

Respect Prayer Service

Introduction: With the start of a new year, we challenge ourselves to show respect for the earth, for our classmates, for all people young and old, of all races and abilities, and finally to show respect for ourselves, by working hard and doing our best to build God’s kingdom on earth. As brothers and sisters who share one Holy Spirit, we are all valuable to God. We all deserve to be shown courtesy, consideration, sensitivity and thoughtfulness, which are different ways of saying “respect”. That respect should come first and foremost from ourselves. We have to respect ourselves and then we will be able to respect others. We should also be able to expect to be treated with respect by everyone we meet. Through prayer and practice, we can get better at respecting ourselves as well as respecting those around us.

Opening Prayer: God our Father, you love us as a father loves his children. Help us to live and love others the way your Son, Jesus loved all those with whom he came into contact. You have given us our minds to think with and our bodies to work for you. You have given us gifts so that we can study, pray, play and work respectfully with each other. Help us in this prayer service and throughout this month to appreciate our individual talents and to use these gifts for you. We make this prayer through Jesus, Your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever, AMEN.

First Reading: Isaiah 58: 3, 4, 7-10

Responsorial Psalm(40): Lord, I come to do your will

- I waited Lord for you to hear my prayer. You listened and you gave me a new song, a song of praise to you
- Lord, your promise is never broken. Your law is in my heart. You never fail to comfort me. Your love always keeps me safe.
- Happy are those who trust in the Lord. Happy are those who do not stray. You have done wonderful things for us. And I am happy to do your will

Second Reading: Ephesians 6:5-9

Gospel Reading—A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John 13:34-35 OR Matthew 25:14-30

Universal Prayers:

Response: “Respectful Lord, hear our prayer”

- For Pope Francis, our Bishop and all the clergy, that they may continue to be guided by God’s word as they work towards respect for all God’s people and creatures, we pray to the Lord.
- For all the children who are neglected, abandoned or forsaken, that they may receive the care and attention they need to feel whole, we pray to the Lord
- For all those struggling with illness, that they may receive the grace, peace, care and attention they need to recover, we pray to the Lord
- For our school community, that we may remember that the very essence of who we are is based on the principle that Jesus lives within each of us, we pray to the Lord
- For the staff of our school, that they may continue to provide an atmosphere which reflects a deep respect for every person within our school community, we pray to the Lord
- For all the students, teachers and school staff, that we may show respect for all members of our school community, including ourselves, we pray to the Lord.

Closing Prayer: May our hands reach out to one another in kindness and care, so that we may follow the example of Jesus and Mary in all things to be strong on our journey of faith. May God bless our days and lead us in the paths of peace, now and forever. Go in peace to love God and show love and respect at home, in school and at play. AMEN



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Northeastern Catholic District School Board

Growing our Faith through virtues

JANUARY & FEBRUARY
VIRTUES: RESPECT & RESPONSIBILITY

The Importance of Respect & Responsibility:

Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights and duties are responsibilities—to respect one another, our families and the larger society.



A virtue is a habit or established capability to perform good functions according to a moral standard. In other words, a virtue is a habit that shows people and God that we are a good person. This month, we will be looking at the importance of the virtues of respect and responsibility. God has called us to model the respect shown by Christ. As

brothers and sisters who share one Spirit, we are all valuable to God and deserve to be shown courtesy, consideration, sensitivity and thoughtfulness—all ways of showing respect. We shall remind students that through prayer, we improve our ability to be Christ-filled people—respecting ourselves, others and our environment in which we live.

We will also be celebrating responsibility. We will work with students to develop models that enable them to make good and conscientious decisions based on scriptural values. We will emphasize the importance of making decisions that do not harm themselves, others or the environment. We will also remind the students of the importance of being able to say “sorry” when they make mistakes and to act correctly, as Jesus would have, in these situations.



DEVELOPING CHARACTER THROUGH RESPECT & RESPONSIBILITY

The goal of this virtue:

- Mutual respect is the way we live in harmony with one another.
- Respect helps us to see others as God sees them—to accept them as they are and to treat with dignity
- When we respect others, we see goodness in them
- Responsibility is the ability to make choices acting in a just and fair way
- When we take responsibility for our actions, we are acting bravely, choosing to follow God’s will.

Scripture readings:

- 2 Kings 2: 23-25
- 1 Chronicles 29: 10-16
- Malachi 1: 6-14
- Acts 17:24-28
- Ephesians 6:5-9
- Isaiah 58:7-10
- Matthew 25: 14-30
- Matthew 7:12
- Luke 10: 25-28
- Matthew 22:34-40

PRAYER CENTRE IDEAS FOR RESPECT



- Students can create a respect journal in which they can keep their own stories, pictures, ideas or feelings about respect
- Make a respect quilt—on paper or fabric, each patch contains a drawing of an act of respect
- Brainstorm ways to make your school more respectful. Create a list of recommendations and post in prayer centre
- Ask students to think about a time when they hurt someone's feelings by being unkind and then to rewrite the situation with a different outcome
- Ask students to perform Random Acts of Respect for a stranger and then write about the experience (ex. how did it make them feel?)
- Post quotes about respect and discuss what they mean

How to be Respectful

- Treat other people the way you want to be treated
- Be courteous and polite
- Listen to what other people have to say
- Don't insult people, or make fun of them or call them names
- Don't bully or pick on others
- Don't judge people before you get to know them



Children Learn...

- How to be respectful people
- That insults and put-downs are not good natured fun
- The Golden Rule—treat others the way you want them to treat you
- That treating people with respect makes better friendships
- That bullying is a very hurtful form of disrespect



A Respectful Person...

- Treats everyone, including himself with courtesy
- Uses a positive tone of voice and body language
- Avoids swearing, name-calling, put-downs and inappropriate gestures
- Uses polite terms such as "excuse me" and "thank you"
- Avoids gossip



Bulletin Board Ideas:

See, Hear, Feel—Create an area on the bulletin board which has at its centre a circle divided into 3 equal sections. Have students create art, pictures, poems, quotes, thoughts that fall under each of the three senses of hear, see, feel

New Year's Resolutions—Have students submit their own resolutions in the context of creating a responsible Catholic Learner

Cross—Fill in a cross with responsibility projects, words, ideas, scripture, pictures, etc.

Respect Acrostic—Use the letters of RESPECT to create acrostic poems. Use these poems to create a bulletin board or use them as a written insert for respect cards

Respect Connects us All—Have concentric circles beginning with God in the middle, then self, family, friends, school, community and world. Divide the class into small groups and assign them one circle. Have them list ways to show respect for that circle and attach it to the bulletin board connecting the list to the circle with a piece of ribbon or yarn

Respect is Golden—Create a bulletin board with a rainbow and a pot of gold. Label each band with God, self, family, friends, school, community. Every couple of days hand out gold coins and have them write down one way they have shown respect to one of the items. Place around the pot of gold.



Quotes about Respect & Responsibility

- “No snowflake in an avalanche ever feels responsible” Voltaire
- “Being responsible means others can trust you to do things with excellence. You accept accountability for your actions. When you make a mistake, you offer amends instead of excuses. Responsibility is the ability to respond ably and to make smart choices”
- “Think of giving not as a duty but as a privilege” John Rockefeller Jr.
- “Responsibility does not only lie with the leaders of our countries or with those who have been appointed or elected to do a particular job. It lies with each of us individually.” Dalai Lama
- “The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing” Albert Einstein
- “Parents can only give good advice or put them on the right paths, but the final forming of a person's character lies in their own hands” Anne Frank
- “If you want respect, show it”
- “When we do good things, our self-respect grows”
- “It is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness” Proverb

Resources to support respect & responsibility

A Long Way to Go. Author: Zibby Oneal

All the Places to Love. Author: Patricia MacLachlan

The Brand New Kid. Author: Katie Couric

Brother Eagle, Sister Sky. Author: Chief Seattle

Clicks, Phonies and Other Baloney. Author: Trevor Romain

Don't Laugh at Me. Author: Steve Se-skin

Happy to be Me. Author: Bobbie Kal-man

Is There Really a Human Race. Author: Jamie Lee Curtis

The Lorax. Author: Dr. Seuss

Old Turtle and the Broken Truth. Au-thor: Douglas Wood

The Name Jar. Author: Yangsook Choi

The Keeping Quilt. Author: Patricia



Berenstein Bears and the Blame Game. Author: Stan Berenstein

David Gets in Trouble. Author: David Shannon

The Great Kapok Tree. Author: Lynn Cherry

I Wanna Iguana. Author: Karen Kauf-man Orloff

Lizards Don't Wear Lip Gloss. Author: Trina Wiebe

Paths to Peace: People who changed the World. Author: Jane Breskin Zal-ben

Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt. Author: Deborah Hopkinson

What Do You Stand For? Author: Bar-bara Lewis

Which Loved Best. Author: Joy Allison

Manners Matter. Author: Marc Brown

The First Forest. Author: John Gile

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Links to Catholic Graduate Expectations

A Discerning Believer formed in the Catholic Faith Community

Actively reflects on God's Word as communicated through the Hebrew and Christian scriptures

Seeks intimacy with God and celebrate communion with God, others and creation through prayer and worship

An Effective Communicator

Listens actively and critically to understand and learn in light of Gospel Values

A Collaborative Contributor

Finds meaning, dignity, fulfillment and vocation in work which contributes to the common good

Respects the rights and responsibilities of self and others

A Reflective and Creative Thinker

Recognizes there is more grace in our work than sin and that hope is essential in facing all challenges

A Caring Family Member

Relates to family members in a loving, compassionate and respectful manner