

Diocese of Columbus
Diocesan Recreation Association
197 E. Gay Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Prayers

Before every game or match a prayer will be said. Below are four prayers from which you may choose. Teams will gather at the center of the field or court about two minutes before the game or match is scheduled to start. The home team will lead all participants and spectators in reciting the selected prayer. If the home team is not designated on the schedule, it will be decided by the flip of a coin.

The home team coach or a member of the home team may lead the prayer. Whoever leads the prayer must speak in a loud, clear voice to be heard by all participants and spectators in attendance. Spectators should be encouraged to participate in the prayer. Please keep this sheet with your score book so you will have it to lead the prayer.

Blessed are You, almighty God, for the many gifts You have given us
We thank You for the gifts of health and perseverance as we gather for this sporting event
We ask You to bless our athletes that they may be kept safe from injury
And we ask You to bless all those who have come to cheer their heroes on to victory
May we never lose sight of the true victory won for us by Your Son the gifts of Your life, love, and mercy.
And may we make this prayer In the name of Jesus, Our Lord
And now let us pray as Jesus taught us, Our Father...
Amen

Dear God,
We ask Your blessing on each of us today.
Help each of us: To have confidence in our ability, to do our best, and to try our hardest.
Protect each of us: From anger, from stress, and from injury.
Guide each of us: To listen, to cooperate, and to be patient
Remind each of us: That “where two or more are gathered we are gathered in Your name.”
And now, let us pray as Jesus taught us, Our Father...
Amen.

Real winners have learned that even though it is fun to win, the most important goal, whether you win or lose, is to do your best. Real winners have learned not to quit no matter how bad they are losing or how hard the going gets.
Real winners have learned not to blame others, for they will lose the respect of their friends, their coaches, and even themselves. Real winners have learned to always play fair and by the rules, for that is the real essence of sportsmanship.
Real winners have learned that God is the one who gave them their abilities, and they are always thankful for his gifts.
And now let us pray as Jesus taught us, Our Father...
Amen.

Lord, we thank You for all that You have given us, as every gift we have is from You. We thank You for the ability to play the game and for all the facilities we enjoy.
Lord, grant that we may play to the best of our ability
Lord, grant that no one from either team be injured and that the spirit of sportsmanship may prevail before, during and after the game.
And now let us pray as Jesus taught us, Our Father...
Amen.