

"Virtues to Live by"

"Our educational work should have a purpose: to elicit a change in our students, to make them grow in wisdom, to help them undergo a transformation, to provide them with knowledge, with new feelings and, at the same time, achievable ideals."

(Pope Francis 2013)

Spring Term:

FAITH

Faith:

Is to trust. Faith helps us to grow in friendship with God and his friendship helps us to become the best we can be by becoming more like him. Growing in friendship with Jesus means learning to trust him and knowing that he is always with us. Faith is always open to new things because if you have faith you are a trusting person.

A person of faith believes in God and all that God has done. But faith is not simply a belief that something is true, it is a way of living. We are called not only to keep the faith but to live a faithful life filled with hope and love.

Blessing

Bless us with faith, peace, love and happiness.

Bless us spiritually and with good health.

Bless us with energy and joy to share the Good News with all we meet.

OPENING PRAYER:

Loving God, send your Spirit to open our hearts to Jesus.

Guide us to a deeper relationship with you.

Grant us a greater appreciation of our faith.

Give us the courage and confidence to joyfully share our faith with others.

May our school be a beacon of light that all may see your loving presence.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord through whom all good things come.

READING:

I tell you the truth if you have faith as small as a mustard seed you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

Matthew 17:20-21

REFLECTION

Jesus wasn't condemning the disciples for having little faith; he was trying to show how important faith would be in their lives. If you are facing a problem that seems as big and immovable as a mountain, turn your eyes from the mountain and look to Christ for more faith. Only then will your work for him be useful and possible.

What blessings have occurred in my life as a result of faith?

How can I replace worry with faith in the creative power of change?

LIVING OUR VIRTUE

Inspire each one of us that we may help our children to:

- Recognise that faith is a gift from God for all.
- Recognise we grow and strengthen our faith through times of prayer and reflection.
- Recognise the blessings they have received from God.
- Trust God with our worries and concerns
- See hope in every situation.
- Know that our faith guides us in making decisions throughout our lives.
- Be faithful to their beliefs and to others.
- Understand that our faith helps us to live a life of love
- Cherish the gift of faith.

May we support our children in recognising opportunities for growth so that they can make the most of the opportunities life presents.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Loving God, Creator of all things, you call us to be in a relationship with you and others.

Thank you for calling us to our different roles within our Catholic school, for the opportunity to share with others what you have given to us. May all those with whom we share the gift of faith discover how you are present in all things.

May we all come to know you the one true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

May the grace of the Holy Spirit guide our hearts and lips so that we may be witnesses to your Gospel of truth & love. **Amen**

VIRTUE TO LIVE BY

I know that faith is a gift from God.

Faith helps me grow in friendship with Jesus.

I show my faith by living my life filled with hope and love.