

“Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it”
Proverbs 22:6 NIV

This month is usually thought of as the end of the school year, even though colleges have graduations at the end of May, Graduation conveys to us a “completion” of some body of knowledge that the individual will take, and maybe use, either to the next level of training or for a life skill. It is also an important event because we know how important education is for folk in this world.

There is another side to “education” though, and it is one we either neglect or take for granted; that of Christian Education. Have we taken advantage of the opportunities God places to learn and grow in the faith? In our earlier days, did we want to just “get through” “Sunday School” and perhaps confirmation? Even if we make it a family priority, what “unspoken messages” are our children getting from us as we insist they go on Sundays?

Christian Education can inform both the moral and ethical decisions one can make in life, in formation of being good citizens in the community, and in the way we treat our fellow human beings. It also can open up the door a place for a deep relationship with God in life, which can fill a very special place in life that other more destructive things sometimes fill.

There are no guarantees that all of this will always happen, but look at the state of the world today. The comment is often made: “I’m going to let my children decide for themselves when they grow up what they will be.” But what will they base that “decision” on? Better that they have the “tools” from Christian Education which at the end of day is based on love of God and neighbor.

The writer of proverbs makes a good point. We might not see it “rub off” on an individual right away, but if we do are part, someday God, who is faithful will do the rest.

May your week be blessed!

Pr. John Van Haneghan