

## HOME PROJECTS FOR APRIL

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JUSTICE—being fair and giving each his due

### *Grades Pre-K-2—Saint Anthony of Padua*

1. When you share things this month, take equal amounts.
2. When you have something you cannot divide, give everyone a turn without complaining.
3. Make sure the rules of the games you play are fair to everyone this month. Sometimes fair means different; if your baby brother or sister is playing, the rules should be easier for them than for you because they are new at it.

### *Grades 3-5—Saint Katharine Drexel*

1. Is there a group of people you know who are not given equal pay, opportunities, or rights? Write a letter to a government official asking for justice.
2. Estimate and add up all the expenses it costs to raise a child from birth through college (ask your parents for help). How should children respond, in justice, to the sacrifices and love of parents? How should they respond now, and how when they are older? Choose something to do this month, or write a letter to your 40-year-old self, reminding you what you owe to your parents and how you should try to repay them.
3. See #2; do a similar exercise estimating how much time a teacher gives for you in a year. What do you owe that teacher, in justice?
4. What has God given to you? Make a list. We always give to God in love, but think about what you owe Him, simply in justice. Make a list for that too. Sometimes we think we are being really generous with God, when in fact, we are barely fulfilling our duty. Ask your parents to check your answer and help you to choose something from your list to practice this month.
5. What has your country given to you? Make a list. What do you owe in return? Make a list for that too. Chose something from the second list to practice this month.

### *Grades 6-8—Saint Thomas More*

1. Research to find whether you, your family, or your school are purchasing things that are produced through acts of injustice (for example, goods produced through unjustly low wages or child labor in a foreign country). Find an alternative, and write to the manufacturers to tell them why you are no longer buying their product. (Search online for words like "boycott lists" "boycott brands" or "consumer boycott", but be a critical thinker: you can never believe everything you read and in this area there are many political or finance-driven agendas. If you read something accusing a company of unjust practices, look for a trustworthy source to validate the accusation or consult a trusted adult.)
2. Interview a lawyer or a judge. Ask why they think justice is important.
3. Interview an adult you admire. What do they think a person owes to God, family, and country?
4. Does giving each his due mean giving each the same? Practice looking for places where exceptions should be made and discreetly stand up for true justice.
5. Research the rights of a U.S. citizen. Write a letter to a government official to defend a right that you think is being violated.