Beatitudes Living: Contemplating a Way of Being Human in a Digital Civilization
21st Century Beatitude Living

• Encounter with Jesus
• Nurturing Living Faith
• Sense of Wonder & Mystery
• Radical Discipleship
• Forming Community
• Signs of Hope
• Catholic Theological Anthropology
Surfing life without an awareness of depth experiences
The Inspiration for Cultivating Beatitude Way of Life

2 Timothy 1:6-8, 9-10
“I remind you to stir into flame the gift of God... For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed of your testimony of our Lord... bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.”
Eclipse of Mystery
Immersed in a Culture of Distraction
Vibration Reflex Syndrome

Impact on a Sense of Contemplation and Silence in a Digital Civilization
What does it mean to ‘be human’ within an accelerating digital civilization?
Moral and Spiritual Compass

The *virtuous person* tends toward the good with all his sensory and spiritual powers *(CCC 1803)*
The moral virtues are acquired by human effort. They are the fruit and seed of morally good acts; they dispose all the powers of the human being for communion with divine love. (CCC 1804)
BAPTIZO
(Greek)

Repeatedly dipping into the dye!
SIN is a failure in genuine love for God and neighbor caused by a perverse attachment to certain goods. It wounds the nature of man and injures human solidarity.
Critical Reflection
Conscience Formation
Discernment

Beatitude Living
A Moral Life Flows From a Sense of

- Beatitude
- Community (Living)
- Discipleship
- Sacred Scripture
- Wisdom Community
- Liturgy
Beatitude Heroes
Integrated education is more than the acquisition of intellectual values. It is learning a lifestyle according to the Catholic School.
From STEM to STEAM

Using Brain-Compatible Strategies to Integrate the Arts

David A. Sousa  Tom Pileckii
To STREAM
What to Look For?

- Emerging Digital Milieu
- New Brain Research
- Recognizing New Learning Styles
- Re-thinking Sense of Learning Place
- Living Faith in a Digital World
- Thinking Outside the Box
Digital Civilization
- Informs us
- Forms us
- Transforms us

With Alarming Speed!
We shape our technologies and our technologies shape us!
iGeneration
Millennial iGeneration: Designers of the Digital Civilization
New Human Consciousness

Catholic Theological Anthropology
Neurobiology
Change Requires...

- Several Hours a Day
- 5 Days a Week
- Sharply Focused Attention
Medici Effect and Disruptive Innovation
Highlights of Best Practices

- Flipped Classroom
- Digital Story Telling
- Virtual Tours
- Borderless Classroom
- Digital Libraries (iPad)
- Distance Learning
Thinking Skills are Enhanced by Repeated Exposure

- Computer Games
- Digital Media
- Visual Images
- Multidimensional
- Inductive Discovery
- Attention Deployment
- Responding Faster to Stimuli
As the Brain Evolves….

Alert to the alteration of social skills and emotional context of gestures
Reflection and Critical Thinking

What could be lost?
Kingdom of God

Reign of God
Creating a Beatitude Culture

- Struggling Readers Program (UD)
- Professional Development (UD)
  - St. Remy Initiative
  - Curriculum Mapping
    (integrating the Beatitudes)
  - Study of Terra Nova Scores
- Beatitude Festival of the Arts
- Beatitude Moments
  - Parents
  - Faculty
  - Orientation
  - Urban Child Development Resource Center
- Impacting Catholic Education
  - NCEA
  - Beatitude Book
  - Piqua Convocation
  - Today’s Catholic Teacher
  - Momentum
- Beatitude Moments
- Parents
- Faculty
- Orientation
- Urban Child Development Resource Center
Creating a Beatitude Culture

Parish Community Outreach

Catechetical Environment

Ongoing Professional Beatitude Formation for Catechists and Parish Ministers

Beatitude Moments - liturgical - Groups - Sacramental - Other...

Nurturing Beatitude Families & Neighborhoods

Parish Community Outreach
The Kingdom of God is yours!
You will see God!
Blessed are the Poor in Spirit

Blessed are those who

Mourn

Blessed are the

Meek

Blessed are those who

hunger and thirst for justice...

Blessed are the Poor in Spirit

You will see God!
Blessed are the merciful
Blessed are the pure of heart
Blessed are the peacemakers
Blessed are those who are persecuted for justice sake
Blessed...people revile you and persecute you

The Kingdom of God is yours!
You will see God!
Theological Virtues
Faith
Hope
Love

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Corporal & Spiritual Works of Mercy

Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Beatitude Living
With only a little effort, all the beatitudes can be memorized.
The call to holiness requires effort and commitment to live the beatitudes. We have seen this active spirituality in the lives of countless lay persons and have listened to their stories.

(Called and Gifted for the Third Millennium – USCCB)
Curriculum
Environment (Ethos)
Moral Compass
Faith Formation
Community (intra-extra)

Beatitudes Culture
Board of Trustees

Faculty & Staff

Community (Neighborhood)

Families

Administration

Academic Excellence

Moral Integrity

Gospel Values

Beatitudes Culture

Culture of Non-Violence
The real difference is that Catholic Schools use beliefs and values of the Catholic religion as determining factors of their worldview. They communicate that basic and unifying view of life and knowledge to the students.
Therefore, essentially Catholic Schools are commitment to Social Justice.
An Example of a Beatitude School
Beatitude Grades

- Pre-K and Kindergarten – Introduction to a Beatitude Lifestyle
- Grade 1 - Blessed are the Meek
- Grade 2 - Blessed are the Pure in Heart
- Grade 3 - Blessed are the Poor in Spirit
- Grade 4 - Blessed are the Merciful
- Grade 5 - Blessed are those who Mourn
- Grade 6 - Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for Righteousness
- Grade 7 - Blessed are those who are persecuted
- Grade 8 - Blessed are the Peacemakers
Service-Learning
Annual Beatitude Festival of the Arts

- Engage the gifts, talents and community resources for advancing our Beatitude Journey
- Stimulate the Religious Imagination – students, faculty, parents, parishes and community for embracing a Beatitude Worldview
- Deepen the total community’s understanding and appreciation of ‘the meaning and direction for becoming a Beatitude learning environment and community!’
Imagination will take you everywhere, logic will get you from A to B.

- Albert Einstein
The Prophetic Imagination of Walter Brueggemann
Prophetic ministry.... is to nurture, nourish, and evoke a consciousness and perception alternative to the consciousness and perception of the dominant culture around us!
Religious Imagination

Imagination is evidence of the DIVINE
Awaken a renewed capacity to wonder, imagine and stir into flame!
...to arouse in every believer the aspiration to profess faith in fullness and with renewed conviction with confidence and hope!
Jesus’ Use of Parables

- Kingdom of God
- Discipleship
- Moral Compass
- Embracing Jesus
If you want to express the Gospel today, we need to use Symbolic Language!
We Never Did It That Way Before!

Online Adult Faith Formation
The Hidden Energy of The Good News!

Stir into Flame – Radiate Hope