

## La Consolacion College Bacolod

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## INTEGRATION OF CATHOLIC AUGUSTINIAN AND MARIAN ETHOS

**The Augustinian education core values: Caritas, Unitas, Veritas as explained by the Augustinians of the Midwest**

(SOURCE: <https://www.midwestaugustinians.org/augustinian-values-institute>)

Note: This document has been lifted in toto from the Augustinians of the Midwest Values Institute.

### **Caritas (Love)**

#### ***Union with God through Love***

The great commandment of Christ is to love God and to love neighbor. God is love. The school community and relationships within it are a special place where this love finds expression.

More than any one word can express (be it love, concern, devotion, compassion, caring), “caritas” is that impulse of the Spirit of Jesus that is expressed in hundreds of kind and gracious ways.

It is “active friendship” that encompasses both love of God and neighbor. It is when the head and heart move into action, often with sacrifice, for the good of another or a community.

#### **Markers of the presence of the value, what does “Caritas” look like?**

- Being a friend.
- Loving deeds.
- Service to the community.
- Care for the common good.
- Sharing of goods, information, resources, talents.
- Personal interest and support of one another.
- Bearing shared burdens and responsibilities.

### **Unitas (Unity, Community)**

#### ***Union with God and Others in the School Faith Community***

The Christian understanding of being one with one another is based on our common origin in creation by God and re-creation in Christ.

In the words of Paul, we are one body. With the Church, we attempt to renew the experience of the early Christian community where “the community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common.” (Acts 5:32)

The relationships within the community are nourished by the oneness of Christ with each of us and His presence in the community.

Markers of the presence of the value, what does UNITAS look like:

- Eagerness to serve the common good
- Respect for one another, our diversity, and our talents
- Shared identity and membership
- Welcoming and lasting friendships
- Expressions of unity in community gatherings (e.g. Mass, assemblies, rallies)
- Realization of the universality of the Church and awareness of being members of a global community
- Shared common experiences in short, studies, and service.

## **Veritas (Truth)**

### ***The Search for God through the Pursuit of Truth***

We are rooted in the truth about ourselves, we are aware that God is the source of all truth. With faith and reason, like two great wings, we fly to Truth.

Augustine insists that we are to “teach the truth in love.”

### **Markers of the presence of the value, what does “Veritas” look like?**

- To tell the truth
- To search for truth in friendships
- To be serious about the hard work, self discipline, and self-awareness that honest study requires
- To know Him who is Truth Incarnate, Jesus Christ, and His saving message
- To know one’s worth as a child of God and the transcendent dignity of every human person
- To explore energetically the physical world and the world of ideas with an openness to the goodness of beauty and reality
- To be able to think in an orderly and critical fashion and to express one’s thoughts clearly and with grace