



## Virtues and Blessings



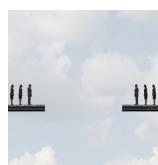
Presenter | Deacon Tom Kroll

### Virtues and Blessings Objectives



- To illustrate the need for virtue in today's world
  - Illustrate how vices/virtues may impact us and the world
- To define what virtue is
  - Explore Primary and Theological virtues
- To discuss how virtues can be used to pursue our Baptismal call
- Define how a conscience and overall formation is crucial in forming a life of virtue
- Illustrate how a Virtuous life leads to a Blessed life

### Today's Need for Virtue - Passions Out of Control



### The Seven Deadly Sins (Vices) and Virtuous Remedies



Greed/Generosity



Lust/Chastity



Envy/Charity

Gluttony / Temperance



Anger/Meekness



Pride/Humility

Sloth / Diligence

### Virtues by Definition



Virtue: Directing our Passions  
The Morality of the Passions  
CCC 1762 - 1876

"A habitual and firm disposition [or habit] to do the good.  
Love is to will the good of the other - St. Thomas Aquinas

The moral virtues are required through human effort aided by God's grace; the theological virtues are gifts of God." (CCC 1803)

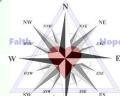
### Moral "Primary" Virtues



**Prudence**  
looks in her mirror, showing that self-knowledge is needed to deliberate well.



**Justice**  
with her scales renders what is proper to each person.

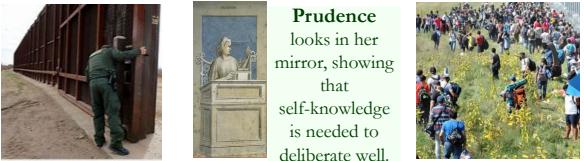


**Fortitude**  
with her armour is constant against opposition.



**Temperance**  
binds a sword, representing the curbing of the passions.

## Immigration and an Example of Prudence



## Theological Virtues



The graces of Baptism include the Theological (or 'supernatural') virtues of **Faith**, **Hope** and **Charity** that are key for Christian living



Charity is lost if grace is lost through mortal sin. It is restored by means of Confession. Charity is the supernatural virtue of heaven,

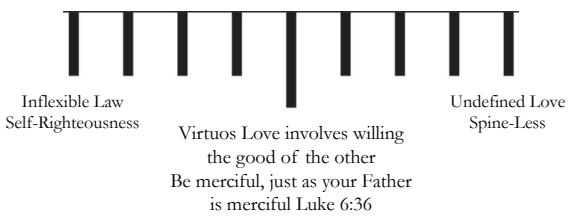


*"So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love."* 1 Cor 13:13

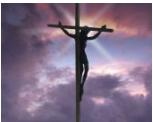
EVANGELIUM



## Virtuous Charity (Love)

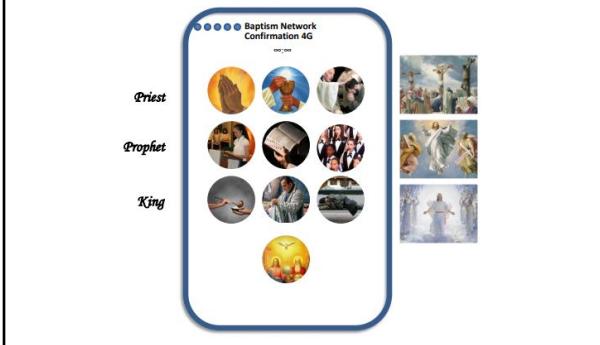


Forms of Love:  
Storge - Affection  
Eros - In Love  
Philia - Brotherly  
Agape - To Die For



## Through Baptism We are Called to Action

### The Call of Baptism



## Forming a Good Conscience - Blessed with Contentedness A Major Step to Virtuous Behavior

Be Guided by the Word in Holy Scripture, Tradition, and the Eucharist



"And seek out day by day the faces of the saints in order that you may rest upon their words" Didache 4

Be Guided by the Church's Catechism

Adhere to Laws and Truth in Natural Law

Emulate the Life of the Saints

Be attentive to Virtuous people

Prayer

## A Catholic Conscience and Virtuous Behavior Chastity and the Balance between Guilt and Promiscuity



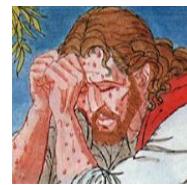
## Full Formation: Intellectual, Spiritual, Pastoral, Human, Prayer



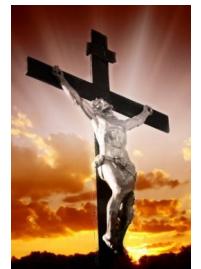
## Will - Discipline - Sacrificial Love



Despite intense suffering Jesus remained disciplined



Despite being tempted, Jesus maintained the will of God



Despite the pain Jesus died for the love of us

## Evangelical Counsels (Virtuous Behavior) For the Religious/Consecrated Life Only?



Poverty: Poverty of Spirit signifies detachment from worldly things and voluntary humility (2544-2546)

Chastity: The moral virtue which, under the cardinal virtue of temperance, provides for the successful integration of sexuality within the person leading to the inner unity of the bodily and spiritual being (2337) [It may or may not involve celibacy]

Obedience: The submission to the authority of God which requires everyone to obey the Divine Law in numerous ways (1897, 2216, 144, 615); As an evangelical counsel, it is this vow made publicly to Church authority (915)

## Our Virtuous Response and the Blessings it Brings

Corporal	Spiritual
Feed the Hungry	Instruct the Ignorant
Give Drink to the Thirsty	Counsel the Doubtful
Shelter the Homeless	Admonish Sinners
Clothe the Naked	Forgive Offenses
Visit the Sick	Comfort the Afflicted
Visit the Imprisoned	Bear Wrong Patiently
Bury the Dead	Pray for the Living and the Dead

Mercy is from Misericordia  
Misery of the heart



## Be Blessed - Emulating a Saint Living a Life of Virtue and Beatitude



Poor



Mourn



Meek



Righteous



Merciful



Pure in Heart



Peacemaker



Persecuted



Questions?

## Virtues and Blessings

Presenter I Deacon Tom Kroll



## Divine Mercy Chaplet - History

Friday, September 13, 1935

In the evening, when I was in my cell, I saw an Angel, the executor of divine wrath. He was clothed in a dazzling robe, his face gloriously bright, a cloud beneath his feet. From the cloud, bolts of thunder and flashes of lightning were springing into his hands; and from his hand they were going forth, and only then were they striking the earth. When I saw this sign of divine wrath which was about to strike the earth, and in particular a certain place, which for good reasons I cannot name, I began to implore the Angel to hold off for a few moments, and the world would do penance. But my plea was a mere nothing in the face of the divine anger (474).

As I was praying in this manner, I saw the Angel's helplessness: he could not carry out the just punishment which was rightly due for sins. Never before had I prayed with such inner power as I did then. The words with which I entreated God are these: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ for our sins and those of the whole world; for the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us (475).

## Divine Mercy Chaplet - History

Saturday, September 14, 1935 - Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross:

The next morning, when I entered chapel, I heard these words interiorly: Every time you enter the chapel, immediately recite the prayer which I taught you yesterday. When I had said the prayer, in my soul I heard these words: This prayer will serve to appease My wrath.

You will recite it for nine days, on the beads of the rosary, in the following manner: First of all, you will say one OUR FATHER and HAIL MARY and the I BELIEVE IN GOD. Then on the OUR FATHER beads you will say the following words: "Eternal Father, I offer You the

Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ

On the HAIL MARY beads you will say the following words: "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion have mercy on us and on the whole world." In conclusion, three times you will recite these words: "Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world." (476)

Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska: Divine Mercy in My Soul © 1987 Congregation of Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the B.V.M., Stockbridge, MA 01263. All rights reserved. [www.marian.org](http://www.marian.org)

## Divine Mercy Chaplet



In 1933, God gave Sister Faustina a striking vision of His Mercy. St. Faustina tells us: "I saw a great light, with God the Father in the midst of it. Between this light and the earth I saw Jesus nailed to the Cross and in such a way that God, wanting to look upon the earth, had to look through Our Lord's wounds and I understood that God blessed the earth for the sake of Jesus."

### How to say Chaplet of Divine Mercy

1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross,  
1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary and The Apostles Creed.
2. Then on the Our Father Beads say the following:  
Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.
3. On the 10 Hail Mary Beads say the following:  
For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.  
*(Repeat step 2 and 3 for all five decades).*
4. Conclude with (three times):  
Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.