

WAITANGI DAY LITURGY

Class gathers outside classroom door, removes shoes and waits quietly. This is Marae protocol.
Leader of prayer says the following from inside (karanga)

Ka nui te hari o te ngakau	My heart is very happy
Kua tae mai nei koutou	That you have come
Haere mai, haere mai, haere mai	Welcome 3x
Tena koutou katoa	Greetings to you all

Class moves slowly forward into the place of prayer.
Bless themselves with water as they go past it.

Teacher:

Tena koutou	Greetings
Tena koutou i o tatou tini mate	Greetings to our many dead
Haere, e nga mate	Farewell, our departed
Haere, haere, haere	Farewell, farewell, farewell

Ka nui te koa me to hari	I am happy and pleased
Kua hui mai tatou i tenei ra	that we have gathered
	Together today

Song: School Song (or suitable gathering song)

Leader: Ki te ingoa, o te Matua, o te Tamaiti, o te Wairua Tapu. Amene.

Reader 1:

In the world there are many countries who have worked hard to become better places for people to live in. Often they will sign promises, agreements or treaties which make it possible to develop a deeper understanding of how all people can live together in harmony. One such treaty was our Treaty of Waitangi – Te Tiriti O Waitangi.

(Person holds up copy of Treaty and places it at the prayer focus)

Reader 2:

People, the land, mountains and rivers, the forests and seas, and the animals are all sacred. Indeed they are taonga, they are gifts from God.

Reader 3:

A Reading from the book of Leviticus (Chapter 26:3-6, 9, 11-12 adapted)

If you live in accordance with my precepts and are careful to follow my directions, I will give you rain so that the crops grow and you have enough food to eat. I will bring peace that you may sleep without fear, I will love you and keep my promises to you. I will be with you because I am your God and you are my people.

The Word of the Lord

Response:

Gospel: John 10: 11 – 16

Shared Reflection: (if wanted)

Ritual Action: Each person to bring forward something which represents their culture – place around the prayer focus.

Leader: Hope for unity begins with respect for one another. Let us pray for peace and harmony among all people.

All: Loving God, may your children divided by anger, fear or misunderstanding see the purpose of your divine plan for Aotearoa New Zealand and seek to forgive one another.

Leader: Let us pray for our common good.

All: May we preserve the beauty and blessings of our various traditions and cultures and find unity in one Lord, one peace, one hope, one God.

Let us pray the prayer, which unites us as one family:
Our Father....

Leader: As a sign of our wish to be people of peace, let us sign our class treaty, which honour and respects every member of this class. (Class treaties may be entitled according to room numbers e.g. 'Te Tiriti o Te Ruma Tahī' (Room One Treaty) – class could write their own treaty.)

Have music playing in the background. Once signing has been completed two members of the class take the treaty and place it in a prominent place of the classroom.

Leader: May God's aroha, encouragement and kaha, help us to act in harmony with one another, in keeping with the example of our Lord Jesus Christ. May we act together with one voice, to glorify God in all that we do.

All: Amene

Leader: We all bless ourselves:
Ki te ingoa, o te Matua, o te Tamaiti, o te Wairua Tapu. Amene

Closing Song: National Anthem in Maori and English

Note you will need:

- a bowl of water placed at the entrance of the classroom
- a central prayer focus prepared with candle already lit. Ensure there is plenty of room for people to place their symbol for the Ritual Action – this could be a flag, food, national costume – e.g. Italian, Scottish, Samoan, Polish, etc
- a copy of the Treaty

- a desk especially prepared for the signing ceremony – maybe a special pen
 - words for the responses on the OHP or whiteboard
 - a Bible with John’s Gospel 10:11-16 ready to be read
 - space on classroom wall for signed treaty
 - words of: school song, response song and National Anthem
 - music
- Classes could have a celebration of different cultures as a follow-up

KARAKIA FOR WAITANGI DAY

For Children

Dear God

Thank you for your wisdom and aroha for the whole human race. You have made each one of us in your image and likeness. We belong to your family throughout the world.

We are all unique and special.

Teach us to learn and to work together for the good of everyone.

Help us to bring peace and happiness to our school and our Whanau.

Help us to get on with the people around us, to love others as you love us, and to remember that we are all your tamariki.

Amene

For Adults

E te Atua, God of All Nations of the Earth,

You have given us this rich land for our heritage.

Enlighten us, that we may provide a haven for all your peoples.

Within the fabric of our differences, weave us together as your people.

Over time we have come from many lands,

Bringing with us your gifts of our unique cultures.

Help us to listen openly and to live harmoniously with each other.

Guide us along the path of justice and mercy.

May our hearts be ever thankful for the blessings and peace that cultural diversity brings.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Kororia ki a koe, e te Ariki (Glory to God)

Amene