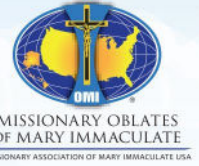




OBLATE ACADEMY

HELPING CHILDREN KEEP GOD IN THEIR LIVES



Virtue of the Month for February 2024: Purity

Teaching Tips for Grades 3-5

Definition

Purity is when a person's motives are genuine and sincere. Purity lives in kindness, compassion, generosity and goodwill — without any traces of evil or selfishness.

Teaching children the meaning of purity is an important step in their development into caring, thoughtful adults.

Scripture

In Scripture, the Psalmist tells us that only “the clean of hand and pure of heart” may ascend to the mountain of the Lord (Psalm 24:3-4). Practicing purity enables us to draw closer to God as we grow.

Explanation

- Explain to the children the meaning of purity. Purity is the virtue of benevolence which means kindness, compassion, generosity and goodwill. Purity is acting without any traces of evil or selfishness. Purity is when a person's motives are genuine and sincere. Simply put, purity is also being humble and kind.
- Discuss with the children that it's important for them to be confident and never lower their standards. They should surround themselves with friends who seek purity. They should look for friends who follow God in all they say and do.
- Talk to the children about keeping your soul free of sin. They can practice this by praying daily and asking God to guide them and keep them pure of heart and mind. This is an especially good practice during Lent.
- Encourage the children to set goals of achieving good behavior for the day, week, and month. As they reach their goals, join them in thanks to God for His grace and love.
- Model acts of selflessness for the children. Be generous to those in need, offer to help your friends or neighbors, say please, and thank you to people. Hold the door for others or let someone go ahead of you in line.



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- Have the children join you in picking out a gift or doing a task for someone in need, as an act of kindness and selflessness.
- Teach the children to act out of selflessness and to serve others. Collect items from family and friends to donate to the poor. Setting up a food or clothing drive is an easy way to involve friends and family as you serve God and others.
- Teach the children to get involved in worthwhile activities like music, sports, drama, hobbies that can develop talents. Remind them to give the glory to God as they succeed in their talents.

Activity Sheets

Use these activity sheets:

- The “Do Better” List
- Measuring Up to God’s Standards
- The Purity Acrostic Poem
- Purity Crossword Puzzle (with Key)

Use the **Measuring Up to God’s Standards** worksheet to help the children make a list of how they can do so. This list should include movies, books and music that you think God would approve of based on His teachings of love, kindness, and forgiveness. Have the children display this somewhere they can see it every day. After a month, review the list together and check their progress!