

### Cardinal Virtue - Prudence

- Act of Prudence – a prayer

Dear Jesus,  
 In my thought, words, and actions I can give you praise. Always grant me the grace to know the truth, to speak always what is right, and to follow you in all I do.


### Recap – Theological Virtues

- A virtue is a habitual and firm disposition to do the good.
- Faith: See what God reveals, and believe and act accordingly; Major source of God’s revelation is the bible.
- Hope: Hope builds on a relationship with God – the more we know God the more we have hope.
- Charity: a supernatural gift given to us by God so that we, who are loved by God, are able to love God in a free gift of self.

### e.g., Self-reflection (1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade)

What I did: \_\_\_\_\_ What will I do next time? \_\_\_\_\_

How I was feeling?



How did I make others feel? \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### e.g., Self-reflection (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

The poor choice I made was: \_\_\_\_\_

I made this choice because: \_\_\_\_\_

How did I make others feel: \_\_\_\_\_

A better choice would be to: \_\_\_\_\_

The virtue(s) I should practice is/are: \_\_\_\_\_

The virtue would “look like” and “sound like”: \_\_\_\_\_

### Rewards to encourage positive choices

This month we focus on the virtue of self-control which is a daughter virtue of temperance. Self-control is joyfully mastery over one’s passions and desires. I find Andrew showed this virtue today when he practice piano for 30 min instead of playing video game.

### Cardinal Virtue - Prudence

- 4 cardinal virtues:
  - Prudence (智)
  - Justice (義)
  - Fortitude (勇)
  - Temperance (節)
- In light of faith, able to see clearly to know the truth and best way to act.
- Prudence is the right reason in action
- Icons of Prudence: scroll and torch, dove, caution, compass

**Cardinal Virtue - Prudence**

- Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. (Phil 4:8)
- **Keep on doing** what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you. (Phil. 4:9)

**Cardinal Virtue - Prudence**

- Prudence is the virtue that perfects our intellect, our natural ability to judge correctly.
- It perfects our common sense
- It is illuminated by faith
- It guides other virtues
- Its decisions are clear so that we are able to overcome doubts about the good we wish to achieve and the evil we wish to avoid.

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Parts of a prudential act		Opposing trait
Good Counsel	Seeking advice from reasonable and trustworthy person	Seeking advice from those who agree with you or do not share your moral value
Good Judgment	Thinking rightly about a decision, carefully considering all the circumstances, pray to know and do God's will.	Acting without thinking
Command	Acting upon a sound decision made after thoughtful deliberation	Failing to act upon a sound decision

**Cardinal Virtue – Integral parts of Prudence**

- Memory: learn from previous experiences
- Understanding: able to know situation and what to do
- Docility: willingness to be taught and open to advice
- Shrewdness: determine quickly what is best in a situation
- Reason: use one's mind in making decisions
- Foresight: think ahead; consider possible consequences
- Circumspection: look around & consider impact on others
- Precaution: consider possible obstacles & one's limitation

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- Sins against prudence
  - Impulsivity
  - Inconsideration
  - Inconstancy/procrastination
  - Negligence/do not pursue counsel

**Cardinal Virtue - Prudence**

Stories of prudence in the bible

- Gen 18:23-33 Abraham negotiates with God
- Gen 25: 27-34 Esau sold his birthright
- Gen 39: 7-12 Joseph resisted seduction
- Numbers 13:25-33 Caleb and Joshua surveyed the promised land
- 1 Sam 25 Abigail, Nabal, and David
- Acts 4:19-20 Peter and John answered Sanhedran
- Jesus