

St Mary's School Values

Kindness

We value kindness because it helps people feel safe, valued and welcomed.

"...be kind and tender-hearted to one another, and forgive one another, as God has forgiven you through Christ." (Ephesians 4:32)

"Let us learn to live with kindness and to love everyone, even when they do not love us." (Pope Francis)

Gospel Story: Mark 10: 13-16 (Let the children come to me)

Some people brought children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples scolded the people. When Jesus noticed this, he was angry and said to his disciples, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I assure you that whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it." Then he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on each of them, and blessed them.

Tolerance

We value each other because we are all part of God's family and it is important that we all feel accepted and belong.

"All of you are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it." (1 Corinthians 12:27)

"I invite you not to build walls but bridges...and to live in peace with everyone."
(Pope Francis)

Gospel Story: Luke 10:30-35 (The Good Samaritan)

The teacher of the Law asked Jesus, 'Who is my neighbour?'

Jesus answered, "There was once a man who was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when robbers attacked him, stripped him, and beat him up, leaving him half dead. It so happened that a priest was going down that road; but when he saw the man, he walked on by on the other side. In the same way a Levite also came there, went over and looked at the man, and then walked on by on the other side. But a Samaritan who was travelling that way came upon the man, and when he saw him, his heart was filled with pity. He went over to him, poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them; then he put the man on his own animal and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, "Take care of him," he told the innkeeper, "and when I come back this way, I will pay you whatever else you spend on him."

And Jesus concluded, 'In your opinion, which of these three acted like a neighbour toward the man attacked by the robbers?'

The teacher of the Law answered, 'The one who was kind to him.'

Jesus replied, "You go, then, and do the same."

Friendship

We value friendship and teamwork. We encourage each other to play and learn well together. We also remember that it's important to repair relationships when we have fallen out or upset others.

"How wonderful it is, how pleasant, for God's people to live together in harmony.' (Psalm 133:1)

"Dear young people, Jesus wants to be your friend, and wants you to spread the joy of friendship everywhere." (Pope Francis)

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:16-20 (Jesus Calls Four Fishermen)

As Jesus walked along the shore of Lake Galilee, he saw two fishermen, Simon and his brother Andrew, catching fish with a net. Jesus said to them, "Come with me, and I will teach you to catch people." At once they left their nets and went with him.

He went a little farther on and saw two other brothers, James and John, the sons of Zebedee. They were in their boat getting their nets ready. As soon as Jesus saw them, he called them; they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and went with Jesus.

Aiming High

We value effort and we encourage each other to try our best so that we can make good use of our strengths and talents.

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord and not for people.” (Colossians 3:23)

“Dear young people, do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things.” (Pope Francis)

Gospel Story: Matthew 5:14-16 (You are the light of the world)

You are the light of the world. A city built on a mountain cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and covers it; instead it is put on a lampstand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine before others, so that they may see the good you do and praise your Father in heaven.”

Positivity

We value a positive outlook and encourage each other to find solutions and overcome challenges.

“I can do all things in him who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:13)

“Never lose the courage to dream big and live life to the full.” (Pope Francis)

Gospel Story: John 6:1-15 (Jesus Feeds Five Thousand)

After this, Jesus across Lake Galilee (or Lake Tiberias, as it is also called). A large crowd followed him, because they had seen his miracles of healing the sick. Jesus went up a hill and sat down with his disciples. The time for the Passover Festival was near. Jesus looked around and saw that a large crowd was coming to him, so he asked Philip, “Where can we buy enough food to feed all these people?” (He said this to Philip to test him, actually he already knew what he would do). Philip answered, “For everyone to have even a little, it would take more than two hundred silver coins to buy enough bread.”

Another one of his disciples, Andrew, who was Simon Peter’s brother, said, “There is a boy here who has five loaves of barley bread and two fish. But they will certainly not be enough for all these people.”

“Make the people sit down,” Jesus told them. (There was a lot of grass there). So all the people sat down; there were about five thousand men. Jesus took the bread, gave thanks to God, and distributed it to the people who were sitting there. He did the same with the fish, and they all had as much as they wanted. When they were all full, he said to his disciples, “Gather the pieces left over; let us not waste a bit.” So they gathered them all and filled twelve baskets with the pieces left over from the five barley loaves which the people had eaten.