



A FAMILY OF
Faith

DECEMBER 2023
Adult Meeting

VERSE OF THE MONTH: Philippians 4:8

whatever is **TRUE**,
whatever is **HONORABLE**,
whatever is **JUST**, whatever is **PURE**,
whatever is **LOVELY**, whatever is **GRACIOUS**—
if there is any **EXCELLENCE** or
if there is anything **WORTHY OF PRAISE**,
think about these things.



Agenda

PLEASE SIGN IN!!

Opening prayer

Questions / Review

Presentation

Advent packet & Jessy Tree handouts

Closing Prayer



Opening Questions

Have you ever tried to master a skill?

How did you get good at it?

Have you ever trained for a marathon?

What did you have to do to get in shape and how often?



Opening Questions

Were you ever good at something
that you lost your talent for?

Why did that happen?



Opening Questions

One of the goals of our Christian life is to strive for holiness and to be like Christ.

What role do the
Theological and Cardinal Virtues play in our lives?



Lecture/Essay Content Review



Raise your hand if you have any
bad habits!



Now think about a good habit.



Habit becomes nature

We don't often reflect on the staying power that habits have in our lives.

Ancient wisdom tells us that habits become nature; we are what repeatedly do.



Virtue is...

“an habitual and firm disposition to do the good.
...The goal of the virtuous life is to become like God”
(CCC 1803).



The virtues are *always* good.

There is never a time that it not good to seek justice.

There is never a time that seeking balance is a bad thing.



SIGNPOSTS IN THE MORAL LIFE

Cardinal Virtues

- Prudence – discern true good, true right
- Justice – Will to give God and neighbor their due
 - Temperance – moderation and balance
 - Fortitude -- strength against temptation



SIGNPOSTS IN THE MORAL LIFE

Theological Virtues

- Faith -- we believe and accept God
- Hope – we desire kingdom of heaven with God
- Charity – We love God and our neighbor





Bishop Barron on Faith, Hope, and Love



St. Stephen

The martyrs are examples of many virtues, including faith, hope, justice, and fortitude.

They show us that faith and trust in God is always good.

Ultimately, martyrs imitate Christ by laying down their own lives in witness of truth.



Group Discussion/Sharing



Reminders and Announcements

The upcoming Community Meeting will take place
Sunday, Dec 17th, 9am to 10 am

Volunteer Opportunities: Sunday Dec 24th 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
Decorating church for Christmas

First Holy Communion Retreat:
Monday January 22nd, at 6:30pm to 8pm



“Show yourself in all respects a model of good deeds,
and in your teaching show integrity, gravity, and
sound speech.

-Titus 2:7-8a (RSV)



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Advent Jessy tree packets



Closing Prayer

Dear God who is all good, we thank you for our time together here tonight.

We pray for those who could not be with us.

In the words of St. Thomas Aquinas, we pray that we may acquire the virtues which will lead us to the fullness of life:

O God, all-powerful and all-knowing, without beginning and without end, you who are the source, the sustainer, and the rewarder of all virtues, Grant that I may abide on the firm ground of faith, be sheltered by an impregnable shield of hope, and be adorned in the bridal garment of charity. Grant that I may through justice be subject to you, through prudence avoid the beguilements of the devil, through temperance exercise restraint, and through fortitude endure adversity with patience.

