

Saint Margaret Mary
8th grade parent newsletter
Class #2 - World Hunger
Phone 847-658-7881
Web Site: saintmargaretmary.org

The focus of this lesson is:

Explore the individual and group assumptions of world hunger.
 The true cause and effects of poverty.



Catechism references for this lesson is 1807, 2302, 2306

You can search on line at

<http://www.kofc.org/publications/cis/catechism/search.cfm>

Our 8th grade year is divided into two parts, **1.** Peace & justice and **2.** morality. We start off with peace and justice.

Justice has been understood as giving each person his or her due. And what is due to each person in the fundamental right to live a fully human life. But what does it mean to live a fully human life? There are four major categories of rights and duties that spell out the meaning of justice. Each of these four is closely paralleled by four stages of human development. All four components of justice are deeply rooted in the Christian understanding of the human person, reflected not only in the Jewish scriptures and in the New Testament, but also in the social teachings of the Christian churches.

Our rich Catholic faith was the first to teach as truth in our faith and duty as a person.

Components of Justice	Their Christian Basis	Stages of Human Development
Sufficient Life Goods Food, shelter, clothing, health care, skills and development, work	The earth is the Lord's; it is for the use of all; <i>stewardship</i>	Security (concern for survival)
Dignity/Esteem Recognizing, affirming & calling forth the value/uniqueness of each person and each people(cultural rights)	Each person is created in the image and likeness of God.	Self-worth (concern for personal recognition)
Participation The rights of individuals & peoples to shape their own destinies (political rights)	Each person is called by Jesus to help build His Kingdom in our world.	Self determination (concern for control over one's life)
Solidarity The corresponding duty to promote there rights with & for others (duties and well as rights)	We are created in the image of a God who is a (community) Trinity of persons	Interdependence (concern for others)



Saint Story

St. Martin de Porres

Feastday: November 3 Patron of social Justice

St. Martin de Porres was born at Lima, Peru, in 1579. His father was a Spanish gentleman and his mother a coloured freed-woman from Panama. At fifteen, he became a lay brother at the Dominican Friary at Lima and spent his whole life there-as a barber, farm laborer, almoner, and infirmarian among other things.

Martin had a great desire to go off to some foreign mission and thus earn the palm of martyrdom. However, since this was not possible, he made a martyr out of his body, devoting himself to ceaseless and severe penances. In turn, God endowed him with many graces and wondrous gifts, such as, aerial flights and bilocation.

St. Martin's love was all-embracing, shown equally to humans and to animals, including vermin, and he maintained a cats and dogs hospital at his sister's house. He also possessed spiritual wisdom, demonstrated in his solving his sister's marriage problems, raising a dowry for his niece inside of three day's time, and resolving theological problems for the learned of his Order and for bishops. A close friend of St. Rose of Lima, this saintly man died on November 3, 1639 and was canonized on May 6, 1962.

Prayer to St. Martin de Porres

To you Saint Martin de Porres we prayerfully lift up our hearts filled with serene confidence and devotion. Mindful of your unbounded and helpful charity to all levels of society and also of your meekness and humility of heart, we offer our petitions to you. Pour out upon our families the precious gifts of your solicitous and generous intercession; show to the people of every race and every color the paths of unity and of justice; implore from our Father in heaven the coming of his kingdom, so that through mutual benevolence in God men may increase the fruits of grace and merit the rewards of eternal life. Amen.

Did you know?

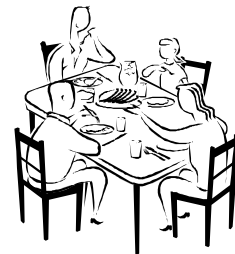


If you go to the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops <http://www.usccb.org/> You can find some great articles on world hunger and social justice. Just type the topic in the search box. This site is full of great information.

Check out this is a great site for Catholic youth <http://www.catholicyouth.com/> it has lots of information and fun things to do.

Family Activity

Tonight at dinner after you say Grace, go around the table and say what you are thankful for.
Discuss what you can do as a family to help end world hunger.



Saint Margaret Mary
8th grade parent newsletter
Class #3 - Catholic Social Teaching
Phone 847-658-7881
Web Site: saintmargaretmary.org

The Focus of this lesson is:

What is Catholic Social Teaching?

Social needs in our community.

How can we meet the need of people in our community?



Catechism references for this lesson is 1807, 2302, 2306

You can search on line at

<http://www.kofc.org/publications/cis/catechism/search.cfm>

The Church's social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness among the challenges of modern society. Here are, in these brief descriptions, several of the key themes that are at the heart of our Catholic social tradition.

Life and Dignity of the Human Person

The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. Our belief in the sanctity of human life and the inherent dignity of the human person is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and assisted suicide. The value of human life is being threatened by increasing use of the death penalty. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.

Call to Family, Community, and Participation

The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society in economics and politics, in law and policy directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. The family is the central social institution that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

Rights and Responsibilities

The Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

A basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.

The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to organize and join unions, to private property, and to economic initiative.

Solidarity

We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers, wherever they live. We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. Learning to practice the virtue of solidarity means that learning "loving our neighbor" has global dimensions in an interdependent world.

Care for God's Creation

We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan; it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.



A saint story St. Elizabeth of Hungary

St. Elizabeth was born in Hungary in 1207, the daughter of Alexander II, King of Hungary. At the age of four she was sent for education to the court of the Landgrave of Thuringia, to whose infant son she was betrothed. As she grew in age, her piety also increased by leaps and bounds. In 1221, she married Louis of Thuringia and in spite of her position at court began to lead an austere simple life, practiced penance, and devoted herself to works of charity.

Her husband was himself much inclined to religion and highly esteemed her virtue, encouraging her in her exemplary life. They had three children when tragedy struck - Louis was killed while fighting with the Crusaders. After his death, Elizabeth left the court, made arrangements for the care of her children, and in 1228, renounced the world, becoming a tertiary of St. Francis. She built the Franciscan hospital at Marburg and devoted herself to the care of the sick until her death at the age of 24 in 1231.

St. Elizabeth is the patron saint of bakers, countesses, death of children, falsely accused, the homeless, nursing services, tertiaries, widows, and young brides. Her symbols are alms, flowers, bread, the poor, and a pitcher.

Family Discussion

Where does your family stand on these controversial issues? Study as a family about your stands and why you believe them. Do a debate with each other using the resources found and the catechism references.



Saint Margaret Mary
8th grade parent newsletter
Class #4 - Needs in our Community
Phone 847-658-7881
Web Site: saintmargaretmary.org

The focus of this lesson is:

How can we meet the needs of our community?

Today we had representatives for various community organizations come to speak to our classes. Each class then picked from a hat which organization they will work for. Each class meet with who they choose to work out a contract to meet the needs they expressed. You will be receiving a letter from your youth's catechist on what these plans are. Ask you're youth who they picked.

Please be advised that this project will last the entire Faith Group year. Each student will be expected to help out. This may include time out side of the classroom. Parents and siblings are encouraged to participate.

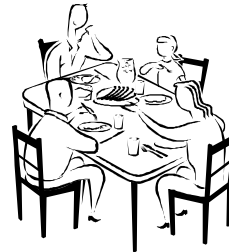
Look for more information from the catechist to follow.

We also discussed the Corporal Works of Mercy. You can find them listed in your youths "Handbook for Catholics" on page 46

Family Activity

What way as a family can you do something for the charity your youth's class picked?

Discuss what you have done to help in our community. Parents did you do community service as a youth? Tell about it.



Saint Margaret Mary
8th grade parent newsletter
Class #5 - Stress
Phone 847-658-7881
Web Site: saintmargaretmary.org

The Focus of this lesson is:

What are our causes of stress?
Skills to help us cope with stress.



Catechism references for this lesson is 1996-2005

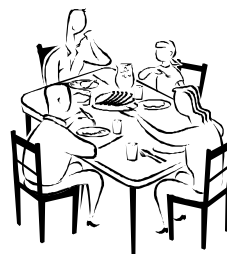
You can search on line at

<http://www.kofc.org/publications/cis/catechism/search.cfm>

The students listed things that cause them stress. They dived into groups and each one took an item from the list. They then came up with some practical ways to cope with this. The youth could present their ideas for coping in role-play or with a skit.

Family Activity:

Discuss what skills you talked about in class and which one you use not to help stress. Which ones can you try? Do your parents have special ways to deal with stress?



St. Jude of Thaddaeus

Feastday: October 28 Patron of Desperate Cases

St. Jude, known as Thaddaeus, was a brother of St. James the Less, and a relative of Our Saviour. St. Jude was one of the 12 Apostles of Jesus.

Ancient writers tell us that he preached the Gospel in Judea, Samaria, Idumaea, Syria, Mesopotamia, and Lybia. According to Eusebius, he returned to Jerusalem in the year 62, and assisted at the election of his brother, St. Simeon, as Bishop of Jerusalem.

He is an author of an epistle (letter) to the Churches of the East, particularly the Jewish converts, directed against the heresies of the Simonians, Nicolaites, and Gnostics. This Apostle is said to have suffered martyrdom in Armenia, which was then subject to Persia. The final conversion of the Armenian nation to Christianity did not take place until the third century of our era.

Jude was the one who asked Jesus at the Last Supper why He would not manifest Himself to the whole world after His resurrection. Little else is known of his life. Legend claims that he visited Beirut and Edessa; possibly martyred with St. Simon in Persia.

Jude is invoked in desperate situations because his New Testament letter stresses that the faithful should persevere in the environment of harsh, difficult circumstances, just as their forefathers had done before them. Therefore, he is the patron saint of desperate cases and his feast day is October 28. Saint Jude is not the same person as Judas Iscariot who betrayed Our Lord and despaired because of his great sin and lack of trust in God's mercy.

Saint Margaret Mary
8th grade parent newsletter
Class #7 Stewardship
Phone 847-658-7881
Web Site: saintmargaretmary.org

Focus of this lesson is:

Our call to help with time, talent and treasure.

Students are working on their class skit for the Love and Appreciation Banquet.

Youth may also perform an individual talent.

Skits are to be a Bible story, show Gods action in our lives, or a moral lesson.



Catechism reference for this lesson is 1716 – 1717

You can search the catechism on line at

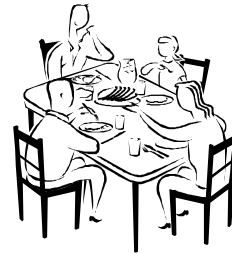
<http://www.kofc.org/publications/cis/catechism/search.cfm>

Family Activity

Read Matthew 5:1-12

How do the Beatitudes speak to you, what do think you are being asked to do?

Students will bring home their class assignment for our Advent Service Project. Discuss as a family what you can do for the poor during Advent, and the rest of the year.



Did you know?

The Beatitudes are also in Luke 6:20-26

Our next class is the Love and Appreciation Banquet. All family members are invited and encouraged to attend.

This is a potluck dinner. Please bring a dish to pass. Dishes have been assigned by your last name.

A – L -Main dish M – S -Side Dish T – Z -Desserts



Saint Margaret Mary
8th Grade parent newsletter
Class #9 Advent Service Project
Phone 847-658-7881
Web Site: saintmargaretmary.org

Focus of this lesson:

How can we respond to the needs of our community?

The efforts of one person, no matter how big or small, can make a difference.



about.

Family Activity:

The holidays will be coming to an end soon. Charities, like the food pantries are always stocked to the brim at this time. Discuss and come up with a plan to keep the giving spirit alive all year. As a family volunteer at the food pantry, help at the P.A.D.S shelter or find something that you would like to do. Think about instituting a family Christmas in July, just to focus on giving back to the community. After the holidays these organizations are often forgotten

Something to think about:

Read the story of Martha Luke 10:38-42, John 11:1-53, and John 12:1-9.

All we hear about Martha is the simple statement: "Martha served." She isn't in the spotlight, she doesn't do showy things, she doesn't receive spectacular miracles. She simply serves Jesus.



But wouldn't it be wonderful if the most important thing that could be said about us is "They served"?

Dorothy Day said: "If everyone were holy and handsome, it would be easy to see Christ in everyone. But it was not Christ's way for himself. Ask honestly what you would do when a beggar asked at your house for food. Would you give it on an old cracked plate, thinking that was good enough? Do you think that Martha and Mary thought that the old and chipped dish was good enough for their guest? It is not a duty to help Christ -- it is a privilege." In what ways do you serve Christ others grudgingly or sparingly? How can you serve them the way Martha served Christ, putting her whole self into it?

Saint Margaret Mary
8th grade parent newsletter
Class#10 - Decision Making 1 - Attitudes
Phone 847-658-7881
Web Site: saintmargaretmary.org

The Focus of this lesson is:

Get to know yourself better.

We choose to have a positive attitude.

Changing your attitude can change your life.



Catechism references for this lesson is 736

You can search on line at

<http://www.kofc.org/publications/cis/catechism/search.cfm>

Accepting and liking who and what you are is an essential part of being “good looking” inside and out. To get to know your self, you first have to peel away your outer layers and discover what’s inside. When you do this you will find that:

- ◆ You have your own values, opinions and beliefs
- ◆ You have strong feelings and probably some fears and anxieties
- ◆ You think and learn in special ways
- ◆ Your personality is different from everyone else’s
- ◆ You have special interests, unique talents, and secret dreams and desires.

“To do good things in the world, first you must know who you are and what gives meaning in your life.” Paula P Brownlee

12 ways to be more positive.

1. You can choose to be optimistic
2. You can choose to accept things the way they are.
This does not mean give up. I mean you don’t struggle and whine, this makes you a hapless victim. Instead, you get on with your life.
3. You can choose to be resilient.
Trees that bend in the wind survive storms. Be like the tree. Rely on your strong roots to allow you to bounce back from the storm.
4. You can choose to be cheerful.
5. You can choose to be enthusiastic.
6. You can choose to be more alert.

7. You can choose to have a sense a humor.
8. You can choose to be a good sport.
9. You can choose to be humble.
10. You can choose to be grateful.
11. You can choose to have faith.
Having faith means believing that things will work out for you-and that you can work things out for your self.
12. You can choose to have hope.
With out hope life has no meaning or point. We expect nothing, plan for nothing, and don't set any goals for ourselves.

Family Activity

During dinner, take one of these quotes and discuss how they speak to each of you.

“Everything can be taken form a man but one thing: the last of human freedoms-to choose one's own attitude in any given set of circumstances, is to choose one's own way.”

Viktor Frankel

“You accept things as they are, not as your wish they were in this moment.The past is history, the future is a mystery, and this moment is a gift. That is why it is called the present.”

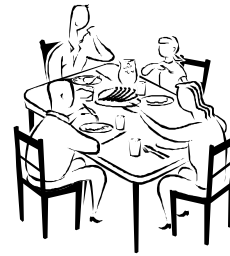
Deepak Chopra, M.D.

“When the legends die, the dreams die. When the dreams die, there is no greatness.”

Ute Indian Nation saying

“Hope' is the thing with feathers – that perches on the soul - and sings the tune without the words- and never stops – at all.”

Emily Dickenson



Saint Margaret Mary
8th grade parent newsletter
Class #12 - Decision Making 2 -Values
Phone 847-658-7881
Web Site: saintmargaretmary.org

The focus of this lesson is:

To discover what values are most important to you.

To be able to combine what God wants and what you want in your life.



Catechism references for this lesson is 1776-1789

You can search on line at

<http://www.kofc.org/publications/cis/catechism/search.cfm>

Students watched a section of the movie “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade.” It was the part when Indiana enters the grotto and the Knight is guarding the Holy Grail. The Knight advises him to “choose wisely”. What the knight meant was that the Holy Grail is a way to describe your life’s purpose. It is something that you choose to put before anything else.

They discussed what the Holy Grail of people we admire could be, like Mother Teresa. (Loving God through service to the poor)

The students had a page that has 5 cups on it, a large one surrounded by 4 smaller ones. In the largest one they were to put what they value the most, what is their Holy Grail?

The way to be able to carry out our Holy Grail is great love. Mother Teresa could not have carried out her mission with out great love.

We also discussed who is your God? Everyone has an image of what God is to him or her. Here are the images we used. Which one is yours? Ask your youth which one was theirs. Why do you have that image?

Superhero
Father/mother
Coach
President

Savior
Judge
Puppeteer

Our Faith depends on promises and commitments. The scripture tells many times that God’s relationship with people based on a covenant, a promise. The covenant is a two-way promise. God says to us, “I will be your God and you will be my people”. God promises to be a loving, protecting, providing God. And, in return, God wants us to be a caring, obedient, loving people. Here is a list of some bible passages. Some of them are the works of God speaking a promise to his people. And others remind us of how faithful God is in keeping his promises.

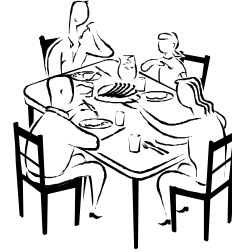
Jeremiah 33:3
Philippians 1:6
2 Corinthians 9:8
Philippians 4:13
Romans 8:28
Isaiah 40:31
Matthew 7:7

1 Corinthians 10:13
Revelations 3:20
Romans 8:35-39
Isaiah 58:11
John 14:16
John 14:23
Matthew 28:19-20

Pick one of the passages and read it together. Talk about how this promise speaks to you.

Family Activity

Watch the video *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*. Talk over the Holy Grail dimension and the comment the one's Holy Grail should be chosen wisely.



Tour a museum or take a walk through a park. Share comments on how God represented at the place you have chosen through the creative works of people or through nature.

Work together on a craft project. Give it along with a note to someone who would appreciate receiving it.

Prayer



Prayer of Pope Paul VI

Make us worthy, Lord, to serve our fellow-men throughout the world who live and die in poverty and hunger. Give them through our hands, this day their daily bread, and by our understanding love, give peace and joy.

Prayer is the most powerful weapon a Christian has. Prayer makes us effective. Prayer makes us happy. Prayer gives us all the strength that we need to fulfill God's commands. Yes, indeed, your whole life can and should be prayer.

Saint Josemaria Escriva

Saint Margaret Mary
8th grade parent newsletter
Class #13 - Decision Making 3 - Morality
Phone 847-658-7881
Web Site: saintmargaretmary.org

The focus of this lesson is:

Human acts can be morally evaluated as good or evil.

The three elements that determine the morality of human acts.

Following the 10 Commandments will lead a person to do good things.

We discussed the Cardinal Virtues they are listed in your youths Handbook for Catholics on page 47.



Catechism references for this lesson is 1755

You can search on line at

<http://www.kofc.org/publications/cis/catechism/search.cfm>

Here are the three elements that determine the morality of human acts. This is the process that was discussed in class. By asking yourself these questions and finding the answers, you can make a decision that is morally sound.

1. What action is involved?

What action does this action entail? What will happen if I choose this action?

You can determine whether or not an object is morally good or evil of itself through human reason and acquired knowledge. Reason refers to “natural law”, or a person’s ability to understand what it means to be human. Through reason, you can determine that persevering life, enhancing life, and developing life for your self and others are common human drives.

Knowledge takes it a step further. What have others learned about this action? What does science say? What does the Church say? What do my parents say? “What” questions are essential in analyzing a moral object. There are some actions, which in and of themselves are morally evil by their object. Murder, perjury, rape, adultery, and child abuse fall into this category.

2. Intention

An action is directed toward a goal. One intention can govern several actions. For example, if a college student’s intention is to be admitted to medical school, several actions are required: taking the appropriate courses, studying, applying by a given date, etc. Intentions also are a factor in determining whether an action is good or bad. To determine intentions, you ask, “**Why do I want to do this?**” The college student may have good intentions for wanting to be a doctor: for example saving lives, finding the cure for a disease, earning a good salary. However, a bad intention, like wanting to be a doctor for a vain reason like personal power or fame, makes an otherwise good act evil. However, a good intention does not make a bad action good or just. For example, the good intention of helping a friend on homework

does not make the bad act of cheating right. St. Thomas Aquinas summarized this idea when he said, “An evil action cannot be justified by reference to a good intention”. In other words, the end does not justify the means.

3. Circumstances

The circumstances of a action contribute to increasing or decreasing the goodness or evilness of a moral act. For example, the circumstances of stealing a candy bar from a convenience store are different than stealing a bag of oranges from a homeless street vendor. The varying circumstances do not make the action (stealing) in either case right or good, but they do increase the moral evil in the latter example. To determine the circumstances of an action, you ask questions beginning with **who, where, when, and how.**

10 Commandments (Exodus 20:2-17)

The youth were asked to memorize the 10 Commandments. Can you remember them all?

1. I, the Lord, am your God. You shall not have other gods besides me.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day.
4. Honor your father and your mother.
5. You shall not kill
6. You shall not commit adultery
7. You shall not steal
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife
10. You shall not desire anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The first three commandments are concerned with respect for God. The second commandment forbids using obscenities, which may cheapen or degrade either God's name or that of another person. The fourth commandment has to do with relationships with parents, the fifth commandment with respect for life. The sixth and ninth commandment address respect for sexuality, the seventh and tenth commandments address respect for property. The eighth commandment refers to respect for truth.

Family Activity



Look in the newspapers for stories about moral issues facing society today. Use the three criteria listed to analyze each issue. Debate your opinion. Find out what the church teaches on the issues.

Attend a civil or criminal court trial. Analyze the issues being presented based on the criteria covered in this session.

Prayer

Read and reflect on 3 John 1:11

Beloved, do not imitate evil but imitate good.

Whoever does what is good is of God; whoever does what is evil has never seen God.



Saint Margaret Mary
8th grade parent newsletter
Class #16 - Decision Making 4 - Morality and Passions
Phone 847-658-7881
Web Site: saintmargaretmary.org

The focus of this lesson is:

Feelings are a natural part of us.

Passions are good not evil, how they are expressed determine good or evil.

Love is a strong passion, look at love and sexuality.



Catechism references for this lesson is 1768, 1765

You can search on line at

<http://www.kofc.org/publications/cis/catechism/search.cfm>

Sexuality, by means of which man and woman give themselves to one another through the acts which are proper and exclusive to spouses, is not something simply biological, but concerns the innermost being of the human person as such. It is realized in a truly human way only if it is an integral part of the love by which a man and woman commit themselves totally to one another until death.

-Pope John Paul II (Familiaris consortio, #11)

Passions or feelings are emotions that can move us to act in a certain way. Of them selves passions are neither good nor evil. For example, anger is a normal human passion. There is nothing wrong with feeling angry. However, how a person handles the anger is morally significant. Cursing or physically harming another would be morally evil way of handling one's anger. Respectfully telling the person that he or she is making you angry would not be.

There is not foolproof way for making sure we always express our feelings in appropriate or good ways. But there are some things you can remember to do that can help to that end. Here are four suggestions:

1. **Relax** – before you respond in any way, take a deep breath and get hold of yourself. A rushed or anxious response is best avoided when possible.
2. **Think it over** – Ask yourself why you feel that way. Are you really angry at your friend at lunchtime, or are your feelings of anger left over from something that happened earlier in the day?
3. **Talk it over** – If you had to put your feeling into words, what would they be? If possible, express your feeling in words with someone you trust in any case, tell God how you are feeling. Have a conversation with God about what you should do.
4. **Redirect your feelings** – if you are angry, run a lap or two as a “cooling off” period before you do anything else. If you are sad, watch a funny television program or listen to a favorite song to cheer you up.
5. **Respond directly** – confront the source of your feelings. This usually means communication honestly and directly with another. If you are happy after spending time with someone on a date, tell him or her about it. If you are jealous that your best friend is spending more time with someone other than you, speak up. Just make sure to begin sentences with “I” rather than “you;” for example, say “I feel jealous when you spend time with Susan.” Remember that it's your feelings you are describing.

Love is a feeling. Love can be described and expressed in so many ways. The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines love as the “most fundamental” of feelings (# 1765). St Paul wrote that love is the greatest of all the virtues, the only virtue that lasts into eternity (1 Cor 13:13). A working definition of love is “**a strong and lasting passion that bonds people over time and space**”

There are several types of love. A basic requirement for any type of love is **self-love**. Self-love is different from conceit. It means recognizing your strengths and also accepting your weakness. Only when you have a basic love for your-self are you able to form friendships and share yourself with others.

A second type of love is **Filial Love**. This is the love you have for your parents, siblings, relatives, and friends. This is a lasting love, but not romantic.

Agapic love is a more intimate form of love. It is the self-giving love that always puts the needs of another over your own needs. Agapic love may or may not involve romance.

Romantic love involves sexual attraction and the desire to share intimacy in a physical way. At its best, it also seeks the deep personal intimacy of agapic love. At its worst, it caves in to sexual feelings that are concerned only with fulfilling one’s own physical desires.

True love in any of these forms is always concerned with doing what is best for the other person and for your self. This means not only doing what’s best for now, but also for the future. This is most likely to be a problem in romantic love. You need to answer for your-self: Does having sex mean I am doing what is best for the other person? Does having sex mean I am doing what is best for myself?



? Our Sunday Visitor web site <http://catalog.osv.com/>

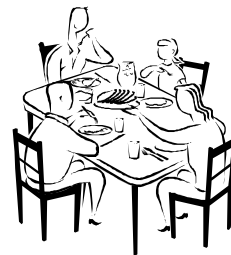
This site has some great books for parents and youth. The books range in age from preschool to teens. If you look under parenting there is a book called “Talking to youth About Sexuality, a Parents’ Guide” This is a good book for parents and youth. It is meant to open communication, and it gives straightforward answers to some hard to discuss issues. It talks about sex from a strictly catholic viewpoint. I have a few copies if you would like to look at one.

They also have wonderful book under the teen section. The topics range from morality to prayer. These book make great Christmas gifts, or to help prepare them for high school and Confirmation.

Family Activity

Watch a movie or television program that deals with a teen issue. Discuss how the emotions and responses of the main characters were portrayed.

These types of movies are great discussion starters for what is appropriate and what is not. Discuss as a family your view of love, sexual intercourse and dating.



Saint Margaret Mary
8th grade parent newsletter
Class #17 - Planning for “Focus on Prayer”
Phone 847-658-7881
Web Site: saintmargaretmary.org

During class time today, the 8th grade students planned for our “Focus on Prayer”. All classes will be given different types of prayer and will put together a presentation on their specific type of prayer. These will be presented to the other classes and to their families on the last day of faith groups.



Family Activity

Have your 8th grade youth lead your family in prayer. Talk about what each of your “prayer styles” are.

Saint Margaret Mary
8th Grade parent newsletter
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There are no parent newsletters for the following classes:

- Class #6 - Family Mass
-Meet at church
- Class #8 - Love and Appreciation Banquet
- Class #11 - Special Event
-Meet in Classrooms
- Class #14 - Reconciliation
-Meet at church
- Class #15 - Stations of the Cross
-Meet at Church
- Class #18 - Family “Focus on Prayer”

All of the above classes are Family classes. All members of the family are invited and expected to participate with their youth