



Philosophy of the Laity

The mission statement of Kingswood Academy says, “**Kingswood Academy adheres to the teaching of the Catholic Church and emphasizes the philosophy of the laity.**”

Kingswood Academy is a school which was founded on the principles of St. Josemaria Escrivá and which has the “flavor” of Opus Dei. Opus Dei, in Latin means, "the Work of God," and is classified as a "Personal Prelature" in the Catholic Church.

St. Josemaria explained that work, family life, and other ordinary activities are occasions for spiritual union with Jesus. Work done well is an offering to God. He insisted that the real work of bringing the Gospel to the world is to be carried out by laypeople through their secular occupations, meaning that one can find God through the practice of law, engineering, medicine, by picking up the garbage, or by delivering the mail, if one brings to that work the proper Christian spirit.

At Kingswood, our students experience the philosophy of the laity in various ways.

Unity of life- Living our religion in all places and at all times. St Josemaría explained that Christians working in the world should not live “a kind of double life. On the one hand, an interior life, a life of union with God; and on the other, a separate and distinct professional, social and family life.”

Divine filiation. The Christian is a child of God by virtue of Baptism. Opus Dei seeks to foster among the Christian faithful, a deep awareness of their being children of God, and helps them act accordingly.

Ordinary life. During ordinary, daily activities, the students are encouraged and learn to do their best because of their love for God. All of our activities are opportunities for dealing with and imitating Jesus, trying to practice charity, patience, humility, diligence, integrity, cheerfulness and all the other human and Christian virtues.

Sanctifying work. The students learn to offer up their work as a gift to God in order to sanctify their lives. Sanctifying work means to work with the spirit of Jesus Christ, to work competently and ethically, with the aim of loving God and serving others. In the eyes of God what matters is the love that is put into work, not its human success.

Prayer and sacrifice. Through simple acts of piety, the students grow closer to Our Lord and the Blessed Mother.