

Good morning, Gators and welcome to the start of a new school year. Thank you for choosing FMG, a place of welcome, friendship, inclusion, diversity, and belonging. We especially welcome our grade 9 students. You are in a very good place, and we cannot wait to get to know you.

As we prepare for the start of a new academic year, let us continue to be a community of great hospitality and welcome, recognizing that we all belong and are called to actively respond to the call of service and love of neighbour, affirming daily the dignity and respect of all people gathered at here at FMG.

As our school motto teaches and reminds us, let us “take a risk, get involved, and be committed” in all aspects of our wonderful school community. Let us do so by making new friends, fostering and building upon existing friendships and relationships, and seeking to open our minds and hearts to the many diverse faces and voices gathered here at Goetz. All are welcome regardless of your background, culture, gender identity, ability, etc. Let us together ensure that we continue to build upon our very sacred, safe, inclusive, and compassionate school community.

Please join me in morning prayer.

Let us pray.

Loving God,

Bless and protect all our students, teachers, administration, secretaries, support staff, custodians, our Pastor Fr. Carlos, all parishioners of Cristo Rei Church, our families and larger school community. Grant us the wisdom to ensure that the safety and wellbeing of all our community members are always met, and that we continue to provide a school community that is both merciful and loving towards all who are welcome here.

Deepen our commitment to always seek the truth in ways of peace and justice. Inspire us to live out our faith, regardless of tradition, so that we can provide daily a witness to your great love and compassion, most especially to our most marginalized students, the most vulnerable among us, and the stranger.

As we continue to navigate our way through the start of this new school year, help us to trust in the love of your Son Jesus, our Divine Teacher, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

St. Andre Bessette, pray for us.