MAY

Virtue: Compassion

“When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.” (Matthew 9:36)

Catholic Graduate Expectation: A Collaborative Contributor

Catholic Social Teaching: Dignity of Work and Rights of the Workers
Overview of the Virtue of Compassion

- Compassion is a feeling deep within ourselves — a "quivering of the heart" — and it is also a way of acting — being affected by the suffering of others and moving on their behalf.

- Compassion is made up of two words. 'co' meaning together and 'passion' meaning a strong feeling. When we see someone is in distress and we feel their pain as if it were our own, and strive to eliminate or lessen their pain, then this is compassion.

- Sharing, readiness to give comfort, sympathy, concern and caring - all are manifestations of compassion.

- You will notice also that in the compassionate person, care and love towards others has its origins in care and love for oneself. We can really understand others when we really understand ourselves.

Catholic Graduate Expectation -- I AM A TEAM PLAYER!

A COLLABORATIVE CONTRIBUTOR WHO:

- Works effectively as an interdependent team member.
- Thinks critically about the meaning and purpose of work.
- Develops one's God-given potential and makes a meaningful contribution to society.
- Finds meaning, dignity, fulfillment and vocation in work which contributes to the common good.
- Respects the rights, responsibilities and contributions of self and others.
- Exercises Christian leadership in the achievement of individual and group goals.
- Achieves excellence, originality, and integrity in one's own work and supports these qualities in the work of others.

Principles of Catholic Social Teaching

DIGNITY OF WORK AND THE RIGHTS OF WORKERS:

In a marketplace where too often the quarterly bottom line takes precedence over the rights of workers, we believe that the economy must serve people, not the other way around. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected—the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to organize and join unions, to private property and to economic initiative.
Teresa of Ávila, also called Saint Teresa of Jesus, baptized as Teresa Sánchez de Cepeda y Ahumada (28 March 1515 – 4 October 1582), was a prominent Spanish mystic, Roman Catholic saint, Carmelite nun, an author of the Counter Reformation and theologian of contemplative life through mental prayer. She was a reformer of the Carmelite Order and is considered to be a founder of the Discalced Carmelites along with John of the Cross.

In 1622, forty years after her death, she was canonized by Pope Gregory XV and on 27 September 1970, was named a Doctor of the Church by Pope Paul VI. Her books, which include her autobiography (The Life of Teresa of Jesus) and her seminal work El Castillo Interior (trans.: The Interior Castle) are an integral part of Spanish Renaissance literature as well as Christian mysticism and Christian meditation practices as she entails in her other important work, Camino de Perfección (trans.: The Way of Perfection).

After her death, the cult of Saint Teresa was also known in Spain during the 1620s due to the religious claim and debate of national patronage versus Saint James Matamoros. Teresa's younger brother, Rodrigo Cepeda y Ahumada later brought a Santero image of the Immaculate Conception of El Viejo now widely venerated among Nicaraguan Catholics. Pious Catholic beliefs also associate Saint Teresa with the esteemed religious image called Infant Jesus of Prague with claims of former ownership and devotion.
Reflection Inspired by the Faith of Theresa of Avila

“Pain is never permanent”. – St. Teresa of Avila

Then your humanity will image God,

As Jesus did.

Then God will look at you

And see God.

Then Eucharist will be your home.

You will not know where you end and God begins,

And where God ends and you begin.

You will be God with God.”

So whether it is wintry exile,

Or Pentecost abundance,

Then I will always know

God is closer to me

Than I am to myself.

-Mary Malone