



COMMUNITY IN CHRIST

PARENT RESOURCE

DEAR PARENTS

The theme for the Reflection Day that your child recently engaged in was 'Community in Christ.' Throughout the day we aimed to provide a deeper appreciation of the following key objectives;

1. Our family is the first community we experience, and it is here that God teaches us much about what it means to love and live with one another.
2. Our school community builds on the understanding of living with and loving one another as we encounter other members of God's family and study within an environment of inspiration and grace.
3. The Church being one, holy, catholic and apostolic, forms the foundation upon which we live & share our lives in service of Christ.

These objectives were achieved through engaging activities that students were invited to participate in such as interactive games, a range of small group tasks and discussions, viewing inspirational videos and skits animated by our team, listening to authentic sharing and having the opportunity to participate in meaningful prayer experiences.

This resource provides insight into 10 activities that formed the basis of the Reflection Day including a brief description of what the task involved, a scripture reference connected to the teaching point of the activity and a topic for discussion that can be used at home to enhance the concepts covered.

We would encourage parents to use this resource as a tool for engaging in meaningful conversations around the experience offered to your child.

We greatly value feedback so if you are interested in assisting us with your thoughts on the Parent Resource, we would appreciate you taking time to provide this via link at the end of the document.

ENVIRONMENT OF TRUST

[Trust Circle & Team Hoyt]

Our team invites the students to participate in a circle of trust and then watch a video illustrating how a parent does remarkable things for their special needs child. In this way we hope to encourage all to see how it is that God shows us, through the gift of our family, that we can learn to trust in Him.

Luke 11:9-13

So I say to you: ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!

TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION

What do you see your family do to provide for your needs?



FAMILY CONTRIBUTION

[My Family Stickers]

The students are encouraged to identify how each member of the family brings something unique to the household and, in so doing, help to teach us something about ourselves and each other.

1 Corinthians 12: 25 - 26

But God has put the body together, giving greater honour to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it.

TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION

What is the blessing we see in each member of our family?



FAMILY IDENTITY

[Family Crest]

This activity requires the students to illustrate in symbol form the things that identify us as a family.

Romans 8:14-17

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ.

TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION

What are the things that are important values to us as a family?



WORKING TOGETHER

[Teamwork]

We invite the students to participate in an activity known as the knot. We have to work together to try and achieve the goal of releasing ourselves from a difficult situation.

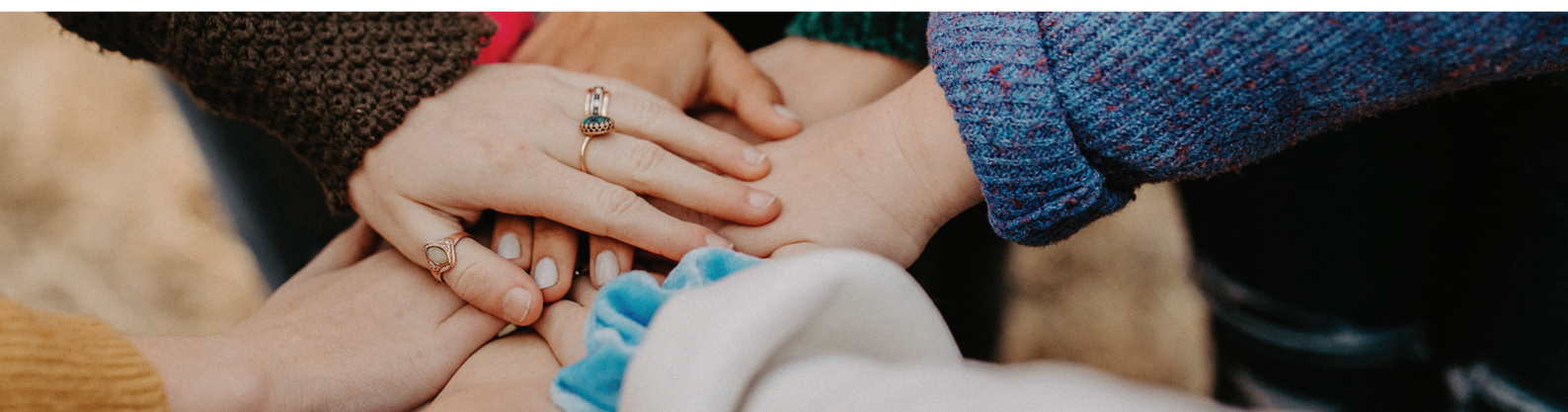
1 Corinthians 12:4-12

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.

There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines. Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.

TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION

How do we as a family work through difficult situations?



SCHOOL VALUES

[Survey]

During the retreat we ask students to engage in a survey to reveal which in a list of values are the strongest, and to identify those that are not seen as particularly strong.

James 2:14-18

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds

TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION

Why did we as a family choose the school to partner with us in educating our child / ren?



BARRIERS

[Box Drama]

Our team presents a short skit that looks at how selfish acts work against the things that we are trying to achieve as a group.

Galatians 5:22-26

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION

What are the things in our home that work against us being the family we want to be?



INSPIRED

[Inspired Worksheet]

The students are invited to complete a worksheet that asks how they contribute to the culture of their family and the school.

1 Peter 4:9-11

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION

How do we each contribute to the culture of our family and our school?



CONTRIBUTION OF THE CHURCH

[Video]

The students watch a video that show how the Church has contributed significantly to society throughout its 2000-year history. Jesus demonstrated this by washing the feet of his disciples so that they would understand the mission of the church is rooted in its members serving one another.

John 13:12-17

When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION

How do members of our family serve in the life of the Church and / or in society?



CHURCH PILLARS

Our team demonstrates through the construction of a table the 4 pillars of the Church – One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic as the key to why the church is the longest running organisation on the planet.

Nicene Creed

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION

What is our understanding of each of the 4 pillars of the Church?



POWER OF PRAYER

The students are encouraged to sign a prayer card stating that they would like to contribute to the world inspired by the way that Christ lived His life.



I PRAY THAT AS I BUILD UPON THE FOUNDATIONS PROVIDED BY MY FAMILY, COLLEGE AND CHURCH THAT I WOULD GROW INTO THE BEST PERSON I CAN BE, AND I PRAY THAT I MAY SERVE THOSE AROUND ME WITH THE LOVE OF CHRIST

TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION

What aspect of Jesus' life are we most inspired by?

FEEDBACK

We would love to hear from you!
Click the link below to head to our feedback form.

[TINYURL.COM/PORTALRESPONSE](https://tinyurl.com/portalresponse)

