

RESERVE The 7th virtue of a good teacher

Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God.

Opening Song Christ be beside me

1. Christ be be - side me, Christ be be - fore me, Christ be be -



hind me, king of my heart. Christ be with in me Christ be be -



low me, Christ be a - bove me, ne - ver to part



2. Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me, shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising, light of my life.

3. Christ be in all hearts thinking about me.
Christ be in all tongues telling of me.
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me,
in ears that hear me, Christ ever be.

Words: adapted from 'St Patrick's Breastplate'
by James Quinn, SJ

Music: Traditional Gaelic melody,
arranged by Una Macdonald

Reading from Brother Agathon 1785, translated by Brother Gerard Rummery 1998

Reserve is a virtue which makes us think, and act with moderation, discretion and modesty.

It consists in controlling ourselves in circumstances where we might grow angry or upset. It teaches us to regulate all our conduct so that the student may not remark anything not imitable and edifying in us. It requires us to act everywhere with due consideration for the concerns, the understanding and precautions demanded by the innocence of the children, the weakness of their age and their impressionability. A word, a gesture, a smile, a wink, can call their imagination into play, becoming for them a rich fount of unjustified conclusions, and sometimes of dangerous moral decisions in the future.

This virtue also avoids all dangerous friendships or relationships with the students.

Our response from *Proverbs 2 and 4*

Side One: If you listen to me, you will know what is right, just, and fair. You will know what you should do.

Side Two: You will become wise, and your knowledge will give you pleasure. Your insight and understanding will protect you and prevent you from doing the wrong thing.

Side One: They will keep you away from people who stir up trouble by what they say those who have abandoned a righteous life to live in the darkness of sin.

Side Two: Those who find pleasure in doing wrong and who enjoy senseless evil, unreliable people who cannot be trusted.

Side One: Be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thoughts. Never say anything that isn't true.

Side Two: Have nothing to do with lies and misleading words. Look straight ahead with honest confidence; don't hang your head in shame.

Side One: Plan carefully what you do and whatever you do will turn out right.

Side Two: Avoid evil and walk straight ahead. Don't go one step off the right way.

All: Glory be to the FatherAmen.

Pause for quiet reflection

Reading

from *Meditations 69 and 98* of John Baptist de La Salle

The profession you exercise places you under the obligation of being among people of the world everywhere, where even the least of your actions are observed. This should motivate you to be examples of all kinds of virtues.

It is particularly by your seriousness and self-control that you should seek to edify people. If they notice in you signs of levity or thoughtlessness, they will easily be scandalized, whereas if you go among them in a reserved manner, they will have a high regard for you. People will soon conclude that your inner life, too, is well controlled and that there is reason to believe that you are fit to educate your pupils in the spirit of Christianity.

Take care never to be among others without giving edification, to be so well-mannered, reserved, and self-controlled that you may be looked upon as spreading the fragrance of Jesus Christ. So act that all your exterior appearance, all your words, and all your actions may inspire virtue.

Our response

from *1 Peter 3 and 4*

Side One:

You must all have the same attitude and the same feelings; love one another as brothers and sisters, and be kind and humble with one another.

Side Two:

Do not pay back evil with evil or cursing with cursing ; instead, pay back with a blessing, because a blessing is what God promised to give you when he called you.

Side One:

Whoever wants to enjoy life and wishes to see good times, must keep from speaking evil and stop telling lies.

Side Two:

They must turn away from evil and do good; they must strive for peace with all their heart.

Side One:

Who will harm you if you are ready to do good? But even if you should suffer for doing what is right, how happy you are!

Side Two:

Do not be afraid of anyone and do not worry. But have reverence for Christ in your hearts, and honor him as Lord.

Side One:

Be ready at all times to answer anyone who asks you to explain the hope you have, but do it with gentleness and respect.

Side Two:

Keep your conscience clear. From now on you must live the rest of your earthly lives controlled by God's will and not by human desires.

All:

Glory be to the FatherAmen.

Intercessions

Closing Prayer

All: Grant me, O Lord,
to know what is worth knowing,
to love what is worth loving,
to praise what delights you most,
to value what is precious in your sight,
to hate what is offensive to you.

Do not let me judge by what I see,
nor pass sentence
according to what I hear,
but to judge rightly
between things that differ.

Amen

(Thomas a Kempis)

Closing Song Lord for tomorrow and its needs

Lord for to - mor - row and its needs I do not pray;
keep me, my God, from stain of sin, just for to day.

2. Let me both diligently work
and duly pray;
let me be kind in word and deed,
just for today.

3. Let me no wrong or idle word
unthinking say,
set thou a seal upon my lips,
just for today.

4. And if today my tide of life
should ebb away,
give me thy sacraments divine,
sweet Lord, today.

5. So, for tomorrow and its needs
I do not pray;
but keep me, guide me, love me, Lord,
just for today.

Words: Sister M. Xavier
Music: R. R. Terry (1865-1938)

Do you perform your actions without overhaste and without undue anxiety? (St. La Salle)

**St. John Baptist de La Salle, pray for us.
Live Jesus in our hearts, forever!**