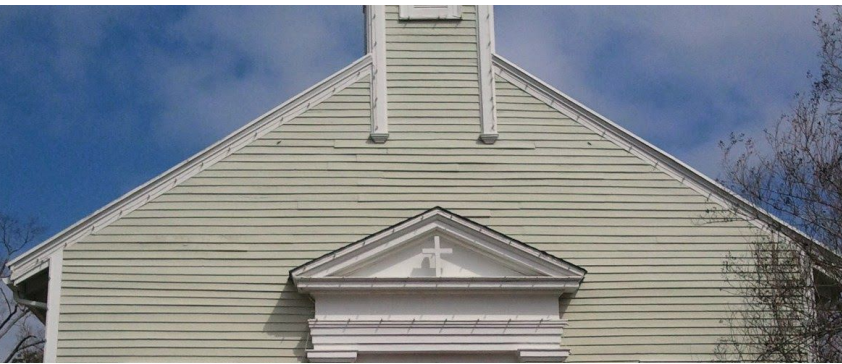


*Office of Child and Youth Protection*

# Diocese of Baton Rouge

*\*\*\* Family night is a great time to discuss the Virtues with children and young people.*

## Learn-Practice-Teach-Encourage...Justice Is the Key to Creating Safe Communities for Children



### **The Virtue of Justice**

**What is Justice?** Justice is the virtue by which we give to others that which belongs to them. Justice safeguards the rights of others, which are based upon the reality that each human person is made in the image of God. Our dignity is derived from our nature.

**Why Practice Justice?** Justice assures harmony in our relationships: family, society, work, church and others. We are equal in dignity and this dignity is deeper and richer than our ethnicity, heritage, culture, race and economic background. At the core of our being, we desire to be treated fairly and equitably. Justice is necessary in order to respect the order and dignity of societal and personal relationships.

Each person has the right to life, freedom, home and property. Each person has the right to worship God. Each person has dignity and the right to their good name. When our actions in daily life recognize and provide for these rights, we live justly.

### **Evidence that I am living in Justice every day may include...**

- I tell the truth at all times, even when it is difficult.
- I draw in others who are left out of games, conversations and plans.
- I may be tempted to cheat or steal, knowing I will not be caught, but decide to be just and honest.
- I respect the space, time and boundaries of others. I do not use others, or anything about others, for my pleasure or satisfaction.
- I repair or replace anything I break or loose.
- If I hurt someone's feelings, I ask for forgiveness.
- I am aware of, and practically concerned for, anyone who is abused, neglected, exploited or used.