
- **Come now is the time** (Brian Doerksen)
- **Give us your heart** (Melanie Tierce)
- **God I look to you** (Bethel)
- **Great Things** (Matt Maher)
- **Hallelujah** (Your love is amazing) (Brian Doerksen)
- **Here I am to worship** (Tim Hughes)
- **How great is our God** (Chris Tomlin)
- **Set the world on fire** (Britt Nicole)
- **In Christ alone** (Stuart Townend)
- **I will be** (Natalie Grant)
- **Joy** (Rend Collective)
- **King of my heart** (Kutless)
- **Love the Lord your God** (Lincoln Brewster)
- **Mighty to save** (Hillsong)
- **My Lighthouse** (Rend Collective)
- **Not I yet but through Christ in me** (City Alight)
- **Oceans / where feet may fail** (Hillsong)
- **Open the eyes of my heart** (Brian Doerksen)
- **Our God** (Chris Tomlin)
- **Our God is here** (Chris Muglia)
- **Raise a Hallelujah** (Bethel)
- **Lord Reign in Me** (Brenton Brown)
- **Shine Jesus Shine** (Graham Kendrick)
- **Shout to the Lord** (Darlene Zschech)
- **Shout to the north** (Robin Mark)
- **Ten Thousand Reasons** (Matt Redman)
- **Today I choose** (Brian Doerksen)
- **Walk on the water** (Britt Nicole)
- **Waymaker** (Leeland)
- **What a beautiful name** (Hillsong)
- **What faith can do** (Kutless)
- **Who you say I am** (Hillsong)
- **You are my shepherd** (Tricia Brock)
- **You are my vision** (Rend Collective)
- **Your grace is enough** (Matt Maher)
- **Your Promises** (Elevation worship)

PSALMS

- **As the deer** (Stefanie Gretzinger)
- **May your love be upon us** (Boyce & Stanley)
- **Only in God** (John Michael Talbot)
- **The Lord's my Shepherd** (Stuart Townend)

OFFERTORY

- **All for Jesus** (Robin Mark)
- **Here's my heart, Lord** (David Crowder)
- **Holy and Anointed One** (Vineyard Worship)
- **Jesus be the centre** (Vineyard Songs)
- **Jesus, be with us now** (David Haas)
- **Jesus Christ, You are my Life** (Marco Frisina)
- **Nothing I hold onto** (Will Reagan & Utd Pursuit)
- **Refiner's Fire** (Brian Doerksen)
- **The Potter's Hand** (Hillsong)

COMMUNION

- **At the Cross** (Hillsong)
- **Behold the Lamb** (Boyce & Stanley)
- **Bread of Life** (Boyce & Stanley)
- **Everything** (Tim Hughes)
- **God I look to you** (Francescan Battistelli)
- **Great are you Lord** (All Sons & Daughters)
- **Here I am to worship** (Tim Hughes)
- **I shall not want** (Audrey Assad)
- **It is well with me** (Kristene di Marco)
- **Lord I need You** (Matt Maher)
- **Not I yet but through Christ in me** (City Alight)
- **O Come to the Altar** (Elevation Worship)
- **One Bread One Body** (John Michael Talbot)
- **Take and eat this is my body** (Ian Callanan)
- **The Potter's Hand** (Darlene Zschech)
- **This is Jesus** (Jim Cowan)
- **Worthy is the Lamb** (Hillsong)
- **You are my all in all** (Brentwood Baptist Worship)
- **You gave your life away** (Paul Baloche)

REFLECTION

- **A living prayer** (Alison Krauss)
- **Be still my soul** (Kari Jobe)
- **Build my Life** (Housefires)
- **Good good Father** (Chris Tomlin)
- **Good to me** (Audrey Assad)
- **In your arms (through the storms)** (Oslo Gospel Choir)
- **New wine** (Hillsong)
- **Oceans / where feet may fail** (Hillsong)
- **Only by grace** (Fr Rob Galea)
- **Reckless Love** (Cory Asbury)
- **Restless** (Audrey Assad)
- **So Will I (100 Billion X)** (Hillsong)
- **The Blessing** (Bethel)
- **Who am I** (Casting Crowns)
- **You Say** (Lauren Daigle)
- **You Speak** (Audrey Assad)

Scripture Readings



OLD TESTAMENT

- [Isaiah 40:28-31](#) *Go the distance*
- [Jeremiah 29: 11-14](#) *God's plan for our lives*
- [Isaiah 43:1-3](#) *God is always with us*
- [Proverbs 8: 32 – 35](#) *Listening to God*
- [Numbers 6: 24 – 26](#) *The Lord's Blessing (see: The Blessing)*
- [Ecclesiastes 3:1 –12](#) *A Season for Everything*
- [Wisdom 6:11 – 20](#) *What is Wisdom?*
- [Deuteronomy 32: 7 – 12](#) *God's love through the generations*



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

- [Psalm 100](#) *Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth*
- [Psalm 25](#) *In You O Lord I put my trust*
- [Psalm 46](#) *God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble*
- [Psalm 67](#) *May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you*
- [Psalm 112](#) *Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who find great delight in his commands*
- [Psalm 139](#) *You have searched me, Lord, and you know me*

NEW TESTAMENT

- [Philippians 4:4-8](#) *Rejoice in the Lord always*
- [Philippians 1:3-6,9-11](#) *I give thanks for you*
- [Romans 8: 31 – 35; 37 – 39](#) *More than Conquerors*
- [1 Corinthians 13: 1- 13](#) *What Love is*
- [1 Corinthians 12: 4 – 13](#) *Gifts and Talents*
- [1 John 4: 7 – 12](#) *Love one another/love comes from God*
- [Romans 12: 4-13](#) *Members of the one Body*



GOSPEL

- [Matthew 5:14-16](#) *You are the light of the world*
- [Matthew 6: 25 – 34](#) *Do not worry*
- [Matthew 6:19 – 21](#) *Where your treasure is, your heart is*
- [Matthew 14: 22- 33](#) *Jesus walks on water*
- [Matthew 22: 34 – 40](#) *The Greatest Commandment*
- [Luke 24: 13 – 35](#) *The Road to Emmaus*
- [John 15: 9 – 17](#) *Greater love has no one than this*
- [Luke 8:4-8](#) *Parable of the Sower*
- [Mark 4:35-41](#) *Jesus calms the storm*





Graduation Prayers of Intercession



God of Goodness,

we pray for Pope Francis, the Bishops and all the clergy. Help them to follow you faithfully so that they may lead us always to you. Lord hear us.

God of Love,

bless our homes and families, especially those who are sick or unemployed or troubled in any way. Lord hear us.

God of Wisdom,

we pray for the students, teachers and staff of our school, that you may continue to bless and direct them in their lives. Lord hear us.

God of Hope,

we pray for all our loved ones who have passed away. May they enjoy everlasting happiness in heaven. Lord hear us.

God of Peace,

we pray for those who are suffering in our world because of war and violence. Bless our leaders with your Spirit of Peace that they may make decisions that follow your path of peace. Lord hear us.

God of Gentleness,

we pray for our all friends who over these past years have shared laughter, tears, heartaches and happiness with us, that they may know how much we love and cherish them. Lord hear us.



Graduation Candle Ceremony

At the beginning of Mass, 4 Leaving Cert students come forward to be presented with a lit candle by the following representatives: parent/guardian, younger student in school, staff member, parish representative (can be the priest). Each representative reads their reflection, before being handed their candle to pass to one of the students, who then places the candle on a display area near the altar. You can cut the labels on the next page to glue or pin to the candles also.



Candle 1: (Love - offered by a parent or guardian)

On behalf of the parents and guardians here I offer you the Light of Love. We lit this light for you long ago, before you even remember. When you were afraid of the dark, this light was left on for you. On your first day at school, this light shone for you. This light waited up for you if you were home late, even if you wished it hadn't. Carry this light into a world that needs love; be light and love to all you meet. And remember, that in any dark times or storms you face, turn towards home and this light will still burn brightly for you.



Candle 2: (Wisdom - offered by a staff member)

On behalf of the Staff of _____ I offer you the Light of Wisdom. In your time here we offered you the wisdom we had. Now you must carry this light into a world that sometimes lacks wisdom. You will face choices and opportunities past generations could only have dreamed of. You will face exams and other challenges in the months and years ahead. May wisdom always inspire you and lead you to goodness and truth.



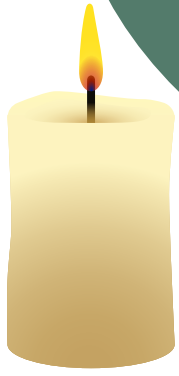
Candle 3: (Memory - offered by a younger student in the school)

On behalf of all the students that you leave behind I offer you the Light of Memory. As you go forth from here, carry the memories of your time here in your heart. Remember those who remain and carry on the legacy of our school, as we will remember you and your legacy here too.



Candle 4: (Faith - offered by the priest or a parishioner)

On behalf of our Parish I offer you the Light of Faith. This light has shone in your heart since Baptism. Never forget that you are a valued member of the Christian community here. Carry this light with you. Be a light for all the world.



Graduation Candle Ceremony



These labels can be cut out and stuck to white pillar candles with prittstick or thumbtacks,
or you could paint the words directly to the candles with acrylic paint.

Love

Wisdom

Memory

Faith





Graduation Parent's Blessing

Parent's Blessing

When you were born our hearts were so full of happiness
that there was no room in us for words.
When you were growing our hearts were so full of care for
you that we spoke soothingly and sometimes sharply,
fearful for your safety,
but always, in the deepest places of our hearts,
we spoke lovingly.

Today,
as we watch you moving forward with your friends
we marvel at all you have done and become.
Our spirits sing praise to God
for the gift that is you
and though our hearts have stretched to love others,
yet here is a place within us
that is yours and only yours always.
For the light you have shone on us,
for the life you have called to us,
for the special gift from God
you are now and ever will be....
Thank you.

- Christy Kenneally -



Graduation Parent's Blessing

A Parent's Love Poem

I give you life, but cannot live it for you.

I can give you directions, but I cannot be there to lead you.

I can teach you right from wrong, but I cannot always decide for you.

I can buy you beautiful clothes, but I cannot make you beautiful inside.

I can offer you advice, but I cannot accept it for you.

I can give you love, but I cannot force it upon you.

I can teach you to share, but I cannot make you unselfish.

I can teach you respect, but I cannot force you to show honour.

I can advise you about friends, but I cannot choose them for you.

I can tell you about alcohol and drugs, but I can't say 'no' for you.

I can tell you about lofty goals, but I can't achieve them for you.

I can teach you about kindness, but I can't force you to be gracious.

I can pray for you, but I cannot make you walk with God

I can tell you how to live, but I cannot give you eternal life.

I can love you with unconditional love all of my lifeand I will.





A Graduate's Prayer

Father, I have knowledge,
so I pray you'll show me now
how to use it wisely
and find a way somehow
to make the world I live in a better place,
And make life, with its problems, a bit easier to face...
Grant me faith and courage,
and put purpose in my days,
And show me how to serve you
in the most effective ways,
So all my education, my knowledge and my skill,
May find their true fulfilment
as I learn to do Your will...
And may I ever be aware in everything I do
that knowledge comes from learning
- and wisdom comes from You.

- Helen Steiner Rice -





Our Deepest Fear

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate.
Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.
It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us.

We ask ourselves,
who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous?
Actually, who are you not to be?
You are a child of God.

Your playing small doesn't serve the world.
There is nothing enlightened about shrinking
so that other people won't feel insecure around you.
We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us.
It is not just in some of us: It's in everyone.
And when we let our own light shine,
we unconsciously give other people
permission to do the same.
As we are liberated from our own fear,
our presence automatically liberates others.

- Marianne Williamson -





Just think
You're not here by chance,
But by God's choosing.
His Hand formed you
And made you the person you are.
He compared you to no-one else,
You are one of a kind.
You lack nothing
that His grace cannot give you.
He has allowed you to be here
At this time in history
To fulfil his special purpose
For this generation.





Transition Year End of Year Liturgy

Opening Hymn:

Reading:

A Reading from the Letter of St Paul to Timothy

“Let no one disregard you because you are young, but be an example to all the believers in the way you speak and behave, and in your love, your faith and your purity.”

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm:

Prayers of Intercession:

Lord, we thank you for the year that we have had, for the fun and the friendships we enjoyed, for the obstacles we overcame and for all that we learned and achieved. Lord hear us

All: Lord graciously hear us

Lord we thank you for our families and for the support they were to us over the past year. Please bless our families Lord and reward them for their goodness, patience and generosity. Lord hear us

All: Lord graciously hear us

Lord we thank you for the teachers and staff of our school, who gave of their time and helped to make this year what it was. We ask you to bless this school in a special way. Lord hear us

All: Lord graciously hear us

Lord we pray for our class as we head into 5th year in September. Help us to use the skills we have learned this year to apply ourselves to our studies and friendships and to making our school, our community and our world a better place. Lord hear us

All: Lord graciously hear us

We pray together, asking Our Lady in a special way in this month of May to offer our intentions to her Son:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen

Final Reflection: Pope Francis speaking to Youth

“Dear young people, have you thought about how you can put the talents God has given you at the service of others? Life is given to us not to jealously preserve it for ourselves, but so that we make a gift of it to others. Do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things”

Final Hymn:



Third Year End of Year Liturgy



Opening Hymn:

Reading:

A Reading from the Prophet Micah

You have already been told what is right and what the Lord wants of you; only this, to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm:

Prayers of Intercession:

Lord, we thank you for the past three years that we have had, for the fun and the friendships we enjoyed, for the obstacles we overcame and for all that we learned and achieved. Lord hear us

All: Lord graciously hear us

Lord we thank you for our families and for the support they were to us over the past year. Please bless our families Lord and reward them for their goodness, patience and generosity. Lord hear us

All: Lord graciously hear us

Lord we thank you for the teachers and staff of our school, who gave of their time and helped to make this year what it was. We ask you to bless this school in a special way. Lord hear us

All: Lord graciously hear us

Lord we pray for the weeks ahead as we sit our Junior Cert exams. Send your Holy Spirit to guide and inspire us. Lord hear us

All: Lord graciously hear us

Lord we pray for our class as we head into 5th year and Transition Year in September. Help us to use the skills we have learned these past three years to apply ourselves to our studies and friendships and to making our school, our community and our world a better place. Lord hear us

All: Lord graciously hear us

We pray together, asking Our Lady in a special way in this month of May to offer our intentions to her Son:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

Amen

Final Reflection: Just Think

Just think: You're not here by chance, but by God's choosing. His hand formed you and made you the person you are. He compared you to no-one else; you are one of a kind. You lack nothing that his grace cannot give you. He has allowed you to be here at this time in history to fulfil his special purpose for this generation.

Final Hymn:

- ASCEND YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY (DIOCESE OF WATERFORD & LISMORE) -



Useful Websites

Graduation resources

- www.prayever.com
- www.slife.org
- www.resource.ni.com
- www.catholicteacherresources.com

Music

- <https://www.ultimate-guitar.com/> (*for guitar chords - keys can be transposed*)

Scripture

- <https://www.biblegateway.com/> (*for Bible references*)
- <https://www.catholicireland.net/readings/> (*readings of the day*)

Artwork / Banner / Booklet Ideas

- www.pinterest.com
- www.canva.com (*create booklets / posters / invites etc*)

Technology

- www.viewpure.com (*to show YouTube videos without ads*)