

THE BEATITUDES

‘Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for
righteousness, for they will be satisfied.’

Matthew 5:6



JOHN 3

be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes
in him may have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world that
he gave his only Son, that whoever
believes in him should not perish but
have eternal life.



Gather

'Righteousness



THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU

Father,
Thank you for
your word.
Help us to
listen
And show your
love.

Amen

JOHN 3

be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes
in him may have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world that
he gave his only Son, that whoever
believes in him should not perish but
have eternal life.

Listen

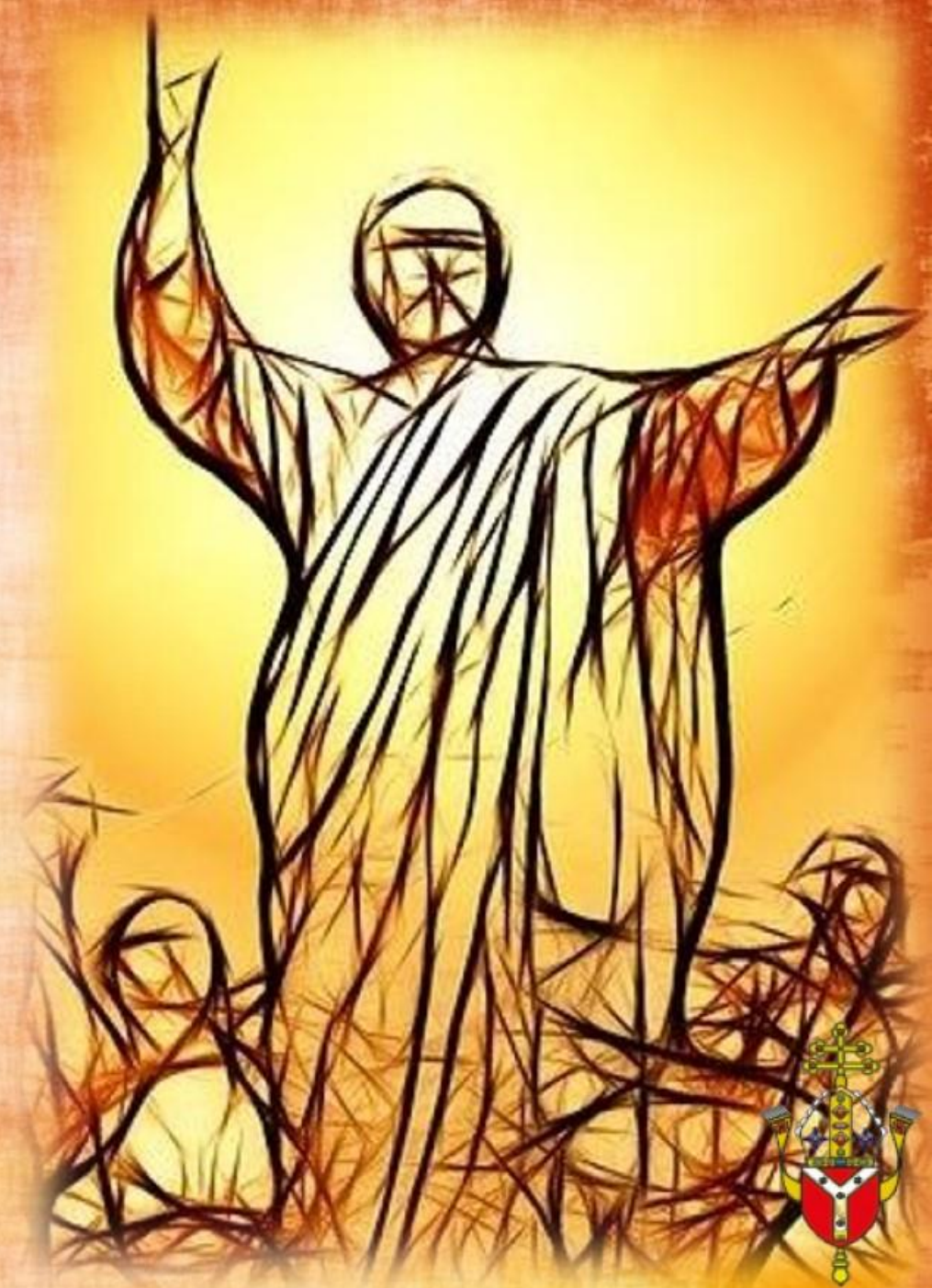
'Righteousness

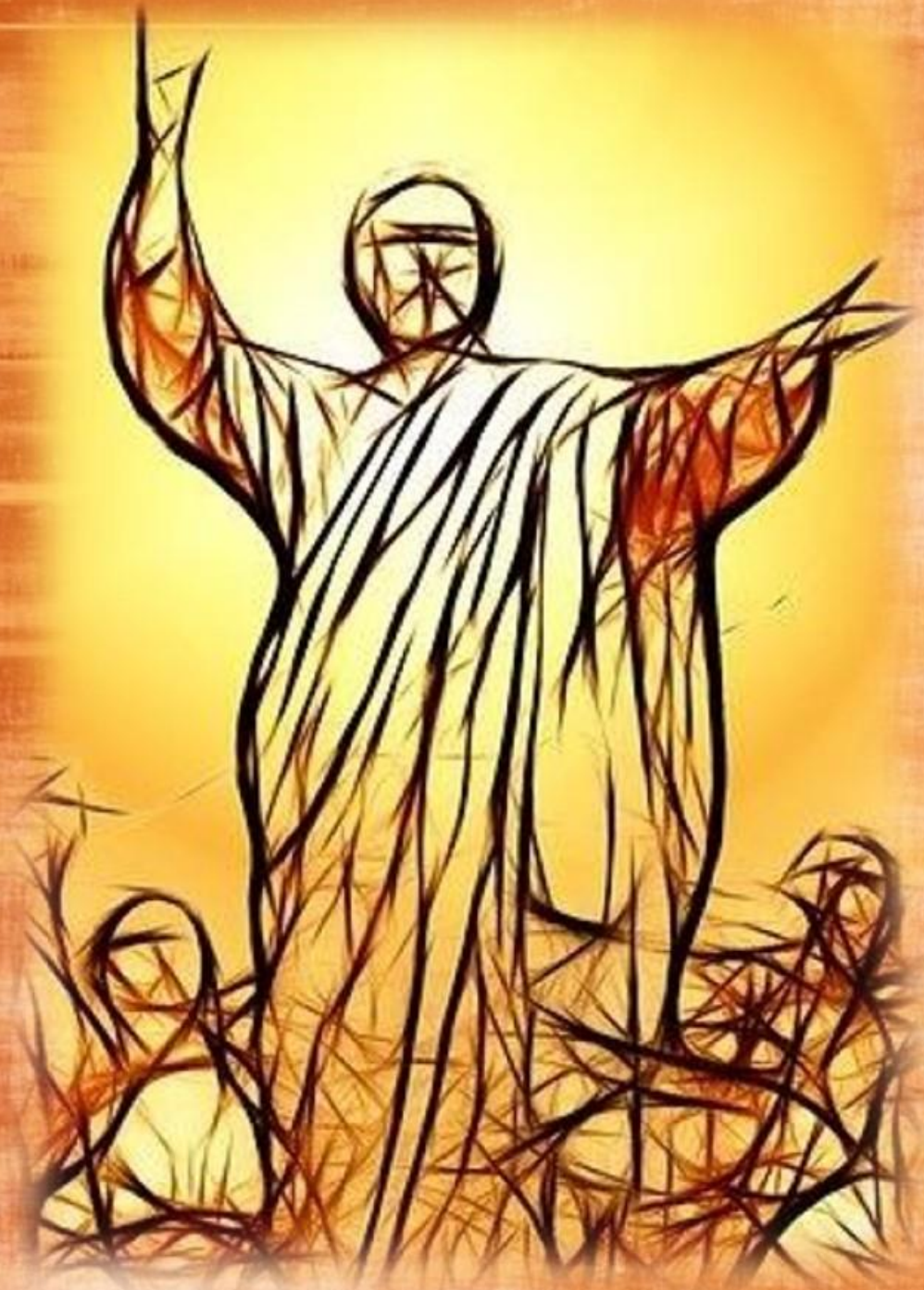


The Beatitudes

The Beatitudes are a beautiful collection of sayings by Jesus. They sum up his teaching about what it means to live as a child of God's kingdom.

They can be found right at the beginning of a long teaching discourse by Jesus in Matthew's Gospel, known as the Sermon on the Mount. One of the ways that Matthew presents Jesus is as a kind of 'new Moses.' So, just as Moses taught the people of Israel from the mountain after he had received the law, so Jesus begins his ministry by going up a mountain and teaching his disciples.





**When Jesus saw
the crowds, he
went up the
mountain; and after
he sat down, his
disciples came to
him.**

**Then he began to
speak, and taught
them, saying:**

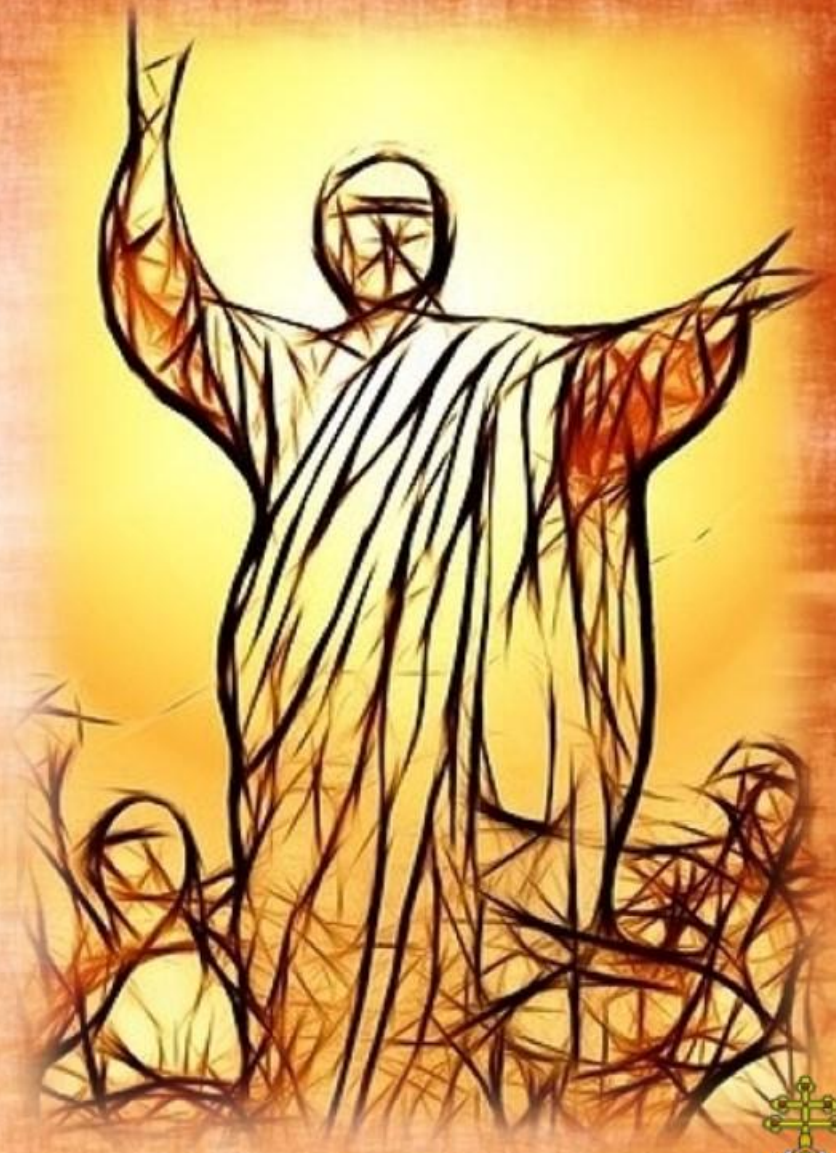


**‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is
the kingdom of heaven.**

**Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be
comforted.**

**Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the
land.**

**Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for
righteousness, for they will be satisfied.’**



‘Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

**Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.’**



The fourth beatitude tells us...

Blessed are they who are persecuted
for the sake of righteousness, for
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:10



Matthew then goes onto say:

‘You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven’

Matthew 5: 14 - 16



**‘In fact, everyone
who wants to live
a godly life in
Christ Jesus will
be persecuted.’**

2 Timothy 3:12



**But what do
you think it
means to be
'righteous'?**



What Does The Word 'Righteous' Mean In Greek?

'Dikaiosune'

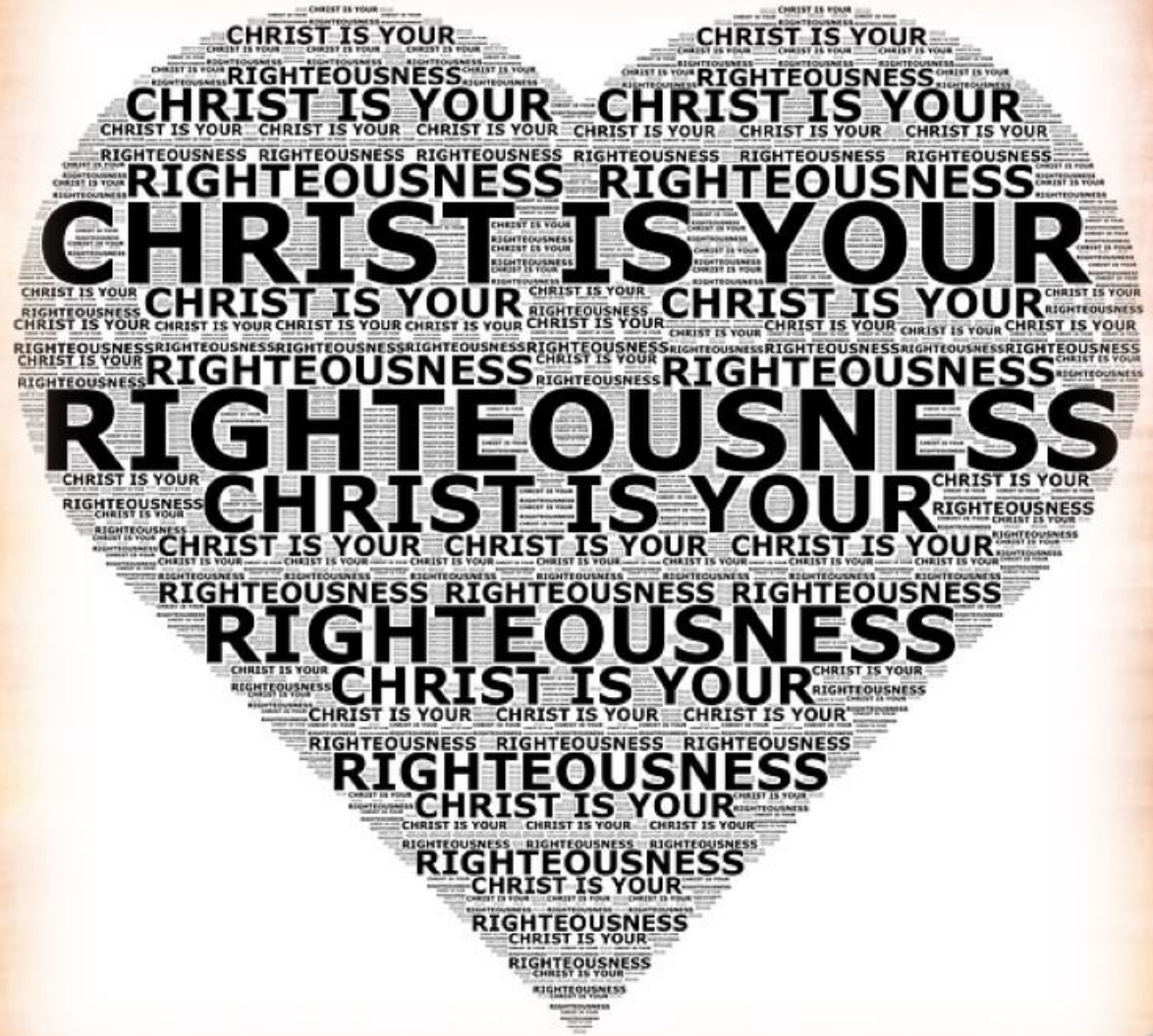
The character trait or quality of being
'just' or 'right'.

It's an attribute of God and used in the
teachings of Jesus Christ.

Also, it's the sum of all the requirements
of God.



Can you think
of any other
words which
would
describe
someone who
is **righteous**?



Conscientious

Spiritual

Honourable

Pure

Seek Justice

Ethical

Upright

Noble



Being **righteous**
means you would
live just like
God would want
you to live,
living in the
world as God
wants it to be as
our creator.



**It has to do with
God's place in the
world as well as
with the way we
are called to live
our relationships
to each other and
to the rest of
creation.**



How can we show people that we
'hunger and thirst for righteousness'?



What will help others to see
that we seek justice?





‘We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.’

St. Teresa of Calcutta



JOHN 3

be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes
in him may have eternal life.

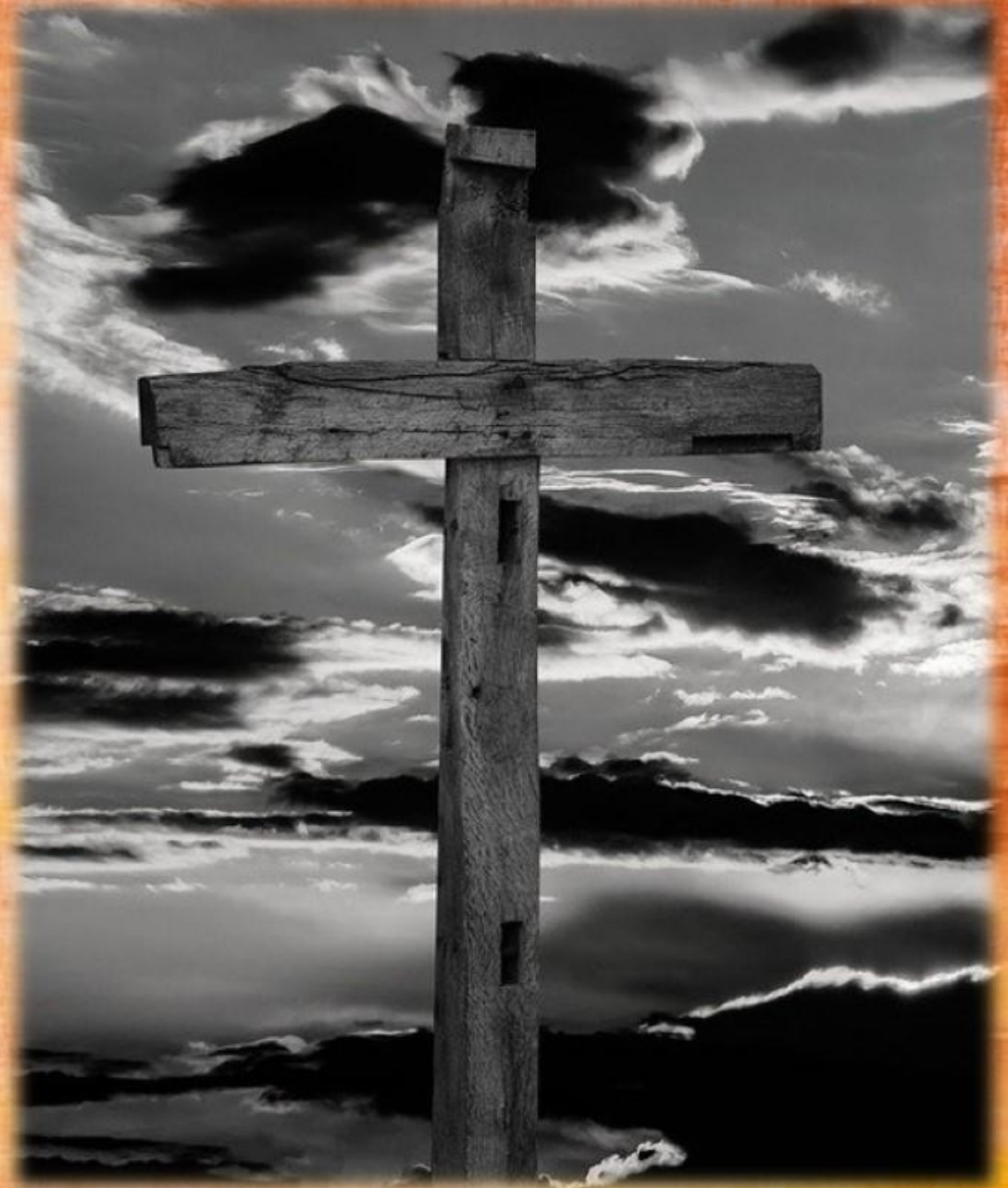
16 For God so loved the world that
he gave his only Son, that whoever
believes in him should not perish but
have eternal life.

Respond

'Righteousness



How can we show others that we are prepared to be 'persecuted for the sake of righteousness', in our daily lives?



We can show that we are prepared to be
'persecuted for the sake of righteousness' by...

- Thinking about what God would want us to do in certain situations and then acting in this way.
- **Putting the needs of others before ourselves.**
- Seeing things through other people's eyes and being thoughtful and considerate of their needs.
- **Trying to find ways in which we can show others**
- Recognising when something 'isn't right' and doing something to make it better.



If we are prepared to be 'persecuted for the sake of righteousness' we should try **NOT** to...

- Put our needs above the needs of others.
- Accept things that we know are unfair, especially in the way that people treat each other.
- Judge others and be critical of their behaviour or actions.
- Make people feel inferior or inadequate for any reason.



Prayer of St. Teresa of Calcutta

Dear Jesus,
help me to spread Thy
fragrance everywhere I
go. Flood my soul with
Thy spirit and love.
Penetrate and possess
my whole being so utterly
that all my life may only
be a radiance of Thine.





Shine through me and be so
in me that every soul I come
in contact with may feel Thy
presence in my soul.

Let them look up and see no
longer me but only Jesus.

Stay with me and then I
shall begin to shine as you
shine, so to shine as to be a
light to others.

Amen.



Pope Francis emphasises
how difficult it is to be truly
righteous:

**‘To consider ourselves
righteous is to leave
God, the only righteous
one, out in the cold.’**

Pope Francis



JOHN 3

be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes
in him may have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world that
he gave his only Son, that whoever
believes in him should not perish but
have eternal life.

Mission

'Righteousness



I am prepared to stand up for what I know is right!

- Design/Create a 'Cool to be Catholic!' poster/logo which demonstrates how we are called to stand up for what we believe in.
- During the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus told the gathered crowds that they were the 'light of the world'; how can we 'shine' for others, in home, at school and in the wider community?
- Can you think of 3 – 4 'injustices' that you have seen in your daily life; how could you help to correct these and make 'your' world a better place?
- Which charities that you might support through school/personally support victims of injustice and try to make their lives better?





**Blessed are
they who are
persecuted for
the sake of
righteousness,
for theirs is the
kingdom of
heaven.**

