

## **August Family Faith Formation 2023**

Because school is starting for many next week, I thought this ceremony for the first day of school would be timely and meaningful.

### **First Day of School Prayer**

This can be done the night before or the day of school starting.

Create a set of hand or foot prints with paint or markers on construction paper. There is no correct way of doing this, make it work for your family.

If you do the foot print, you can use the following prayer.

**Prayer:** *Your feet remind us of the journey you will take this year at school. I know that you will learn so many new things and go so many new places. I hope that you will go with courage and strength and know that God goes with you too. Amen.*

If you do hands or want a simpler prayer, use the following prayer.

**Prayer:** *God please be with [child's name] as [he/she] heads off on [his/her] first day of school. May the year be full of new experiences and knowledge, and may [he/she] walk in light and truth every day. Amen.*

### **Variations**

If doing this with young children, you could keep their foot/hand print and compare it year after year. At different times in the year, you could talk about the new experiences and knowledge your child has had or places your child has gone.

You could lay hands on your child while praying - parents and/or siblings.