



ARTICLE FOR PARENTS

Qualities of Successful Parents Teaching Virtue

By James Stenson

- 1.) Bear in mind: you are raising adults, not children.
- 2.) Work as a unified team: put your spouse first.
- 3.) Practice "affectionate assertiveness" with your children.
- 4.) Do not permit what you disapprove of.
- 5.) Teach them habitual courtesy, good manners toward everyone.
- 6.) Do not let the media win as rivals for your children's minds and hearts.
- 7.) Cultivate a sense of personal and family honor.
- 8.) Finally, bind family life with prayer.



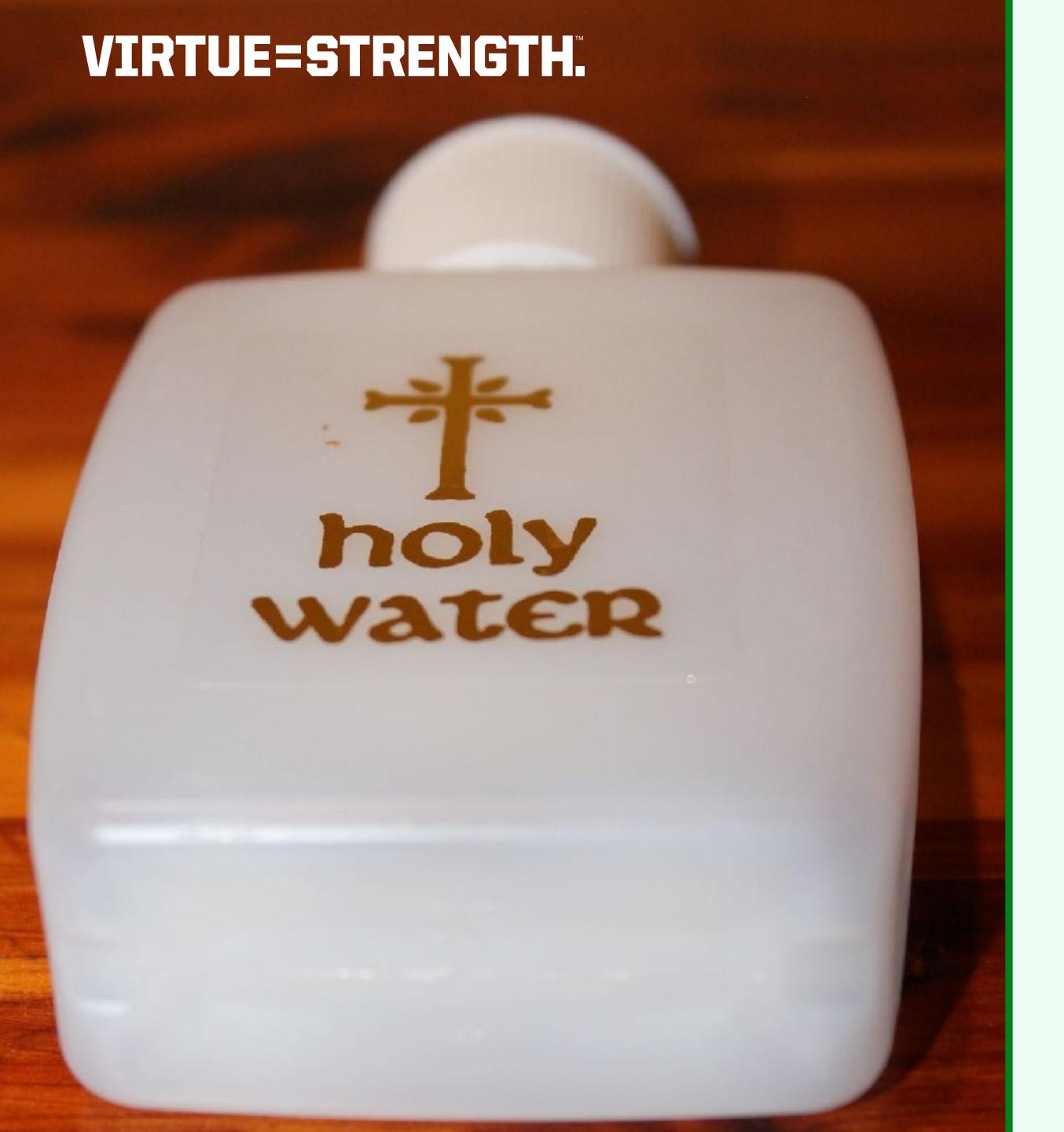
FR. MARK GORING ON VIRTUES AND VICES

Virtue only comes through patient, humble, persevering effort.

Virtue to cultivate: Make a Decision, develop a plan, work at it ... with the Grace of God.

Vice to uproot: Identify it, make a plan, work at it, day after day ... with the Grace of God.

There is no alternative to this.



RESOLUTION

Always say 'Please' and 'Thank You'.

FAMILY RESOLUTION

Parents and Guardians: Get some Blessed Holy Water and bless your spouse and children by making the Sign of the Cross on their foreheads each day.



August 16-24

The Church dedicates the month of August to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The heart of Mary is a motherly heart, a heart full of love and mercy for her children. The heart of Mary is also the channel through which all the graces of God flow down to us. She is "our life, our sweetness, and our hope."

Prayer

O Most Blessed Mother, heart of love, heart of mercy, ever listening, caring, consoling, hear our prayer. As your children, we implore your intercession with Jesus your Son. Receive with understanding and compassion the petitions we place before you today, especially... (special intention).

We are comforted in knowing your heart is ever open to those who ask for your prayer. We trust to your gentle care and intercession, those whom we love and who are sick or lonely or hurting. Help all of us, Holy Mother, to bear our burdens in this life until we may share eternal life and peace with God forever.

Amen.

