

From the Desk of Miss Wilber

November 6, 2020

This week I am extremely grateful for the faculty and staff. With the murder mystery event this weekend and the first quarter ending today, we all have a lot to do. I came into this week thinking I would be straight out and maybe even overwhelmed, but instead it has been a quite peaceful week. I know the reason for that is all the hard work, initiative, and helpfulness of every member of our team. I, also, see the extra efforts of the parents. They have been helping with the daily cleaning, assisting with the event, and contributing any necessary supplies. What a testament to the value of our school community that we work so well as a team.

Our teachers and parents alike are great examples of our virtue of the month for November, civic responsibility. I am glad our students have so many positive models of how to be good citizens. While the primary reason for choosing this virtue for November was that it is election month, our civic responsibility goes beyond our responsibility of voting. Our personal responsibility and our ability to have a positive impact on society remains regardless of the results of any election.

Civic responsibility means recognizing our role in a community of persons and working together for the common good. By acknowledging the dignity of every human person, we act with love and respect toward all of our neighbors. We should view each other the way the Good Samaritan viewed the robbed and beaten man in need of mercy and assistance. This most famous parable of Jesus shows us that our civic responsibility extends beyond neighborhoods, beyond ancestry, beyond belief systems, beyond any commonality besides being created in the image and likeness of God. God is love, and we are called to receive that love and share it with those around us.

Mother Teresa was known to say that life is not about doing great things but little things with great love. From a woman who did what most would consider truly great things by serving the poor and suffering people of Calcutta and bringing much peace to the world, that statement can be confusing. I think the truth here is that great love transforms even little acts into great ones.

I think we see this at NECA on a regular basis. When a student offers a word of encouragement to a classmate or stops playing the recess game to see if the friend who tripped is okay, or when a teacher takes time after school to give extra instruction to a student having trouble grasping a new concept, we are seeing little acts performed with great love for the other. I am blessed to witness such beauty on a daily basis. I hope you are as well in your various corners of the world, in your workplaces and your homes.

Mother Teresa also taught that our impact on the world starts at home with our families. To transform our society, we need to start by transforming ourselves and our families. Therein lies the key to our civic responsibility. Let us be responsible in our own lives and in our family relationships first. That in itself will have a powerful impact on our society as a whole. A society is how its members are, so let us set about being good and faithful people in order to have a good and faithful society.

Sincerely,
Miss Wilber