

# Reflections on Honesty



*“Stop lying to one another, since you have taken off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed, for knowledge, in the image of its creator.”* COLOSSIANS 3:9-10

Telling the truth is not only a matter of not telling lies. It is also speaking in a “renewed” way, with the mind and heart of Christ. How will you speak the truth of your faith in Jesus Christ today?

*“We ask for grace so that we and the entire Church may convert from the crime of gossip to love, to humility, to meekness, to docility, to the generosity of love towards our neighbor.”* POPE FRANCIS

In calling gossip a “crime”, Pope Francis stressed the seriousness of spreading slander and rumors about others. Make a conscious choice to choose speech that is kind, charitable, and generous to and about others.



*“Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.”* MATTHEW 22:21

Jesus taught the importance of paying what is due to both state and to God. How will your efforts at honesty be ones in which you act with integrity, both by contributing to the wider community and to giving what you owe to God?



*“Honesty and transparency make you vulnerable. Be honest and transparent anyway.”* BLESSED MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA

It is perhaps most challenging to be honest with ourselves. When we cease feeding the ego through self-inflation or self-loathing, we tap into our “true selves.” In such a way we open our hearts to one another and to the mercy of God.

