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In our communities we have a number of authoritative figures to help us work together. As we grow up we can find ways to contribute to society and make the world we live in a better place. This could include speaking out about things that are unjust, locally, nationally and globally (link to CAFOD: www.cafod.org.uk / www.missio.org.uk and current issues in the media etc.)

1 Questions to consider

- 1) Is there more to courtesy and manners than saying 'please' and 'thank you'?
- 2) In what ways is being polite and courteous helping to make a better world to live in?
- 3) How would you ensure that you have a part to play in keeping yourself and others in your family and community safe?
- 4) How do authority figures help communities and societies work together better?
- 5) How should we include everyone and celebrate each others' differences in school, home and in communities?

2 Possible activities

- 1) Add or adapt St Paul's Letter to the Colossians giving advice on how we can make society better.
- 2) 'Manners makes the man/woman' – manners makes me. Give examples in word and action on how we do this to make a better world for everybody.
- 3) Create a poster showing that bullying, teasing and unkindness do not contribute to the upbuilding of communities or promote positive mental health and well-being.
- 4) Create a leaflet/ information booklet on the people in your community that you could go to for help and how you would contact them.

3 Pause and reflect

Gathering music

We are made in the image and likeness of God and so we ask for the strength to respect and accept each other as we make the Sign of the Cross reverently.

"In the name of the Father,
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen"

We light a candle to welcome the presence of Jesus among us and prepare to listen to a short extract from: *Psalm 23:5*

You welcome me as an honoured guest.

Ponder: What does this text mean to me?
What does this text mean to us?

4 Prayer

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can and wisdom to know the difference. Amen.

5 Sing

'Do not be afraid'

[Celebration Hymnal for Everyone]