# A PRAYER FOR COLLEAGUES

*Lord, I’ve crossed the path of many colleagues today*

*And I’m wondering what impression I have made.*

*Did I leave them happier, supported and understood?*

*Or did I add to their burdens, reinforce their prejudices*

*Or keep their kindness for me at arm’s length?*

*Lord, I know that teachers need to work together*

*Even though we teach in separate classrooms.*

*I know I need colleagues to be consistent in discipline*

*If my discipline is to make sense to pupils.*

*I need other teachers to leave classes calm and focussed*

*If I am to get through the next lesson with them.*

*I need colleagues who have time to listen*

*To the issues and problems of my work.*

*I need friendly colleagues who can laugh*

*And talk about anything but teaching.*

*I know that I need all those things and more,*

*So what kind of a friend have I been to colleagues today?*

*How have I played my part in the team?*

*Supported the weak and encouraged commitment?*

*Lord, make me a good friend to colleagues.*

*Help me to see your loving kindness in each of them*

*However deeply they may have hidden their own.*

*Help me to smile and through kindness awaken in their hearts*

*Your own presence for the good of young people.*