

Theological Virtue - Love

- Act of Love

O my God, I love You above all things, with my whole heart and soul, because You are all good and worthy of all love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of You. I forgive all who have injured me and ask pardon of all whom I have injured. Amen.

Theological Virtue – Hope - recap

- Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the Kingdom of Heaven and eternal life as our happiness
- Anchor is a symbol of hope
- Hope builds on a relationship with God – the more we know God the more we have hope
- Sloth, Pride, Presumption, and Despair diminish hope
- Prayer, humility, fear of the Lord, receiving Sacraments, Sunday Mass enhance hope

Theological Virtue - Love


- Love = Charity
- Human love and divine love
- What is love?
- A very nice Feeling?
- A will for the good of the other (Aquinas)
 - Love of spouse
 - Love of children and parents
 - Love of friends
 - Love between lovers

Theological Virtue - Love


- Jesus Christ shows us what is love and how to love. Love is willing to sacrifice for the beloved, just as Jesus was crowned with thorns and died on the cross for our salvation.
- Like the burning bush on Mt. Sinai, God's love sets our human heart on fire but it will never consume us.

Theological Virtue - Love


- Charity is the theological virtue by which we **love God above all things for his own sake, and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God.** (CCC 1822)
- Is God so selfish that He gives us love in order to love Him?
- Training in love




Theological Virtue - Love




- Charity is 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. It imparts spiritual freedom, the freedom of a child confident in the Father's love for His children.
- It is not motivated by fear or a desire for reward.
- It is the response to the free gift of God's love




Theological Virtue – Love (CCC 1827)




- The practice of all the virtues is animated and inspired by charity, which "binds everything together in perfect harmony";
- it is the form of the virtues;
- it articulates and orders them among themselves;
- it is the source and the goal of their Christian practice. Charity upholds and purifies our human ability to love, and raises it to the supernatural perfection of divine love.




Theological Virtue – Love and truth



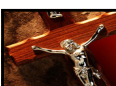
- Love — caritas — is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace. **It is a force that has its origin in God, Eternal Love and Absolute Truth.** (Pope Benedict XVI Caritas in Veritate #1 2009)
- Charity, in fact, "rejoices in the truth" (1 Cor 13:6)
- **False love does not rejoice in the truth: spoiling love; love for self-gain; manipulative love;**




Theological Virtue – Love and gift of Wisdom



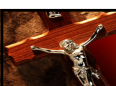
- Charity gives us a sharing in God's own love, enabling us to love as He loves. Through this loving relationship, God shares his knowledge with us by the gift of Wisdom.
- Through the gift of Wisdom we see things from God's perspective, able to grasp the whole and penetrate to the heart of the matter.
- From this perspective we are able to judge rightly all things in light of eternal wisdom and share in His joy.




Theological Virtue – Love – Lectio Divina



- Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Whoever is without love does not know God, **for God is love.** In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him. **In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.** Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another. No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us. (1 John 4:7-12)



Theological Virtue – Love: Guard IT



- Hatred of God
- Hatred toward neighbor (racism)
- Acedia/sloth (uninterest)
- Ingratitude
- Indifference
- Lukewarmness
- Envy




Theological Virtue – Love Discipline

- Spiritual works of mercy
 - Teaches the Ignorant Forgives offenses
 - Counsels the doubtful Comforts the sorrowful
 - Admonishes the sinner Bears wrongs patiently
 - Prays for the living and the dead
- Corporal works of mercy
 - Gives food to the hungry Visits the sick
 - Gives drink to the thirsty Visits the imprisoned
 - Clothes the naked Buries the dead
 - Shelters the homeless




Theological Virtue – Love - saints

- St. Teresa of Calcutta
- St. Vincent de Paul
- St. Maximilian Kolbe
- St. Martin de Porres
- St. Damien of Molokai
- St. Pier Giorgio Frassati
- St. Rose of Lima
- St. Therese of Lisieux



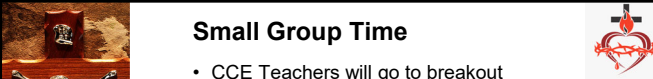
Theological Virtue –symbol of Love

- The symbol of love is
 - Heart
 - Fire (Burning bush)
 - Crucifix
 - Roses
 - Dove



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- More resources from Formed



Small Group Time

- CCE Teachers will go to breakout rooms with parents of each grade
- YM parent will stay
- What to do in the small group
 - Questions and answers
 - Sharing of ideas or faith experience
 - Dismiss after closing prayer in the breakout room (intentions are welcome)

Please go to our parish website to download resources to use at home