

Morality

Week 2

Large science board and pins for the moral dilemmas, put on the board

Large Heart Candle

On large pink heart

Small candles and lighter

Read 1 Cor. 12, 1-14

Lord, help us tonight to look inside ourselves and find our own special gift. We are your special children, and we are in need of your love and understanding on this journey of faith. Please help us to offer our own special gift and offer it to you tonight. We need to take up our own basin and towel in this world and encourage and support each other and all of those around us.

We also need your help in making moral decisions in our own lives and in helping others make good moral decisions.

Let us go forth tonight unafraid because you are there beside us leading and guiding us. In Jesus name we pray

Amen

As we play this song please come forward and light a candle and offer your gift and put candle on the large pink heart surrounding the large candle.

Play CD

Take up the Basin and Towel

Cecil

Gospel Reading and Reflection

Tonight we will continue on about Morality and making moral decisions.

If you look into the Bible and especially Corinthians it talks all about the problems of Jesus' day and the same problems continues on to us today.

Let us look at the Bible in Corinthians.

Let us look at some of the ways we can get help in discerning our moral compass.

1. Pray and look at Jesus' teaching.
2. Use the guidelines that our church gives to us.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

Code of Canon Law

Vatican 11 documents

The Ten Commandments

Beatitudes

Precepts of the Church

Internet. USCCB, Catholicanswers.com,
Scripture and catholic materials.

3. Talk to appropriate people, clergy, family and friends.

There are three types of decisions, clear-cut, contrary, and clouded decisions.

In our book *Path thru Catholicism*, there are three stories about the types of decisions that were made.

1. Thomas More, made his decision based on the above, his moral decision was clear cut.
2. Franz Jagsatter made his decision based on the above, his moral decision was clouded, his followed his conscience.
3. Contrary decisions are the most difficult because they usually go against church teaching or against your own conscience. Just like the catholic couple had to make a contrary decision. Jesus assures us that his church was to teach in his name, and the Holy Spirit would be with us always.

The Church teaches on two different levels: Look at page 204 in *Path thru Catholicism*.

1. Absolute Certitude, and
2. possessing less than absolute certitude.

Lets us look at forming our conscience in *Path Thru Catholicism*, page 205

In discernment of conscience we ask,

“Is this action right”?

“Is acting this way consistent with my fundamental commitment to God”?

Does it fit who I am and who I want to become as a disciple of Jesus for today?

Making moral decisions from the point of view of faith looks for the right thing to do in light of our most fundamental relationship in life, and our commitment to God.

As a people of faith we want to know what God is requiring of us, not just what the law or conventional behavior requires.

The work of conscience is to discover the call of God in each situation in order to know what God is asking of us in the here and now.

Moral discernment, then, is something more than disciplined deliberation.

It is a graced exercise of faith seeking to express itself in action.

Look at what St. Augustine wrote: *“If you believe...what you like and reject what you don't like, it is not the gospel you believe, but yourself.*

Hand out the article on

Disagreeing on Church Teaching. Please read this and we will discuss it next week.

Break.

Discuss the moral dilemmas that the class has chosen. Close with prayer.

