

The Virtue of Justice

MORNING PRAYER

Monday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

REFLECTION

This week we reflect on the Virtue of Justice.

Justice can be described as the habit of giving to each person what is due to him.

But what *is* due to you? What belongs to you *by right*?

Its a complicated question.

If you think about it, most arguments are fought over competing Rights, and which is most important:

Your Rights or my Rights.

But for us Catholics, what lies behind all Human Rights is the one idea that as humans, we all have equal dignity, because we are all made in God's image.

Justice is something you can practise in every situation, simply by treating other people as if you *owe* them....that you owe them justice.

When you behave justly, people will admire you, and the more you practise justice the better you become as a person.

But Justice becomes a true *virtue* only when you derive *pleasure* from behaving in a just way to other people.

Only then does it become a natural quality that you possess, rather than simply a good habit that you've acquired.

PRAYERS

Let us pray for our leaders, that they govern with justice towards those whom they serve.

Lord, hear us....

St Philip....**pray for us,**

House Saint....**pray for us.**

In the name....

The Vice of Injustice

Tuesday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

REFLECTION

Justice radiates goodness. Injustice radiates evil.

If Justice is the most human of virtues, because it treats other people as made in God's image, then *injustice* is the nearest thing to evil, because it treats some people as more human than others.

Wherever justice is lacking, the whole well-being of society is affected.

Social life begins to break down and the weakest are the ones who suffer the most.

In the same way that you can practise behaving justly, you can also fall into the habit of being partial and unfair in the way you behave towards others.

If you get into that habit, then before very long you become unfeeling and hard-hearted, and you end up losing your own humanity.

PRAYERS

Let us pray for those who are deprived of receiving justice from their authorities. May they find the courage to defend their rights and those of the downtrodden.

Lord, hear us....

St Philip....**pray for us,**
House Saint....**pray for us.**

In the name....

Justice & Catholic Social Teaching

Wednesday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

REFLECTION

Every institution has a human face, from the management of this school, through to the government of this country.

Don't think of institutions as buildings, or flags but people!

The words "*It's not fair*" might spring to your lips every time an institution like our school decides something that inconveniences you.

Sometimes you'll be right, but you have to remember - Justice demands that you owe institutions their due, as much if not more than you owe your neighbours their due....

Because all institutions are comprised of human beings.

Your grave responsibility as a Catholic is to try and change any and every institution so that it seems more human.

You can do this by promoting true justice in your dealings with every institution, in the same way that you should rightfully expect justice from that institution for your neighbour first, and only then for yourself.

PRAYERS

Let us pray for all of those who make up the institution of our school, that we all learn to act with justice in our dealings with each other for the common good of all.

Let us ask Mary, as *Mirror of Justice*, to pray for us.

Hail Mary...

St Philip....pray for us, *House Saint*....pray for us.

Justice

Thursday In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ROSARY REFLECTION

*Help your Form decide its shared intention
for the Rosary today.*

THE SECOND GLORIOUS MYSTERY: THE ASCENSION OF JESUS INTO HEAVEN

*Jesus led them out as far as Bethany,
and lifting up his hands, he blessed them.
While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them
and was carried up into heaven.*

1x Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day....

10x Hail Mary full of grace the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and Blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary...

1x Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was... In the name..

Justice

Friday

FRIDAY PRAYER

PRAYER OF ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous:

Teach me to serve you as you deserve,
to give and not count the cost,
to fight and not heed the wounds,
to toil and not seek for rest,
to labour and not ask reward,
except that of knowing
that I do your holy will.

Amen.