

From Father Bill



I had the privilege during the 10:30 liturgy on Sunday, August 24th to give each of our students a small cross to hang on their backpacks. I then blessed our students (and their backpacks and cross) with the following prayer:

God of Wisdom, we give you thanks for schools and classrooms and for the teachers and students who fill them each day. We thank you for this new beginning, for new books and new ideas. We thank you for sharpened pencils, pointy crayons, and crisp blank pages waiting to be filled. We thank you for the gift of making mistakes and trying again. Help us to remember that asking the right question is often as important as giving the right answer. Today we give you thanks for these your children, and we ask you to bless them with curiosity, wonder, understanding, respect, kindness, and joy. May their backpacks be a sign

to them that they have everything they need to learn and grow this year in school and in Sunday School. May they be guided by your love. All this we ask in the name of Jesus, who as a child in the temple showed his longing to learn about you, and as an adult taught by story and example your great love for us. Amen.

May the blessing of the Holy Trinity go with each of you today.

May God's strength keep you secure.

May Christ our true Wisdom guide your learning.

May the Holy Spirit make you glad and good.

And may the enfolding of the Trinity hold you and bring you,
at day's end, safely home. Amen.