



Holy Child Collaborative

CONNECTING PARTNERS, ADVANCING MISSION

K – Grade 3 Prayer Service for the Launch of the Holy Child Collaborative

Welcome:

The Society of the Holy Child Jesus was founded by Venerable Cornelia Connelly in 1846. The Society is a group of Catholic Sisters who work together to help people know that God is with them and cares for them.

Today, we are here to say thank you for Cornelia Connelly and to learn about her life and the special group she began.

Our school is part of the Holy Child Network of Schools. Holy Child schools were started by Cornelia Connelly and the Society of the Holy Child Jesus. Today, Holy Child schools try to help people in ways that are important and important to our world.

Hymn:

Every school can pick a special song to sing together.

Opening Prayer:

(This is a prayer about how we walk together as friends...)

Dear God, help us to be good friends to everyone, everywhere. Please give us the strength to help each other and to make our school and world a better place.

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:13-15

Two of Jesus' friends were walking to a village called Emmaus. As they walked, Jesus came and walked with them, but they did not know it was Him.

Reflection:

Cornelia Connelly said, "Run with ardour in the way that He has pointed out." This means we should try our best to follow the good path God shows us.

Procession of Gift Offerings: (if following during [4:00 p.m. Mass on April 18](#))

A representative will process to the altar and offer a gift(s) representing what they bring to the Collaborative. The gift(s) will be placed where they can be seen. The Prayer Leader will then share the significance of the gift to the group.

Intercessions:

Our response is: God, please hear us.

For leaders around the world: We ask that they make good choices and help everyone with kindness and fairness; **we pray: God, please hear us.**

For the Church: We hope Church leaders will teach us about truth and help people get along; **we pray: God, please hear us.**

For the Holy Child Sisters and women and men who help the Society: We are thankful for their hard work and hope they keep sharing their gifts and helping others; **we pray: God, please hear us.**

For our Holy Child schools: We pray that our schools help us learn to do good things and follow Cornelia Connelly's example; **we pray: God, please hear us.**

For Holy Child ministries: We pray they help people in the ways Cornelia Connelly taught us; **we pray: God, please hear us.**

For American Province Associates: We hope they keep living the Holy Child mission every day; **we pray: God, please hear us.**

For the Holy Child staff: We are thankful for all they do. We pray for their kindness and help show Holy Child values to everyone; **we pray: God, please hear us.**

For Holy Child alumni: We pray that everything they learned at Holy Child helps them in their lives and jobs; **we pray: God, please hear us.**

For the American Province Archives: We pray that the history of Holy Child is kept safe and shared by the people who take care of it; **we pray: God, please hear us.**

For those who will be helped by Holy Child in the future: We ask that everyone in Holy Child show God's love so others will want to join; **we pray: God, please hear us.**

Our Father:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Sign of Peace:

Our world needs peace, and only Jesus can give us that true peace. Our faith helps us find this peace, and when we follow Jesus, He brings us love, hope, and helps us be friends with one another.

Let's show each other a sign of Jesus' peace, something we can see and feel.

Closing Prayer/Blessing and Commissioning:

Dear God, you are the creator of everything. You sent your Son, Jesus, to live with us and walk beside us so we can share your love, faith, and hope with everyone.

We thank Cornelia Connelly for being brave and strong. She showed us how to follow Jesus. Please help us to use our special gifts and to remember the lessons from Jesus and the Eucharist. May our actions keep Cornelia's mission alive.

Help us walk together, be kind to new people, share our faith even when difficult, and give hope to those who feel sad. Help us always to be joyful in God's presence and to show others that God lives in them and in our world.

Hymn: Each school can choose a song to sing.