

## Reflection Monday Week 32 – 2023

Love virtue and pray for true wisdom. Both wisdom and virtue will help us forgive those who have offended us, as well as those who continue to hurt us in any way. Without the strength and power of God this is impossible. Both virtue and wisdom are realities and we possess but they are only effective when put into practice, when lived. Kindness is possessed by everyone but unless kindness is shown to others, whoever they might be, it will be like wearing a badge which in itself is inanimate.

Pope Francis talks of the virtue of Peace:

*PEACE is a great and precious value, the object of our hope and the aspiration of the entire human family. As a human attitude, our hope for peace is marked by an existential tension that makes it possible for the present, with all its difficulties, to be lived and accepted if it leads towards a goal, if we can be sure of this goal, and if this goal is great enough to justify the effort of the journey.*

*Hope is thus the virtue that inspires us and keeps us moving forward, even when obstacles seem insurmountable. Our human community bears the scars of ever more devastating wars and conflicts that affect especially the poor and the vulnerable. Entire nations find it difficult to break free from the chains of exploitation and corruption that fuel hatred and violence.*

*Even today, dignity, physical integrity, freedom, including religious freedom, communal solidarity and hope in the future are denied to great numbers of men and women, young and old. Many are the innocent victims of painful humiliation and exclusion, sorrow and injustice, to say nothing of the trauma born of systematic attacks on their people and their loved ones. Every war is a form of fratricide that destroys the human family's innate vocation to brotherhood and sisterhood.*

Continue to pray and work for Peace!