

ENRICHMENT: VIRTUE

Generosity and Gratitude

Generosity is the virtue that disposes a person to give to others, especially his money, time, and effort.

Gratitude is the virtue that disposes us to give due thanks to others.

These two virtues are connected to the cardinal virtue of justice. They are next to each other because gratitude has to do with receiving gifts and generosity has to do with giving gifts. A virtuous person not only thanks those who give her gifts but also gives gifts in return.

Gratitude is a subvirtue of justice. A just person gives another what is due to him. A person who is grateful gives what is due by thanking the person for whatever he has given him. An ungrateful person offends another person by not thanking him for his gift.

We should thank God every day for the many gifts He has given us. We should be grateful for not only the physical gifts of our health, friends, and family but also the spiritual gifts, such as the sacraments and the Church. Also, it is very important to thank our parents, teachers, and leaders for their help.



A grateful person thanks his teachers.



A grateful person thanks his parents.



A grateful person thanks God.

Generosity is also a subvirtue of justice, but it goes beyond what is simply just. A just person gives others that which is already his own. But a generous person goes beyond what is simply just. She gives more out of love for the other.



A generous person gives money to the poor.



A generous person gives his life to God.



A generous person serves the Church.

Journal Reflection

Write down the names of three people you should thank this week and what you are thankful for. Write your answer on the journal page. Then spend some time writing each one of them a note. [Journal pages are available on the parent and student portals.](#)

Prayer to Grow in Virtue

Mary, may we serve God generously with our lives. Help us accept His many graces so that we may love Him at all times. Amen.