

“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:

WISDOM

Blessing

Lord, bless this day.

Make it a day in which we grow in the likeness and mind of Jesus your Son. And at the day's end, may we be thankful for encountering you in so many human ways and situations and in other people.

Jesus, help us to follow you more nearly day by day. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER:

God our Father,

You are the source of all wisdom.

Pour out your graces on us today so we can see as you see and know the right choices to make today. Help us to learn from our experiences and those of others so we may work with you to build your Kingdom here today.

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:

Anyone who is wise or understanding among you should from a good life give evidence of deeds done in the gentleness of wisdom.

But if at heart you have the bitterness of jealousy, or selfish ambition, do not be boastful or hide the truth with lies;

this is not the wisdom that comes from above, but earthly, human and devilish.

Wherever there are jealousy and ambition, there are also disharmony and wickedness of every kind;

whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it is also peaceable, kindly and considerate; it is full of mercy and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it.

James 3: 12-17

REFLECTION

There are many sources of advice today – but not all of them are wise. Considering the signs of true wisdom in the reading may help us in our daily walk with God.

Where do I need wisdom today?

Have I got an important decision to make about how I live my life?

Tell God in the quiet of your heart where you need guidance in your life now.

The Bible is full of wisdom and advice about decisions and choices we should make. Perhaps ponder on God's word before making a decision. Ask Him to guide you and show you.

Are my choices leading to goodness, fairness and are they from a place of mercy and love?

A wise decision takes time. We rarely need to make an instant decision. Stop – Pray – Reflect and wait for peace about what you should do. Ask a trusted friend or wise colleague for advice.

As we get wiser, we learn from our own actions and those of others. We consider all the options before us, choosing what is the best option for the good of all.

Ask God to help you be wiser and less reactive and impulsive in your decisions today.

LIVING OUR VIRTUE

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

- take time to reflect on their actions
- learn from their experiences

- decide, based on what they know, what is the best thing to do.
- make the most of their gifts and talents
- help others to make the right choices

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, I ask for your help.

When I need a calm mind, give me your peace.

When I need a clear head, give me your wisdom.

When I need to take care, give me your patience.

When I need to be inspired, give me your insight.

Keep me from being too anxious as I put my trust in your power to guide me.

This day and every day.

Amen.

VIRTUE TO LIVE BY

I take time to think about what I must do and ask God and others about it.

I help others to make the right choices.