

HOME PROJECTS FOR FEBRUARY

PRUDENCE—making good decisions in specific circumstances

Grades Pre-K-2—Blessed Junipero Serra

1. Practice pausing to THINK before doing things this month. Is this action or word right and good to do? Is it the best thing to do?
2. Practice using I-messages at home ("I felt ____ when you ____, please ____").
3. Practice thinking out loud about decisions: What are your options? What is good about each option? What is bad about each option? What will happen if you choose this one or that one?
4. Choose a person you think is wise (parent, grandparent, older sibling, neighbor, teacher) and practice going to them once each week for advice on a tough decision.

Grades 3-5—Saint John Neumann

1. Discuss the short and long term effects of decisions. Practice thinking through long term effects when you are faced with decisions this month.
2. Discuss "ripple effect" or how your decisions affect other people's decisions and then their decisions affect still other people. Practice thinking through "ripple effects" when you are faced with decisions this month.
3. Befriend a wise neighbor or relative. Get to know the person. Ask about big decisions he or she has made in his or her life. How did he or she choose? What were the results of the decision? Ask advice of this person when you have a tough decision to make.
4. Pause to pray to the Holy Spirit before making decisions. Throughout the month, discuss whether this habit of prayer helps you.
5. Discuss the P-R-U-D-E-N-T way of addressing a problem with a peer (see below). Practice using it this month and share the results.

Grades 6-8—Saint John XXIII

1. What are your priorities in life? With a friend, write a list of your priorities in order of importance. Is there ever a situation where the order of importance changes? Think of situations where you would have to choose between two of your priorities. What would you do?
2. With a friend, discuss a big decision made recently by an authority figure (family, school, or government). How did the decision affect you and did you agree with it? Try to imagine the point of view of the person in authority and how he or she might have arrived at the decision.
3. Discuss the P-R-U-D-E-N-T way of addressing a problem with a peer (see below). Practice using it this month and share the results.

PRUDENT: *speaking privately to solve a problem*

Plan ahead what to say.

Request a private moment.

Utter a prayer.

Describe the deed.

(Maintain eye contact.)

Effect on me

Nothing. Wait for a response.

Terms

Sample:

P: Mentally go through all the steps

R: You see the person alone in the hall; ask to talk.

U: As you lead them aside, pray, "Help me, Jesus!"

D: "When you poured out my beaker in lab today...

E: ...it really embarrassed me."

N: (Pause until the other person says something.)

T: "Please don't touch my things again or I'll have to report it to the teacher."