



## COMPASSION

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### **The Value of Compassion**

In the story about the 'good' Samaritan in the Gospel of Luke in the Christian bible (Luke 10:25-37) we are taught the meaning of compassion. A person who endures great suffering, is saved by the compassionate action from a person they least expected it. Jesus tells the listeners to go and do likewise.

The Franciscan value of compassion at St Francis College means that in all circumstances we respect the dignity of each person; that we offer hospitality, kindness and friendship to all whom we encounter in our day. This is indeed a challenging idea.

Writing to his brothers later in life, St Francis of Assisi wrote, "Whoever may come to us, whether a friend or a foe, a thief or a robber, let him be kindly received." With gentle courtesy and touching simplicity, St Francis and St Clare embraced every living thing as a reflection of the Creator.