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| CARITAS SUBMISSION |
| Reflection |
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| All Saints Roman Catholic Secondary School |

Candidate Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Taek time to read through each of the questions below. After a period of thought and reflection choose one set to answer. Record your answers on this page. This sheet will contribute to your final submission.

**One**

“I wish to speak of the love which God lavishes upon us and which in turn must share with others.”

So this is the commandment that he has given us, that anyone who loves God must also love his brother.”

A How does the pope’s teaching help you to understand the scripture passage from St John.

B Who do you think is your brother?

C How can you share God’s love with him/her?

D what effect do you think your love could have on him her?

**Two**

Anyone who says “ I love God and hates his brother is a liar, since a man who does not love the brother that he can see cannot love God, whom he has never seen.”

Being a Christian is not the result of an athical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.2

A what challenges might we face when trying to “love our brother”?

B Could it be difficult? Why?

C By loving our neighbour we are loving God. Do you love everyone as you love God?

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On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

 “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”

 He answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’[a]; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’[b]”

 “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

 But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbour?”

In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii[c] and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

“Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

 The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

Complete **One** question from the following

**Three**

“Anyone who needs me and whom I can help is my neighbour.”

“ Love of neighbour is a path that leads to the encounter with God……closing our eyes to our neighbour also blinds us to God.

A How does the parable of the Good Samaritan help us to understand these words of the Pope”

**Four**

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, “ Love your neighbour as yourself.”

Jesus told him, “ Go and do likewise.”

A How do the Pope’s words from this gathering point help you to understand more fully the parable of the Good Samaritan.?

**Five**

“In God and with God I love the person whom I do not like or even know.”

A How can you show love for the person you do not like or know?

B Why would you love someone you do not like or know?

“ love grows through love…”

C What does this mean for you?

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**The Believers Share Their Possessions**

 All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

***St Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians***

If I speak in the tongues[a] of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love**.**

**Six**

“Love is never “ finished and complete…”

“For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put is at the apostles feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.”

“ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.”

A How do the words of the Pope connect with these two scripture passages?

**Seven**

“ There will never be a time where the charity of each individual Christian is unnecessary?

“ And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them”

A What needs do people have in our world today?

B How can love meet those needs?

C What do you think the Pope means when he says “ There will never be a time where the charity of each individual Christian is unnecessary”?

**Eight**

“ When I was a child I talked like a child, I thought like a child. I reasoned like a child. When I became a man I put the ways of childhood behind me.”

A In what ways have your knowledge and understanding of love matured?

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Think back over the last week. Record one moment where you remember being aware of making a decision to be a witness of God’s love to others through your words actions or gestures.

Look back at the words you used to describe Caritas in the journal for Gathering point 1 and 2. Having completed another Gathering point add any other words that you would use to explain Caritas.

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**Helpful Quotes**

Love is possible, and we are able to practise it because we are created in the image of God. To experience love and in this way to cause the light of God to enter into the world—this is the invitation I would like to extend with the present Encyclical.”

The human person finds his perfection "in seeking and loving what is true and good.”

“We are not some casual and meaningless product of evolution. Each of us is the result of a thought of God.”

My dear young friends, I want to invite you to "dare to love". Do not desire anything less for your life than a love that is strong and beautiful and that is capable of making the whole of your existence a joyful undertaking of giving yourselves as a gift to God and your brothers and sisters, in imitation of the One who vanquished hatred and death for ever through love (cf. Rev 5:13).

Love is the only force capable of changing the heart of the human person and of all humanity, by making fruitful the relations between men and women, between rich and poor, between cultures and civilizations. (Message for the 22nd World Youth Day: Palm Sunday, 1 April 2007)”

Anyone who knows he is loved is in turn prompted to love. It is the Lord himself, who loved us first, who asks us to place at the centre of our lives love for him and for the people he has loved.

One who has hope lives differently.”

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:4–8a

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.

1 John 4:8

Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

"And Jesus said unto them ... , "If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible to you."