2017 Kilbreda School Theme Activity Booklet

Courage – speaking and acting with integrity
In living our Brigidine tradition as a Kildare Ministries school, we will:

- **Be faithful** to our Catholic heritage
- **Welcome** all people, especially the most vulnerable
- **Celebrate** all that is good with joy and gratitude
- **Engender** a love of learning, hope and a sense of purpose
Activity 1: Understanding the theme ‘Courage’

- What does the theme ‘courage’ mean to you? Jot down your immediate reaction.

- List 3-4 other words, either positive or negative, you can associate with the words/idea ‘courage’ e.g. facing your fears, standing up for what is right, overcoming adversity, new challenges etc.

- What issues – either school, local, national, or international - come to mind when you think about the concept of ‘courage’? Jot down 3-4 (try to get at least 1 issue in each of the categories listed).

- What images come to mind when you reflect upon the concept ‘courage’? Sketch and/or download 3-4 images, or pictures, or symbols, you can relate to this theme, briefly giving each image a title and/or brief explanation.

- Have another look at the Kilbreda College crest and identify how the images and school motto ‘Fortiter Et Suaviter- Strength and Kindliness’ links to our school theme ‘courage’.
Activity 2: Design your own shield representing the theme ‘courage’.

With an open heart, we can discover a lot about Christian faith through reading Biblical Scripture e.g. ‘But you, O Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, and the one who lifts up my head’ (Psalm 3:3). God is a shield to those who take refuge. Incorporate designs or symbols that give expression to:

- the reality that courage is born in your heart,
- a time when you displayed courage
- how will YOU show courage in your class/homeroom/year level/whole school community? E.g. what attitudes & values will be reflected in the group? What attitudes & values will need to be avoided by you and by classmates?
- someone that you admire who has displayed courage, and
- a quote about courage that you relate to.

You will be required to share at least one element of your shield with two other students.

Use the following image to create your draft design.

"Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go"

- Joshua 1:9

Kilbreda_curriculum_7-10
Activity 3: A dinner party of courageous Christians
Select any 3 of the following Catholic/Christian people to join you for a dinner party. Write a short script as to how the conversation would flow and how each of them can teach us about faith and our theme ‘courage’.

Nano Nagle
Maximillian Kolbe
Jesus
Oscar Romero
Mum Shirl
Pope Francis
St. Brigid
Mary, the Mother of Jesus

Irene McCormick
Pope John Paul II
Helen Prejean
Jean Donovan
Mary Aikenhead
Catherine of Siena
Bishop Daniel Delany

Activity 4: Find a ‘sneaky Jesus song’
A ‘Sneaky Jesus song’ may not be a religious tune, however if you listen to the lyrics it could be mistaken for one. For example ‘Rise’ by Katy Perry lyrics’ tell the story of a person who, when facing difficult situations is able to ‘rise’ above them with the help of angelic inspiration:

I must stay conscious
Through the madness and chaos
So I call on my angles
They say,
Oh, ye of so little faith
Don’t doubt it, don’t doubt it
Victory is in your veins
You know it, you know it
And you will not negotiate
Just fight it, just fight it
And be transformed

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hdw1uKiT15c

- Write a short reflection about how Miley Cyrus’ song ‘The Climb’ can be a ‘sneaky Jesus song’ and connect to our school theme ‘courage’?

There's always gonna be another mountain
I'm always gonna wanna make it move
Always gonna be an uphill battle
Somebody's gonna have to lose
Ain't about how fast I get there
Ain't about what's waitin' on the other side

It's the climb
Keep on movin'
Keep climbin'
Keep the faith, baby
It's all about—it's all about the climb
Keep the faith, keep your faith, whoa, whoa, oh.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QFy3FJCcNTk

- Research and discover your own ‘sneaky Jesus song’ and explain how this can connect to our school theme ‘courage’.

- As a class, display the list of songs as a recommended ‘hits list’.

Kilbreda_curriculum_7-10
Activity 5: Exploring Scripture

Lk 4:1-12 (NRSV)

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please.” If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Discussion:

1. Jesus goes from a place of life giving water (the Jordan) to a place of the opposite (the desert). Where/what could be ‘the Jordan’ in our lives? What are the places of desert?

Further in Luke, Jesus says: ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has chosen me to bring good news to the poor. He has send me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed and announce that the time has come when the Lord will save his people’.

2. Who are the poor, our captives, our blind and our oppressed?

The challenge remains to really see and hear, and find the courage to act. The standard we walk past, is the standard (and the challenge) we accept.

3. Scripture search (pair/group work): - Using a bible, either a hard copy, or by googling NRSV bible, find 2 scripture passages linked to the idea ‘courage’.

Kilbreda_curriculum_7-10
• Include 1 from Hebrew scripture (the Old Testament) and 1 from Christian scripture (the New Testament).
• Jot down where it comes from (book, chapter, versus), who and what it involves, the message or point of the passage, and especially briefly explain how it links to ‘courage’.

**Activity 6: Pope Francis Message**
Find a Pope Francis quote that will help remind you to ‘speak and act with integrity’.

http://www.azquotes.com/quote/811998

**Activity 7: Prayer Table**

Prayer table - whole class activity.

Each class will be given a strip of white cloth, which can be used as a runner for the cloth on the prayer table. Search for creative ways to present your prayer cloth to fit with the theme of courage. Each girl can produce an image which can then be drawn, stapled or glued onto the cloth.

**Other additional resources:**

1. **LibGuides material to consider**: - WAITING FOR RESOURCES

Go to the RE section on the Library’s LibGuides page and in class and at home consider the wide range of material listed. If possible, for balance, review the sections listed below and say how they are linked to the ‘Courage’ theme.