

“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:

CHARITY

Charity:

Charity is love - a virtue by which we love God above all things for his own sake and our neighbour as ourselves for the love of God. When you love you put into practice the “golden rule”, to treat others with respect and kindness that you want for yourself.

BLESSING

May God the Father Bless Us

May God the Father bless us
May Christ take care of us
The Holy Spirit enlighten us
All the days of our life.
The Lord be our defender
And keeper of body and soul.

Both now and forever.
On our heads and our houses
The blessing of God.
In our coming and going
The Peace of God.
In our life and believing
The love of God.
At our end
And new beginning
The arms of God
To welcome us
And bring us
Home.

Amen

OPENING PRAYER:

Jesus, I Give you my whole self

Lord Jesus,
I give you my hands to do your work.
I give you my feet to go your way.
I give you my eyes to see as you do.
I give you my tongue to speak as you do.
I give you my mind that you may think in me.

I give you my spirit that you may pray in me.

Above all, I give you my heart

That you may love in me

Your Father and all humankind.

I give you my whole self

That you may grow in me.

So that it is you, Lord Jesus,

Who live and work and pray in me.

Amen

READING:

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you made me welcome, lacking clothes and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the upright will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome, lacking clothes and clothe you? When did we find you sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "In truth I tell you, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."

Matt 25:35-40

REFLECTION

The real evidence of our belief is the way we act. To treat all those we encounter as if they are Jesus is no easy task. What we do for others demonstrates what we really think about Jesus's words to us - feed the hungry, give the homeless a place to stay, look after the sick.

What will I do this Lent to support those who are hungry and thirsty in our local community and wider world?

What can I do to support those who are lonely and homeless?

Is there someone in my family or community who is unwell? Could I visit them this week and pray for their healing & peace?

LIVING OUR VIRTUE

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

- Recognise their responsibility to care for the poor, homeless, sick or those in need.
- Appreciate even a small contribution can make a big difference in the long run.
- Create opportunities to fund raise for those in need.
- Recognise ways they can live the “golden rule” at home in school and in their local communities.

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

CONCLUDING PRAYER

God our Father may we love you above all things and with our hearts and souls

May we love our neighbours as ourselves for the love of you.

May we act with kindness and tolerance in judging others.

My we give generously to those in need this lent.

May we give generously of our time

Amen

VIRTUE TO LIVE BY

I show my love for God

through my loving concern for everyone

especially those in need of my help.

I treat others with the respect and kindness that I would want for myself.