

"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)

Autumn Term:

GENEROSITY

Blessing

May God the Father bless us,
May Christ take care of us
The Holy Spirit enlighten us
All the days of our life.
In our coming and going
The peace of God
In our life and believing
The love of God
At new beginnings and at our end
The arms of God to welcome us and bring us Home. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER:

God our Father, you are our great provider.

All we have comes from you. Everything is a gift from you. Gifts you gave us to share.

May we open our hearts to the needs of our sisters and brothers in our families, our school, our community and around the world.

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:

1 John 3:1,16-18

See what great love the Father has lavished on us in letting us be called God's children! And that is what we are!

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has

material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

REFLECTION

There are so many ways we can be generous each day but we often overlook them or convince ourselves that someone else will do it.

I can be generous to others by:

Giving my time to keep someone company or help them through a problem

Giving my possessions or money to someone in greater need

Giving my skills and energy to teach or serve others to the very best of my ability

Giving my words to encourage, console, build up and love others.

Rather than waiting until I have spare time, money or energy, perhaps we can try to be attentive to the opportunities to be generous, even when they are inconvenient, being willing to miss something we wanted, for the good of someone else.

LIVING OUR VIRTUE

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

- notice when someone needs help.
- think of others before themselves.
- give freely without need of reward.
- give more than what is expected.
- be willing to make sacrifices for others.

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

CONCLUDING PRAYER

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 your words.

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 mankind.

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.**

VIRTUE TO LIVE BY

I am generous.

I think of others and notice when they need help.