

February Week 1 Morning Prayer: Virtue of the Month - Love

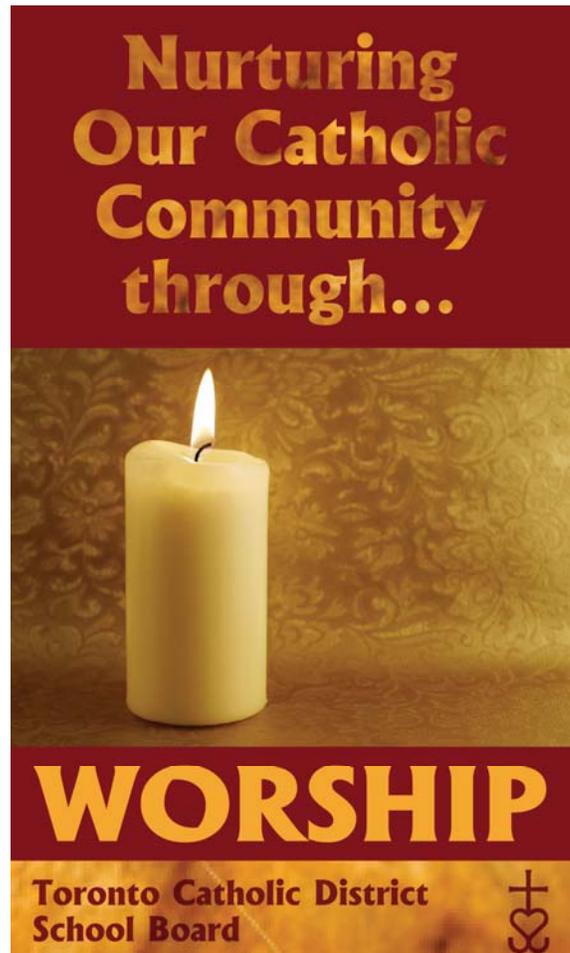
In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

The Virtue for the Month of February is love. This means that we endeavor to develop in ourselves the habit of thinking, speaking and acting from an attitude of care and positive regard in all our encounters and circumstances. We become aware of our negative moods, and choose not to act out of them. We choose to set aside the harsh word. We refuse to allow our anger to inhibit our compassion or capacity to forgive. We deliberately search for ways to be helpful to others in our families, in our classrooms, in our social gatherings, and extracurricular events.

That an awareness of God's love will help us to bring an attitude of love to the whole of our existence. We pray to You, Lord. (Response: Lord, hear our prayer)

That as we launch out on a new school semester we will allow our love of learning, and the love in our community to expand and flourish. We pray to You, Lord. (Response...)

Let us pray an Our Father together.



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

February Week 2 Morning Prayer: Virtue of the Month - Love

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

In our culture St Valentine's Day provides an occasion to celebrate romantic love. The search for true love provides the narrative of much of our story telling in our movies, our television shows, our dramas, our novels and our music. The Song of Songs of the Old Testament Scriptures eloquently expresses the depth of love between bride and bridegroom. Couples who have lived many years of faithful love look back with joy and nostalgia upon the early blossoming of their love with all its tenderness, its delight and its insecurities. Whilst we celebrate the joys of young love, we are mindful of the need to be grounded in that enduring, quiet and steadfast love that is of God.

In thanksgiving for the special peer relationships in our lives that build our self-worth and inspire us to want to serve others. . We pray to You, Lord. (Response: Lord, hear our prayer.)

For wisdom, patience, deep respect and kindness in our relationships. We pray to You, Lord. (Response..)

Let us pray a Hail Mary together.

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

February Week 3 Morning Prayer: Virtue of the Month - Love

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

Our faith tradition tells us that the ground of our being resides in God...that this universe which we inhabit has evolved through the gracious mystery of a love so magnificent, so intelligent, so generous that it baffles our imagination. Mystics of the spiritual life - Dame Julian of Norwich, Theresa of Avila, the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins, the monk Thomas Merton – attest to glimpsing this extraordinary horizon in which “we live and move and have our being.” This horizon impels to be awake each day to the glory of being, to the possibilities in living, to the grandeur of each person and thing, to the necessity of creating a world of justice and hope. We do not need to live only on the surface of life; we are called to dive deeper, to understand more fully the treasure of our dignity and to live by the love of God that dwells inside our souls.

That the awareness of God’s love at work in the world and in our hearts will energize our faith, hope and charity. We pray to You, Lord.
(Response: Lord, hear our prayer)

That we will value time for prayer as important time to develop our friendship with God. We pray to You, Lord. (Response...)

Let us pray a Glory be together.

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

February Week 4 Morning Prayer: Virtue of the Month - Love

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

Matthew's Gospel relates how a lawyer asked Jesus a question, testing him. "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. A second likewise is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments." (Matthew, Chapter 22: 34-40)

For our part, we might say the future of our planet and the future of humanity depend on these two commandments.

God.....neighbor.....self....bound and grounded in the energy of love. Jesus calls us to openness and awareness of the fullness of this love that drives us and attracts us To live by this love is to fully live. If our world lived this, we would create a different world.

For a deep appreciation of our own dignity and value. We pray to You, Lord. (Response: Lord, hear our prayer.)

For those who live in our neighborhood, and for all the people in the different circles that encompass our lives – that we will make progress in following the commandment of love. We pray to You, Lord.

(Response...)

For inner and outer space to allow ourselves to experience our own hunger for God. We pray to You, Lord.

Let us pray an Our Father together.