

# **CATHOLIC IDENTITY PRAYER RESOURCE**

2025 EDITION



**catholic  
education**  
south australia

**RAISING  
HEARTS  
AND  
MINDS**



#ShineWithOpenHearts

# Stories of Hope

#ShineWithOpenHearts



## Introduction

At Catholic Education South Australia, we value the intrinsic worth of every individual. We don't just know students by name, we know who they are by heart.

Through our commitment to educational excellence, we provide quality learning in a Catholic context, from early years to Year 12.

Each year, there are two significant events that enable us to celebrate our Catholic Identity and promote the benefits of Catholic schooling in the broader community.

### **Catholic Education Week (CEW) Term 2, Week 3 – Monday May 12 to Sunday May 18 2025**

The week has a core focus on celebrating teaching and learning and what it means to be part of a Catholic school community. Schools are encouraged to recognise Catholic Education Week through school-based and regional celebrations and events. This year's Catholic Identity Prayer Resource theme is **Stories of Hope**.

### **Catholic Schools Open Week (CSOW) Term 3, Week 3 – Monday August 4 to Sunday August 10 2025**

This week focuses on promoting our schools to the wider community and schools will have the opportunity to leverage off our advertising campaign.

Schools are encouraged to hold events such as Principal's Tours and Open Days to coincide with these weeks.



- ★ In what ways can we bring hope and light to others as followers of Christ?
- ★ What are some ways we can shine brightly as a community to bring hope to others?
- ★ How can our actions, inspired by the light of Jesus, bring hope and light to others?
- ★ How do stories of hope from history or literature inspire you?

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## Scripture Links to Hope and Light

### Genesis 1:3 NRSVCE – Let there be light

Signifies the start of creation, bringing order out of chaos, offering hope that new beginnings are possible, even in the darkest of times.

### John 8:12 NRSVCE – Light of Christ

Jesus is the 'Light of the World'. As followers of Christ, we are called to reflect His light, bringing hope and guidance to others.

### Psalms 119:105 NRSVCE – Hope and Illumination

The light of Jesus brings hope and illuminates our path, guiding us through times of darkness and uncertainty.

### Matthew 5:16 NRSVCE – Witnessing Faith

By shining with the light of Jesus, we bear witness to our faith and inspire hope in others, encouraging them to seek and embrace God's love.

### Ephesians 5:8–9 NRSVCE – Spiritual Growth

Just as light is essential for growth in nature, the light of Christ nurtures our spiritual growth and helps us flourish in our faith journey, fostering hope and resilience.

### Philippians 2:15 NRSVCE – Community and Unity

The collective light of a faith community can shine brightly, fostering unity, support, and hope among its members.

### 1 John 1:7 NRSVCE – Acts of Love and Kindness

Our actions, inspired by the light of Jesus, can bring hope and healing to others, demonstrating God's love in tangible ways and shining as beacons of hope.



## Songs About Hope and Light

### Andrew Chinn


Shine Among Them: [Shine Among Them \(Lyric Video\)](#) 

In Joyful Hope: [In Joyful Hope](#) 

Light the Way: [Light the Way \(Lyric Video\)](#) 

A Cross of Stars: [A Cross of Stars \(Lyric Video\)](#) 

We Light This Candle – Hope: [We Light This Candle – Hope](#) 

One Faith, One Hope, One Love: [One Faith One Hope One Love](#) 

### Andrew Chinn and Drew Lane

Pilgrims of Hope: [“Pilgrims of Hope”](#) 

### Drew Lane

Be A Clear Light: [Be A Clear Light \(Lyric Video\)](#) 

Hold Onto Hope: [Hold Onto Hope \(Lyric Video\)](#) 

### Gen Bryant


Send Us Out: [Send Us Out \(Lyric Video\)](#) 

Ready To Shine: [Ready To Shine \(The Graduation Song\)](#) 

### Gen Bryant & Ashen Warnakulasooriya

Hope is Alive: [Hope Is Alive Lyric Video](#) 

### Gen Bryant, Steph Jorna, Geoffrey Madden & Brigid McNally

Be Hope!: [Be Hope](#) 

### John Burland

Jesus Light of the World: [Jesus Light of the World \(Official Lyric Video\)](#) 

Christ Our Light: [Christ Our Light](#) 



## Songs About Hope and Light (continued)

**Lauren Bierer, Kallie Deegan, Timothy Hart, Danielle Anne Lynch & Trisha Watts**

Hope in Love: [Hope In Love](#) 

**Matt Maher**


Burning In My Soul: [Burning In My Soul \(Official Lyric Video\)](#) 

Soul on Fire: [Soul On Fire \(Live\)](#) 

**Michael Harvey & Monica O'Brien**

Fan the Flame of Hope: [Fan the Flame of Hope](#) 

**Michael Mangan**

You Are the Light (Psalm 27): [You Are the Light \(Ps. 27\)](#) 

Radiating Hope: [Radiating Hope](#) 

Let Our Light Shine: [Let Our Light Shine](#) 

**Rend Collective**

My Lighthouse: [My Lighthouse with lyrics \(Rend Collective\)](#) 

**Timothy Hart**

Let Love Shine: [Let Love Shine - Lyric & Movement Video](#) 



## Facebook and Instagram Posts

Post photos and videos of various members of your school community with the CESA 'star corflute'. Include posts with students, staff, families, various committee members, Parish Pastoral Council and parishioners. They may like to note how they shine with open hearts in their Catholic context.

## St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

### Quotes that inspire bringing hope and light to others:

*'May we remember the power of teachers to be a source of hope'*  
St Mary MacKillop

St Mary MacKillop of the Cross, Australia's first Saint is an inspiration of hope to all of us.

- *'Find happiness in making others happy.'*
- *'We must teach more by example than by word.'*
- *'Never see a need without doing something about it.'*
- *'Believe in the whisperings of God to your own heart.'*
- *'Whatever troubles may be before you, accept them bravely, remembering Whom you are trying to follow. Do not be afraid. Love one another, bear with one another, and let charity guide you all your life. God will reward you as only God can.'*
- *'Lean more on God and less on ourselves.'*
- *'Courage, trust in God who helps you in all things.'*
- *'God will provide for the future.'*
- *'Be calm and full of hope.'*

Incorporate these quotes to inspire hope and light with the various suggested learning opportunities outlined below.

## Opportunities to Celebrate 180 Years of Catholic Education

- Stories of Hope – invite past students and staff as guest speakers to visit and speak to the students about the history and stories of their school.
- Invite old scholars and staff to a Liturgy or Assembly with a morning tea.
- Enjoy a whole school picnic at a local park or on the school oval.
- Rewind to the past: have a themed dress up day of the attire worn to school 180 years ago.





## Suggested Learning Opportunities

### Staff:

**Decorate** the front office and various areas of the school with the theme. Maybe use some fairy lights and inspirational quotes.

**Enjoy** a staff morning tea.

**Create** staff artwork around the words 'Hope' and 'Light'.

**Organise** an after-school walking group to enjoy our 'natural light'.

**Offer** guided meditation sessions around the themes of hope and light.

**Motivate** staff to engage in spontaneous acts of kindness, bringing positivity and hope to the community.

**Form** a book club for the week, focusing on literature that inspires hope and light.

**Start** a bulletin board for staff to post messages of hope, achievements, and positive thoughts.

### Reception to Year 6:

**Hopeful Stars Art** – create star-shaped crafts and decorate them with symbols and words of hope.

**Story Time** – read stories that focus on hope and discuss how the characters stayed hopeful in challenging situations.

**Hope Garden** – plant 'seeds of hope' where each student plants a seed, symbolising their hopes for the future.

**Jesus' Stories** – read stories about Jesus' acts of love and compassion, then have students draw pictures of these stories to create a Jesus Wall.

**Inspirational Art** – students create artwork that represents their personal interpretation of hope and light and articulate how they show this to others in their daily lives.

**Hope Journals** – encourage students to write or draw their hopes and dreams for the future.

**Pop Up Prayer** – organise 'Pop-Up-Prayer' stations around the school with a different prayer theme, such as prayers of hope, prayers of love, prayer of being shining lights in the school community.

**Buddy Program** – pair students to share their hopes and support each other in achieving them.

**Service Projects** – organise small service projects like making cards for the elderly, our staff or parishioners.

**Hope Boxes** – assemble care packages for the homeless and vulnerable. Include items that provide comfort and hope, such as blankets, toiletries, and inspirational notes.

**Nature Walks** – organise nature walks where students reflect on the beauty of creation and the hope it inspires, discussing ways to protect and preserve the environment.



## Suggested Learning Opportunities (continued)

### Years 7 to 12:

**Hopeful Reflections** – hold sessions where students reflect on times, they felt hopeful and how they can inspire hope in others.

**Hope Lanterns** – create lanterns with messages of hope and dignity. Each student can write or draw something that represents the dignity of every person and how they can bring light to others' lives.

**Community Service** – plan projects that bring hope to the community, such as visiting elderly or organising fundraisers for a Catholic charity.

**Hopeful Hearts Wall** – create a wall where students can post their hopes and read about the hopes of their peers.

**Leadership and Hope Reflection Sessions** – develop leadership skills of students with a focus on how to inspire hope and light in others.

**Service Projects** – engage in projects that address community needs and bring hope, such as supporting younger students or organising environmental initiatives.

**Hope Retreats** – organise retreats that focus on personal growth, faith, and how to maintain hope in challenging times.

**Prayer and Meditation** – incorporate regular prayer and meditation sessions to help students connect with God and reflect on their actions.

**Group Discussions** – facilitate discussions about historical figures who have inspired hope, like Nelson Mandela, Helen Keller or Malala Yousafzai.

**Reflection Writing** – students reflect on their own experiences and stories of hope and how it has shaped their lives.

## CESA Curriculum Links

### Year of Jubilee – Resources for Schools

Catholic Education Office, South Australia

[Pilgrims of Hope | Connections with CESA's Crossways RE Curriculum](#) 



## Saint Hildegard Art Show

Inspired by the Patron Saint of Creativity, the Saint Hildegard Art Show is a space for students and staff to unleash their imagination to create an authentic and personal expression of faith, meaning and understanding.

St Hildegard, a radical trailblazer in her time, was an accomplished composer, artist, writer, physician, poet, mystic, and theologian. She is well regarded for the beauty in her creativity and drawings, her profound wisdom in the letters she wrote and her talent with poetic imagery.

The theme for the 2025 Saint Hildegard Art Show is 'Stories of Hope: Our Voice, Our Light' inspired by the writing in one of Saint Hildegard's letters:

**"We cannot live in a world interpreted for us by others. An interpreted world is not a hope. Part of the terror is to take back our listening, to use our own voice, to see our own light." Hildegard of Bingen**

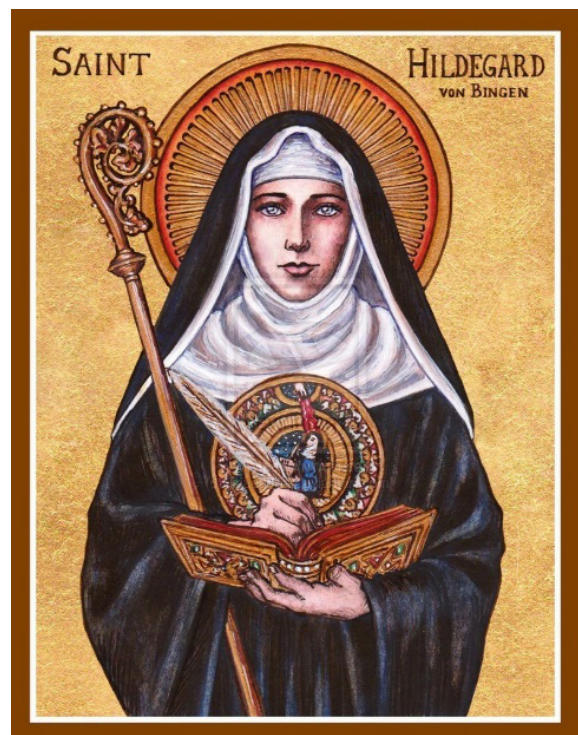
This theme, whilst complementing our 2025 Catholic Education Week theme of 'Stories of Hope', encourages young artists to explore and express their personal stories and sources of hope through their unique voices and perspectives.

In embracing this theme, you may interpret it in your own school context or broader human context. You may use your school's saint/s or charism as a focus or you may use, as inspiration, the things happening in your school.

It could be a self-portrait, or something you do with friends that gives you hope. A time where you have used your voice and felt brave or a depiction of someone you look up to that gives you hope. You may also wish to use or attach a scripture quote that speaks to this or to your interpretation more specifically.

The submissions can be in any visual form, for example, a comic book strip, a collage, a story illustration or a photograph.

The instructions are outlined on the following page.





## Saint Hildegard Art Show Instructions

Artworks may be created in any visual medium.

Artwork entries may be submitted on art paper, textured paper, canvas or a material of your choice.

Submissions will be collected through Google Forms. These submissions must include a high-quality picture of your artwork.

<https://forms.office.com/r/nHitKivrM4> 

### The categories are:

- Early years/Lower primary (Early Education to Year 3)
- Upper primary (Year 3 to Year 6)
- Lower secondary (Year 7 to Year 9)
- Upper secondary (Year 10 to Year 12)
- Staff

### Submissions close on Monday, June 30.

One entry is allowed per student or staff member (for staff, as an idea this could be done as a reflective activity in a meeting).

The artwork must be an original work.

If the artwork contains an image of another person (e.g. their face) their permission should be sought in writing, explaining that the artwork will be included in an exhibition that will be viewed by other people.

For copyright purposes the artwork must not be a student or staff entrant's copy of a professional artist's work.

The artwork must be accompanied by a 150-word explanation (maximum word count) to outline how their artwork connects with the theme.

Artworks not meeting the above criteria will not be accepted.

### Judging will be based on the following criteria:

- The interpretive and creative element of aesthetic quality and interest
- The technical element of expertise in the use of medium and tools
- The religious element or capacity to explore and engage with the theme from a religious point of view

If you have any questions, please contact Madeline Forde, Senior Advisor Ministry:  
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## For more information:

### Prayer and Liturgical Resources

Catholic Identity & Mission – Formation Team  
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### Catholic Education Week and Catholic Schools Open Week

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