

# Catholic Values

## Christ At The Centre

To be Catholic is to hold the person of Jesus Christ at the centre of our daily life and work. Through daily prayer, reflection and the sacraments we continually strive for personal holiness, social righteousness and obedience to God.

## God And The Human Person

We love God and we love our neighbour. God is present in everyone.

Every human being is sacred, precious and of infinite worth. Everyone has equal and innate dignity.

We respect life from conception to death. We are committed to the well-being of others. We treat everyone with love, compassion, gentleness, mercy and forgiveness.

## Rights & Responsibilities

Since we live in relationship with others, we never insist on our rights at the expense of our responsibilities.

We promote and uphold the rights of others, especially those who are marginalised or who struggle to be heard. Each of us has the right to be free and to contribute to society.

We are called to do what is right, rather than simply doing what we like. We dedicate ourselves to serving others through self-discipline, hard work, steadfastness and reliability.

## The Poor & Vulnerable

If the poor are excluded, the whole of society becomes impoverished. We commit to living in relationship with people who are poor, vulnerable or marginalised, and to prioritise their interests. We work to transform systems that impoverish or exclude.

## Truth & Justice

In everything we do, we strive for truth and justice. We uphold gospel truths over all conflicting ideas and ideologies. We seek right relationships with everyone we meet and with the whole of God's creation.

## Family & Fidelity

We seek to preserve, protect and strengthen the family as the fundamental building block of society. We uphold the ideals of faithfulness and trust in all our relationships. Our word is our bond in every encounter.

### **Gifts, Talents and Humility**

The gifts, talents and attributes we have are gifts from God, for the benefit of the world. As sinners we admit that we often get things wrong. We are called to serve others in humility. Jesus humbled himself; we must do the same.

### **Judgement**

Jesus commands us not to judge others. Only God has authority to judge.

The gospels teach us good judgement in our own lives and equip us to help others do likewise.

### **Solidarity**

We are social beings who need one another. We recognise a deep bond between people that transcends family, place or country. We call this solidarity.

We are committed to the well-being of our neighbours, both near and far, including a fair distribution of goods, resources and opportunity.

### **Integral Human Development**

We seek to develop the whole person, in mind, body and spirit, involving those we serve in decisions that affect them. We empower people to realise their full potential and to determine their own future.

### **The Common Good**

Our vision of the Common Good is the shared life of a society in which everyone freely participates and has the chance to flourish. We work with our neighbours across our differences, sharing our unique gifts and talents for the well-being of each other and of all.

### **The Dignity of Work**

We dedicate our work to the glory of God and undertake it responsibly. Work is not just a way to make a living; it is intrinsically good. We stand in solidarity with all workers, helping them to resist exploitation and to benefit from decent wages, humane working conditions and a healthy work-life balance.

### **Care for Our Common Home**

God created the world as a precious gift. As stewards of His creation, it is our duty to preserve the earth's resources, natural climate and ecosystems.

We do so in the interests of humanity; especially the poor and future generations.

Our faith calls us to "live simply, that others might simply live".