

# BLESSING FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

- Prepare** Put backpacks, school supplies, a candle, and a Bible on the table.
- Gather** Bring all family members and guests together around the table.
- Begin** Light the candle and say, "We are here to celebrate and bless (name of child or children) as she/he/they begin a new school year. Let's begin our celebration in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."
- Read** Read the story of Jesus learning in the temple from Luke 2:41-52.
- Share** You might be surprised to learn that Jesus left his family behind to learn at the feet of the Jewish leaders. Jesus wanted very much to learn!
- Ask **everyone** to share:
- Share a worry or concern about school.
  - Talk about what excites you (or excited you) about school.
- Read** Psalm 121:7-8 says *The Lord will protect you from all danger; he will keep you safe. The Lord will protect you as you come and go now and forever.*
- Blessing** Hold hands or place your hands on those beginning school. Say, "(Name), may the love of God be with you on your first day of school and every day of this new school year. Amen." Repeat the blessing for each person beginning a new school year.

L I V E C H R I S T



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