
Moving our Paws in the Right Direction

— Virtues of the Month —

What is the Virtues Program?

The **Virtues Program** is a systematic approach to fostering character formation in our school. The purpose of the Virtues Program is to instill in our school community a desire to live and practice Catholic virtues in every aspect of life. Each month at Archbishop Borders, we will focus on a different virtue school-wide. Teachers will facilitate structured lessons on each of the virtues with the purpose of recognizing the many “teachable moments” that arise each day. The goal is to make the practice of Catholic virtues not just another subject, but a way of life for each member of the Archbishop Borders School community.

September - Respect and Responsibility

1. Wear your uniform with pride.
2. Be quiet in church.
3. Greet everyone cheerfully and by name.
4. 4. Listen quietly when others speak.
5. 5. Keep your desk and supplies neat.
6. 6. Stand at attention for the Pledge of Allegiance.
7. 7. Participate in Mass: Try to learn the responses and sing the songs.
8. 8. Do your best work on every assignment.
9. 9. Turn all class assignments and homework in on time.

October - Self Discipline

1. Follow the rules.
2. Avoid interrupting when someone is talking.
3. Get into and walk in line without talking.
4. Be responsible for your table in the cafeteria.
5. Listen attentively to morning and afternoon announcements.
6. Keep your feet and hands to yourself.
7. Say only kind words.
8. If you get angry, walk away from the situation until you are calm and can discuss it.

November - Gratitude

1. Thank Jesus each day for the sacrifice He made for you.
2. Thank God for your special talents and use them to serve Him every day.
3. Show gratitude to all of your teachers.
4. Remember to thank the ladies in the cafeteria for your lunch, milk or for helping you open your juice box or milk container.
5. Say "Please" and "Thank you".
6. Thank a friend for being there for you.
7. Be a good sport when you play.

December - Generosity

1. Give from your own money to help others in need.
2. Give freely of your time without expecting anything in return.
3. Ask for forgiveness when you have hurt someone and be willing to forgive them when they hurt you.
4. Offer to help someone in class each day.
5. Share your supplies with someone who forgot theirs.
6. Do something helpful for someone without being asked.
7. Let another person ahead of you get a drink first at the water fountain.

January - Empathy/Compassion

1. Pray for those people who are hungry or homeless.
2. Give money to the poor box in church from your own allowance.
3. Give food or clothing to those in need.
4. Help at home without being asked.
5. Keep your room neat and orderly to help your parents.
6. Make a pretty card or write a cheerful letter to someone who is sick or in a nursing home.
7. Listen quietly when your friend is upset or angry and needs to talk.

January-Empathy/Compassion contd.

8. Visit relatives, neighbors, or friends that are sick.
9. Include new students in your games. Introduce them to your friends.
10. If someone doesn't understand a lesson or a game, offer to teach them. Do not make fun of them.
11. Make someone laugh when they are feeling sad.
12. Be kind to everyone you meet.

February - Honesty

1. Admit when you do something wrong.
2. Do all of your own work and put your best effort into it.
3. Be true to your word and your beliefs.
4. If you forget your homework, tell the truth. Accept the consequences.
5. If you find money try to find out who it belongs to.
6. Always ask before borrowing something.
7. Give back what you borrow in good condition.
8. If you make a promise, keep it.

March - Community Building

1. Follow directions
2. Say “please” when asking for things.
3. Clean up around your desk area.
4. Help a classmate when they need help.
5. Take turns when playing and give someone else a chance.
6. Do your chores cheerfully, without being asked.
7. Respect the opinions of others.
8. Always try to get along with everyone.

April - Service

1. Perform a random act of kindness each day.
2. Always be there to help a classmate or a teacher who needs you.
3. Take care of all classroom furniture, books and papers.
4. Pick up paper, pencils, and items you see on the ground inside and outside, EVEN IF YOU DID NOT DROP THEM.
5. Put all papers, cans, and bottles in the proper recycling bin. Always recycle, at home and at school.
6. Find ways to help at home BEFORE you are asked.
7. Treat all nature with respect. (Flowers, grass, trees, water, pets, wild animals.)
8. Help all people in need, especially those less fortunate than yourself.

May/June- Instrument of Peace

1. Be kind to all you meet today.
2. Make peace with others at the end of the school day.
3. Stay calm no matter what happens to you today.
4. Say part of St. Francis' Peace Prayer to yourself today.
5. Apologize the minute you know that you have offended someone.
6. Do an extra act of kindness for your family tonight.
7. Make peace with family members before going to sleep.
8. Speak calmly to your friends while playing games.
9. Greet your neighbor politely.
10. Say a prayer for peace throughout the world.