

NAME: _____

Confirmation Session Four - MAKE UP PACKET

Use your YOUCAT to answer -

How would you define the following?



HABIT

An act that is repeated so frequently it becomes a natural part of one's character.

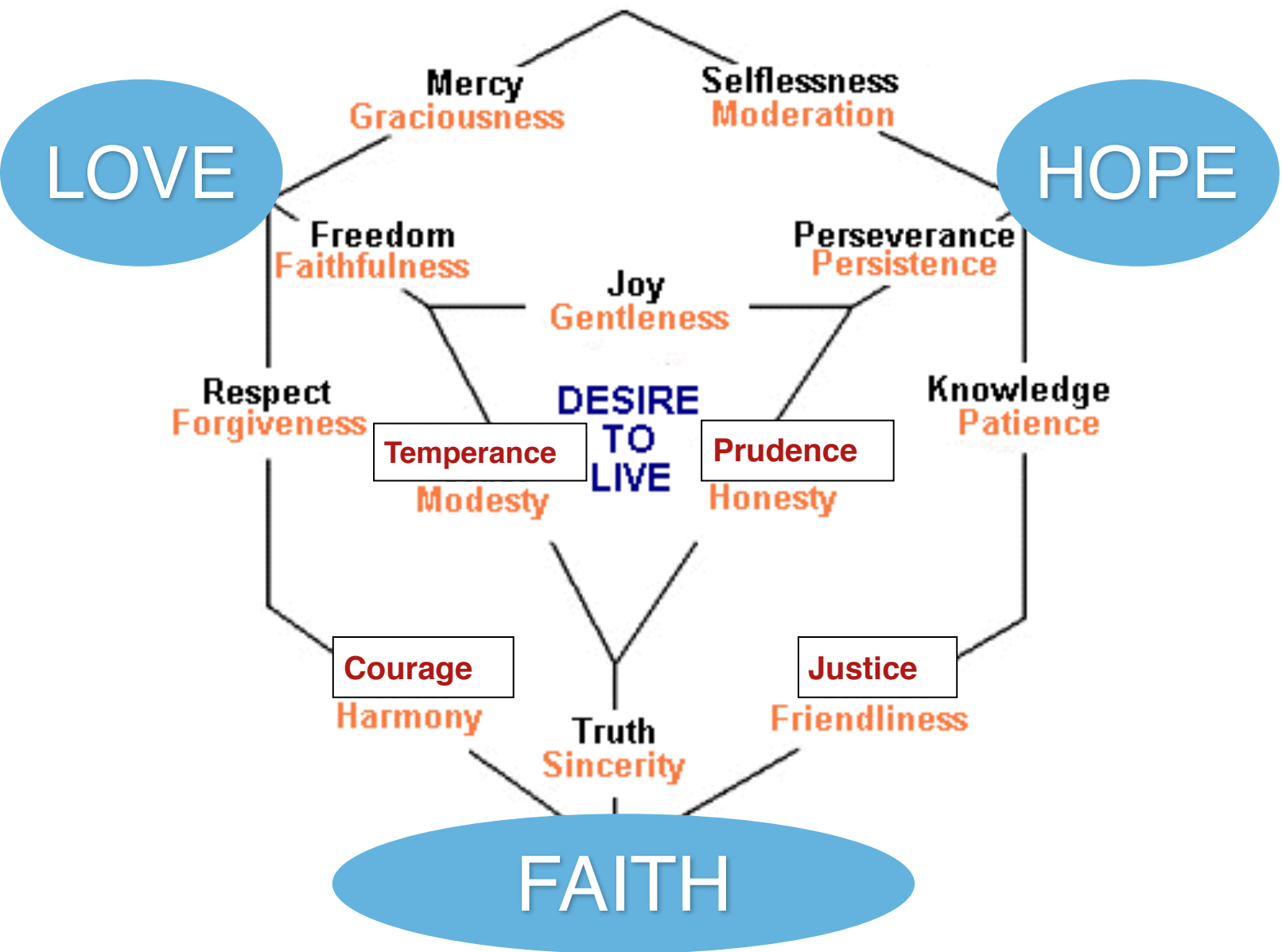
What to form Good habits, avoid bad ones

**VIRTUE
YOUCAT - 299**

VICE

If Vice is the opposite of Virtue,
how would you define it?

GRACE - YOUCAT 338,339



Theological
Virtues
(LOOK UP IN YOUCAT)

**Cardinal Virtues
(LOOK UP IN YOUCAT)**

Celebrating the Saints

The Catholic Church has recognized thousands of individuals as saints for their exceptional commitment to faith and charity.

We look to the saints as role models and leaders; we also ask for their help and guidance in our prayers.

Although the Church has named only specific people as saints, in a larger sense all of us who believe in Jesus and live virtuous lives are saints. Together we are united to God in the communion of saints, which we celebrate in the sacraments. The Eucharist especially brings all Christians into a special relationship with God and each other.

When we are united to Christ, we are able to live virtuous lives, just as the saints did. As a result Christians are set apart in three ways: First, Christians are to know that their first priority must be for things of God. Second, Christians are to live lives of holiness and good works. Third, Christians are to be confident that one day they will live with God forever.

Think of a saint whom you admire. Why do you admire that person so much? Did he or she start a religious order? How was that saint's life virtuous?

In the Communion of Saints, the living and the dead share a continuing relationship. The saints, those who are now with God in heaven, pray for the souls in purgatory and for the living. The saints pray that we may one day share the joy they now experience in heaven. We ask the saints to intercede for us before God.

We pray for those who have died as their souls are prepared to enter the presence of God. We pray for the souls in purgatory. Through our prayers, we assist them in their journey so that these souls can soon be with God in heaven.

Both the living and the dead await God's final judgment and the resurrection of the body promised by Jesus, when our souls and bodies will be reunited.



We are all called to be
saints.
Maybe one day we might be
declared a
Saint.

As the Body of Christ, the Church, we help each other to live as disciples.

When we live as disciples of Jesus and faithful members of the Church, we live as the image of God that we were created to be, giving witness to God's presence in the world. We become living examples of God's love to everyone we meet. But to live as Jesus' disciples, we always need the help and support of other disciples. We need their example, their solidarity with us, and their encouragement to carry us along. All of this comes through the Church community. In the Church as baptized witnesses and believers, we pray for and encourage one another to live the faith that we all profess.

As Saint Thomas Aquinas said, "Since all the faithful form one body, the good of each is communicated to the others. . . . But the most important member is Christ, since he is the head. . . . Therefore, the riches of Christ are communicated to all the members, through the sacraments" (CCC, 947). Through our Baptism, and in all the other sacraments, especially the Eucharist, this unity, this communion in holy things and among holy people, binds us to Jesus Christ and to one another.

The Church, from the beginning, has honored martyrs, who died heroically for their faith in Jesus Christ, and all other saints who lived lives of holiness on earth and now share in the joy of eternal life with God. Because the saints are closely united to Christ, they pray for us, constantly helping the Church to grow in holiness. Their love for the Church is great. Other holy men and women were also friends and servants of God. The lives of all these people are examples for us. Together we are all joined in the *communion of saints*, all praying for one another. The **communion of saints** is the union of all the baptized members of the Church:

"Since all the faithful form one body, the good of each is communicated to the others."

(CCC, 947)

- *on earth*—These members respond to God's grace by living a good moral life, remaining in God's friendship, and becoming role models for one another.
- *in heaven*—These members lived lives of holiness on earth and now share in the joy of eternal life with God.

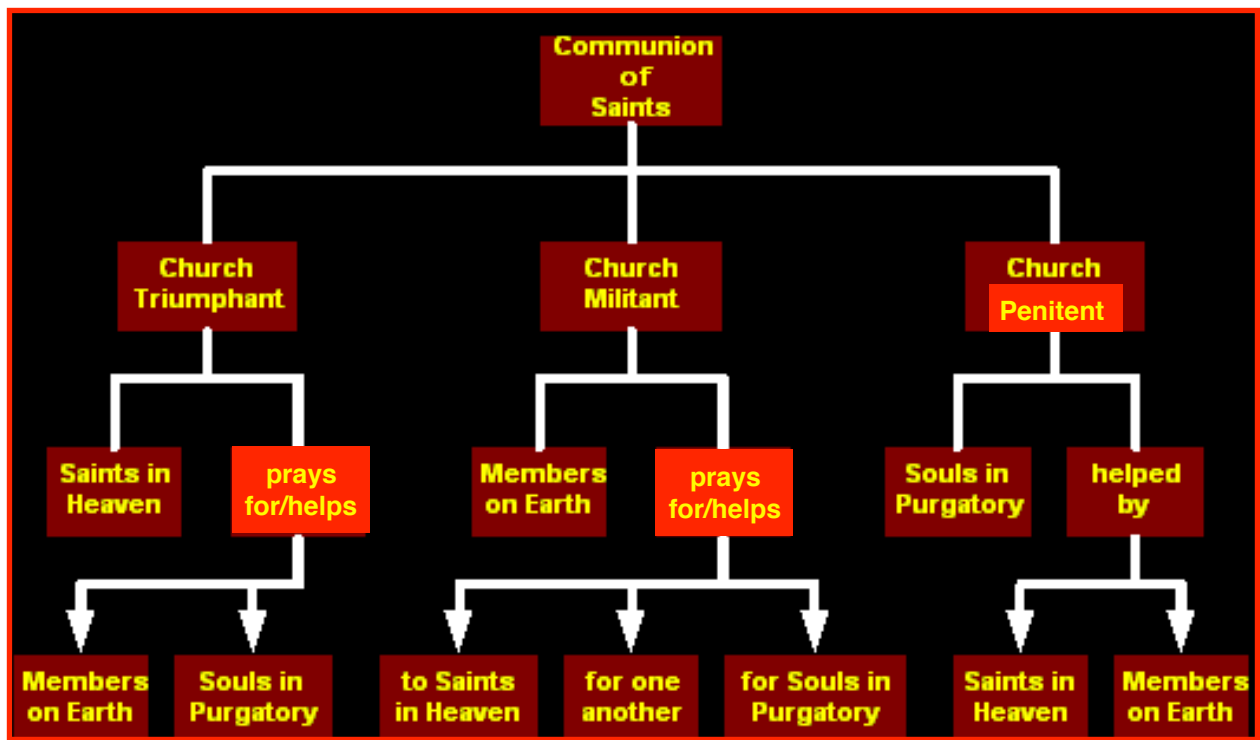


A Celebration of Saints by Brother Michael O'Neill McGrath

- *in purgatory*—These members are preparing for heaven, growing in the holiness necessary to enjoy the happiness of heaven.

Everything that each member does affects every other member. We on earth are strengthened by the example of the saints. The writings that they have left us and the prayers that they pray for us support us. We on earth also pray for one another, both for members of the Church on earth and for those in purgatory, that we may enter into eternal life with God just as the saints have done. Within the communion of saints, there is a treasury of prayers and good works, helping us to spread God's Kingdom here on earth and helping us to look forward to the fullness of the Kingdom in heaven.

Faith Word
communion of saints



Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a **cloud of witnesses**, let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith. For the sake of the joy that lay before him he endured the cross, despising its shame, and has taken his seat at the right of the throne of God. Consider how he endured such opposition from sinners, in order that you may not grow weary and lose heart. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood.

Hebrews 12:1-4

Saints are Role Models...

We don't learn about the lives of the saints just to admire the great things they did and said. We learn about them so that we can be inspired to find greatness in ourselves. God has gifted all of us with a mission that is only ours to perform in the world. If we don't discover what our gifts are or what our mission is, then the world will be missing something very important. How was this person like Jesus Christ and followed Him? How can this person be a role model for young people today?

Extraordinary Gift, Extraordinarily Ordinary

Some saints are given extraordinary gifts from God, in order to be a greater witness of Faith and to inspire people to know and love God. These include the stigmata, levitation, and martyrdom. Other Saints are "Extraordinarily Ordinary," meaning that they were regular people - just like you and me, yet they lived their lives as witnesses of faith and always worked to bring people closer to Christ. Pope Francis recently said that "**Saints aren't superheroes, they are regular people who just never left God's side after encountering him and his love,**"

No matter what gifts a saint was given, all saints are given the gift of Humility. Humility is important to those who become saints because all the work they do is focused on God—NOT to make someone famous. These people tapped into the Gifts of the Spirit and the different virtues to make God known, loved, and served,

Heroic Virtue

Heroes are people we look up to, people we want to be like. Pope Benedict XVI said that "**heroic virtue does not mean that the saint performs a type of 'gymnastics' of holiness, something that normal people do not dare to do. It means rather that in the life of a person God's presence is revealed....**"

SAINTS SCAVENGER HUNT

Look up information on the following saints.

St. Maria Goretti

Patron of and why

1 way they lived a life of heroic virtue

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati

Patron of and why

1 way they lived a life of heroic virtue

St. Andre Bessette

Patron of and why

1 way they lived a life of heroic virtue

St. Kateri Tekakwitha

Patron of and why

1 way they lived a life of heroic virtue

Confirmation Reflection #4 - DUE Session 5

Practice makes perfect and we definitely practice our habits! Virtues are a strong habit of doing what is good and Vices are a strong habit of doing what is not Good. Saints lived lives of heroic virtue!

Part 1 - Reflect on the following questions

Part 2 - Pick 3 Virtues off the diagram and complete the chart.

When asked “How” or for an example - USE A SPECIFIC EXAMPLE!!

Do not say: “I can be nice to people.” That is too vague.

Instead say: “I can remember to hold the door for people everyday.” That is specific.

How am I a saint? How do I point to Christ?

Who do I look towards for help and guidance?

How can practicing virtues help me prepare for Confirmation and beyond?

Confirmation Reflection #4 - DUE Session 5

Part 2 - Pick 3 Virtues off the diagram and complete the chart. USE A SPECIFIC EXAMPLE!!

VIRTUE and DEFINATION	HOW WILL THIS HELP YOU WITH CONFIRMATION?	HOW DID YOU USE THE VIRTUE? (1)	HOW DID YOU USE THE VIRTUE? (1)	WHAT GETS IN THE WAY?