

## **“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)*

### **Summer Term:**

**TRUST**

## Blessing

**May the God**

Of new beginnings lead us forward this day.

**May the God**

Who brought us new life in Christ  
Fill us with the joy of the resurrection this day.

**May the God**

Who lives within us  
Be revealed to everyone we meet this day.

**May the God**

Who comforts and protects us  
Soothe all heartaches and worries this day.

May the God

**Who created** the universe

Renew our spirits with joy and peace this day  
And every day of our lives.

Amen.

## OPENING PRAYER:

God our Father,

You are always faithful and trustworthy. All your promises are true. Help us to imitate your ways and grow as a faithful community of believers who are able to trust and rely on each other to do our part in building the Kingdom of God in our locality.

Through our Lord, Jesus Christ Your son who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen**

## READING:

### The Parable of the Talents

'It is like a man about to go abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them.

To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one, each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out on his journey.

The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more.

The man who had received two made two more in the same way.

But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

Now a long time afterwards, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them.

The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made."

His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have shown you are trustworthy in small things; I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made."

His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have shown you are trustworthy in small things; I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

Last came forward the man who had the single talent. "Sir," said he, "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you had not sown and gathering where you had not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back."

But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So, you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return, I would have got my money back with interest.

*Matthew 25:14-27*

## REFLECTION

In our homes, workplace and communities we all have tasks others need us to do. Some are part of a paid job, some due to a promise we have made and some as part of a commitment to a relationship.

Like the servants in the parable, others need to be able to trust us to do our part and not be lazy and make excuses.

***How are others relying on you today? At home, in work in your friendships.***

Working hard and being determined to do our very best to complete our tasks and promises demonstrates our trustworthiness.

***Ask God to help you when you are tired and tempted to make excuses for not doing what you should.***

***Know that God is always trustworthy and will never leave you.***

## LIVING OUR VIRTUE

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

- trust God that there is good in the world
- know that they are not alone
- try not to worry about things before they happen
- tell the truth
- know they are worthy of the trust others place in them
- be reliable and determined
- complete all the tasks they promised to do

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

## **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

**Most merciful Jesus,**

I turn to You in my need.

You are worthy of my complete trust.

You are faithful in all things.

I trust You in all things.

I trust in Your perfect plan for my life.

Jesus, I trust You more than I trust myself.

### **VIRTUE TO LIVE BY**

**I place my trust in God and others can place their trust in me.**