**10 Gospel Values for Catholic Schools**

* **Compassion**, kindness, service of neighbour

“When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her.” (7:13), Good Samaritan (10:36)

* **Non-violence**, gentleness

“If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also.” (6:29) Samaritan Village (9:54)

* **Justice**, action against corruption and oppression

“And will not God grant justice…” (18: 7) The Parable of the Ten Pounds (19: 11-26)

* **Integrity**, honesty, truth-telling –

“You will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify.” (21: 12-13) “Now you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup” (11:39)

* **Simplicity**, non-attachment to wealth

“You cannot serve God and wealth.” (16:13), “Do not worry about your life.” (12:22)

* **Humility**, lack of ego, disinterest in status, dependence on God

“God be merciful to me a sinner.” (18:13) “I am among you as one who serves.” (22:27)

* **Preferential option for the lost and the least**

“The Son of man came to seek out and save the lost.” (19:10) “I have found my sheep…” (15:6)

* **Love**, generosity, magnanimity

“Love your enemies.” (6:27), “This is my body given for you.” (21:19)

* **Forgiveness**, reconciliation

“Her sins, which were many, have been forgiven.” (7:47) “Father, forgive them…” (23:24)

* **Hope**, resilience, perseverance

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.” (24:52)

**8 Signs of a Gospel-Inspired School**

* **Inspired by a supernatural vision** – We do God! – the transcendent - God’s creation as graced and good/sacramental imagination/dignity of person – ‘sacred grandeur’ - in conversation with Abba/Father
* **Jesus Christ as the foundation** – Jesus the vulnerable name for God/revelation of the “inner most being of God”/A New Law/Reign of God/Gospel values as ‘the hope for the world’
* **Spirituality of Communion** – seeing others with graced eyes/Catholic community – experience of Church/prayer
* **Curriculum of the head, heart and hands** – rounded education, enrichment, critical intelligence, beyond the ‘cult of educational measurement’ (Grace, 2013)
* **Preferential option for the last, the lost, the least** a priority in the school – mission of Jesus - “first and foremost the Church offers her educational service to the poor…”
* **Social justice and transformation** – understanding power structures, oppression in all forms, inequality, injustice/critique and challenge/the common good – call to transform world
* **Commitment to vocation** – young as called and gifted – “life as a service to God’s call” (ET&T)/developing talents of young for transformation of world/accompaniment
* **Gospel-inspired leadership** – faith leaders/personal witness/stewardship/vision/development of others/accountability/excellence

**8 Signs of Gospel-Inspired Leadership**

* **Personal formation/inner conversion** – daily encounter with Christ – faith leader, ‘practising Catholic’ means being a mystic - bear fruit, gifts of the Spirit = **mission integrity**
* **Connected to the Church** – local, national and international -education documents from Bishops’ conference, Vatican
* **Articulate the vision** – prophetic voice – ambassadors for Christ - public witness - mission review – what is your vision for Catholic education?
* **Outward-facing** – compassion for world - community-minded, reading signs of times, ‘conduit’ for what is good e.g. growth mind-sets
* **Gospel stewardship** – resources allocated as befits Catholic school – money and time - where is your treasure?
* **Servant leader** – persuasion not power – not lording it over them – visibility and availability - formation and development of others
* **Think well** and name reality with courage – **accountability –** not a doormat!
* **Commitment to excellence** and standards – canon 806 – education for social justice and transformation