

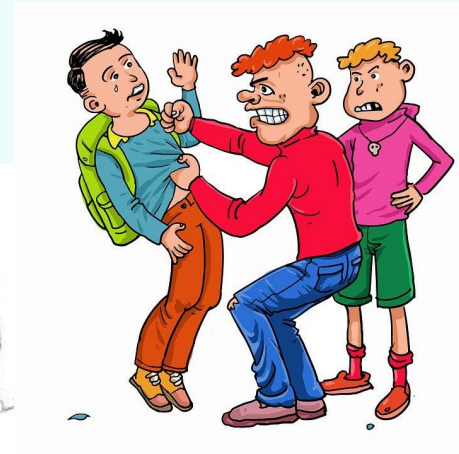
Instilling Morality in Today's World

Deacon Scott Kolbet

It is tough to be 6 and 8 and 12 and



**“2nd place
is
1st loser”**



What is the answer?

God

of course!

We're a Catholic school.

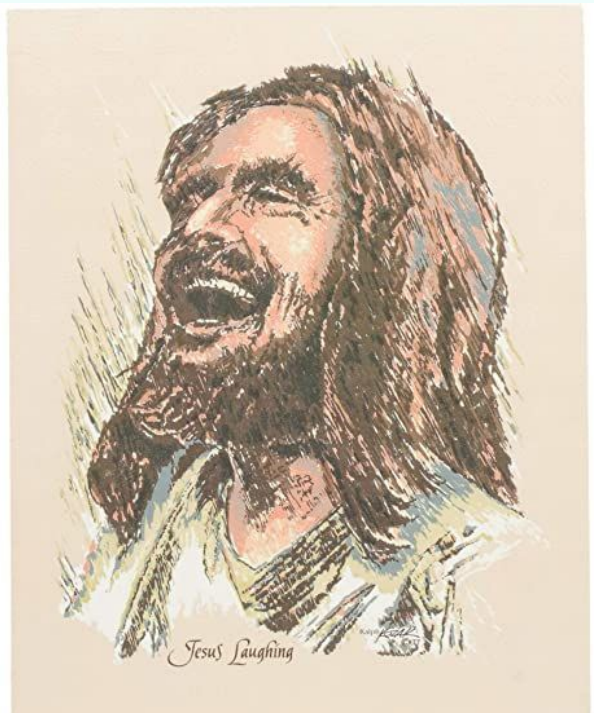
How do we instill morality?

What is morality?

Morality is not merely about rules
(Has that ever worked?)

#1 - It starts with joy!

God is joyful!



Be joyful

Joy is not the same as happy.

Joy is more of a characteristic while happiness is a feeling.

Joy is finding the good in the moment.

Joy is attractive and contagious!

Happiness in U.S. peaked in 1957.

*Yet we have more stuff and opportunities
now?*

Be joyful

Who is most joyful?

Be joyful

Who is most joyful?

Newlyweds

Why?

Have you ever argued with a joyful person?

You can't win.

#2 - It starts with proper vision

*Can a doctor prescribe a proper treatment
when wrong test results or bad x-ray?*

It starts with proper vision

God created us

God created me.

Live in God's love

How does this change how I see the world?

God created me out of love for me.

God wants me to be happy.

Look at Beatitudes - Blessed are...

The Beatitudes are a portrait of Jesus

God smiles because of me

We need to have the proper vision - look to God and his ways.

God's ways lead to joy for us.

Otherwise we are adrift (lost) or go in the wrong direction.

We need to have the proper vision - look to God and his ways.

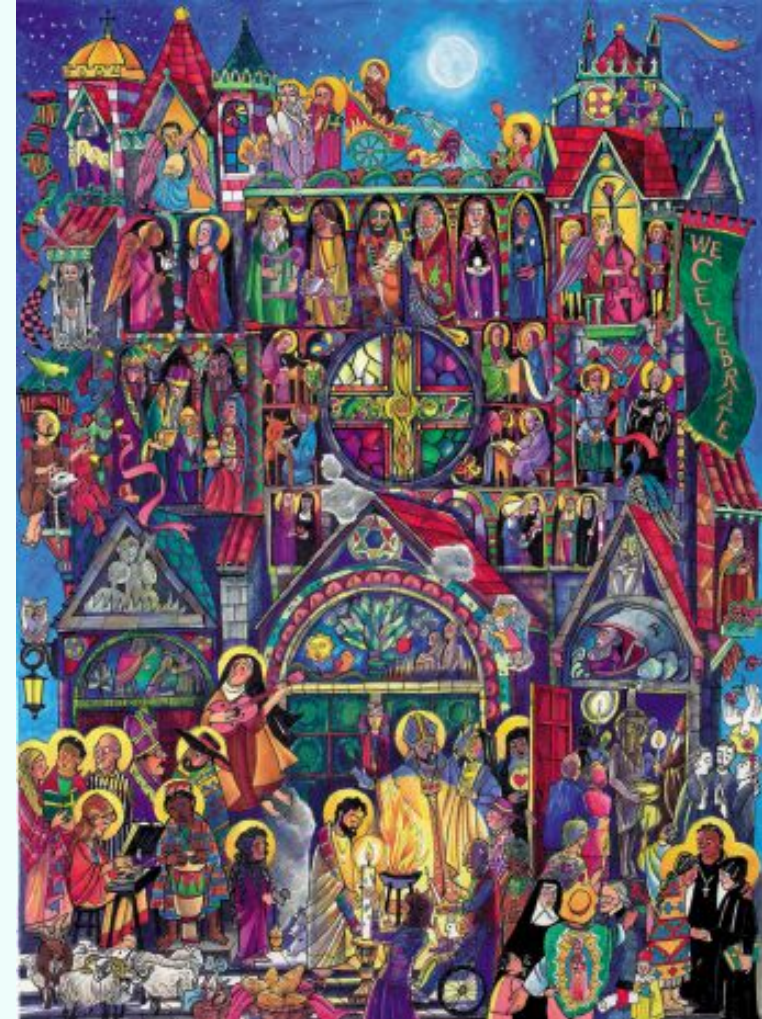
Understanding this we see everything as a gift

Proper vision leads to Gratitude

Gratitude leads to service

#3 It starts with true models

#3 It starts with true models The Saints...



#3 It starts with true models

The Saints

- are almost always joyful
- never seem to whine
- How do they do it?
- Get to know them

#4 It start with good practices and disciplines

Morality is about relationships

Starting with God and then with each other.

We can have all the money and stuff, but if your relationships are lousy, are we happy?

Morality is not rules

Rules are important! *They keep the gift.*

But when we are truly love, the rules
come automatically.

Discipline - Know God's love

Become disciples of Jesus

Take up His disciplines

Such as athletes and musicians

Because of his love for us, we love others

Know God's love

How?

First - for ourselves in order to model to our children

Prayer, Mass, Scripture

Then teach our children to do the same

How do these help me to be who God wants me to be?

Know God's love

Relationships take work and time

The same with God.

Commit 5-10 minutes a day (to begin)

#5 - It starts with correct knowledge

Know the moral teachings and **WHY**

What did we disagree with our parents
about that we now support?

*Ugh, they were right. Wisdom comes with
experience and wider vision.*

#6 - It starts with patient listening

Kids can spot baloney a mile away.

Be honest and listen. *Most ideas come out of love and desire for good.*

Go beyond the 30 second sound bite

#7 - It starts with faithful trust

Our children are learning more than they
show

*Some of what they are doing is to test us and
themselves*

#7 - It starts with faithful trust

The work is by God.

So pray for your children!

#8 - It starts with Humility and Modesty

*Especially in a world that is egotistical,
selfish and unhealthily prideful.*

Humility and Modesty

Life is not about me

My life is not about me - I'm not the center

*Not thinking less of yourself but thinking
of yourself less.*

Humility and Modesty

Holiness is attractive.

Why did people follow Mother Teresa?

Practical tips:

- Lead by example
- Mass
 - Key to keeping the faith
 - Rightly orders our lives
 - Should be celebration
- Prayer as a family - let children lead
- Praise of God - music, psalms
- Faith in the home - images, statues, etc.
- Faith daily

Practical tips:

- Faith in the Family
 - Today is Feast of St. Andrew
 - Andrew brought Peter to Jesus
 - Let's bring our children to Jesus

The Christian ideal has not been
tried and found wanting. It has
been found difficult; and left
untried.

G.K. Chesterton

Questions?

The Church proposes, she imposes nothing.

-St. John Paul II