

VIRTUAL  
BLESSING



OF THE  
BACKPACKS

—○—  
SUNDAY

AUGUST 9

ALL STUDENTS ARE INVITED  
TO PARTICIPATE

Listen to this story from the Gospel of Matthew, "Then little children were being brought to him in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them; but Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.'"

God gives all of us jobs or vocations; things that we must do that help others and which serve God's kingdom. You serve God by learning, especially about the world he has made, about its history, and about all of the things in it. You also serve God by being kind to the people in your life and by sharing the story of Jesus with them. We need all of you to show us and the people you meet Jesus' love.

So now we want to say a special prayer for you, asking God's blessings as you get ready to start your special job this fall. We are going to pray over each of your backpacks and school supplies and ask God to help you do your very best as you learn and love this year.

*Almighty God, our heavenly father, bless these backpacks, lunchboxes, school supplies, and books, and the children and youth who carry them as they begin yet another year of school. Let these physical objects be symbols of the love and support we should give to the children of our community throughout the year. Give each child who will use these supplies peace when they feel nervous, focus when they feel distracted, and energy when they feel tired. Open their minds to the lessons they will learn both in and outside the classroom. Help them to make friends that build one another up, and be friends to those who need them. Guide them in making good choices as they grow in wisdom and maturity. Be ever-present with them in their classrooms and homes, as they play with their friends and siblings, as they eat together, and, most importantly, as they learn about the world and peoples you have made. May they feel your loving care in all they do. Show them how to serve you and how to teach us all about your Son's love. Finally, dear Lord, protect them from all illness and pain during this time of pandemic. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.*

Family, we are all called to support, encourage, and pray for the children in our community, to be teachers of and learners with children. We are to disciple them in the faith, even as they teach us what true trust and humility really are. God's kingdom would not be complete without these young ones. And so, I invite all of you, everyone gathered here today, to stand now as I challenge and bless you in your role as parents, grandparents, friends, and caregivers to these dear ones.

Let us pray:

*Lord God, bless all the people you have gathered here today. Especially bless them as they support, protect, and encourage the children among us. May they, with the children, be both teachers and learners as together we strive to be more like your Son through the grace and empowerment of your Holy Spirit. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.*

Finally, we want to pray for all of those who will be caring for children in our community and assisting in their education. We must support these men and women, too!

*Father, we pray for the teachers, coaches, support staff, and administrators in our schools. May they be sustained by your blessing, especially in this time of pandemic. May you remind us daily to encourage, love, and edify these men and women, as you yourself surround them through us with your love and care. This we ask in the name of Christ. Amen.*

Family, let us go in peace, to love and serve the Lord!

*Amen.*

This backpack has been blessed  
by the congregation of **all saints**  
ANGELICAN CHURCH



"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be  
dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen  
you and help you; I will uphold you with my  
righteous right hand."

**Isaiah 41:10**

This backpack has been blessed  
by the congregation of **all saints**  
ANGELICAN CHURCH



"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be  
dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen  
you and help you; I will uphold you with my  
righteous right hand."

**Isaiah 41:10**

This backpack has been blessed  
by the congregation of **all saints**  
ANGELICAN CHURCH



"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be  
dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen  
you and help you; I will uphold you with my  
righteous right hand."

**Isaiah 41:10**

This backpack has been blessed  
by the congregation of **all saints**  
ANGELICAN CHURCH



"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be  
dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen  
you and help you; I will uphold you with my  
righteous right hand."

**Isaiah 41:10**

This backpack has been blessed  
by the congregation of **all saints**  
ANGELICAN CHURCH



"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be  
dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen  
you and help you; I will uphold you with my  
righteous right hand."

**Isaiah 41:10**

This backpack has been blessed  
by the congregation of **all saints**  
ANGELICAN CHURCH



"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be  
dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen  
you and help you; I will uphold you with my  
righteous right hand."

**Isaiah 41:10**

This backpack has been blessed  
by the congregation of **all saints**  
ANGELICAN CHURCH



"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be  
dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen  
you and help you; I will uphold you with my  
righteous right hand."

**Isaiah 41:10**

This backpack has been blessed  
by the congregation of **all saints**  
ANGELICAN CHURCH



"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be  
dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen  
you and help you; I will uphold you with my  
righteous right hand."

**Isaiah 41:10**