

Introducing...

CLASSICAL CONFLUENCE

Con'flu-ence (kŏn'flōō-ěns ; 86), n. 1. A flowing together; a junction of streams, or the stream or body so formed; a place of meeting. 2. Act of flocking, or coming together; concourse: as . vast confluence of people.



Classical Confluence is TRCA's new gathering of resources and recommendations from our board members and administration. We'll share podcast recommendations, thought-provoking quotes, and great tools for your family. We'll have coffee and conversations around great books. There may even be a TRCA podcast in store! And you thought it was only a brewery.

with firm conviction that Your will governs all. In all my deeds and words, guide my thoughts and feelings. In unforeseen events, let me not forget that all are sent by You. Teach me to act firmly and wisely, without embittering and embarrassing others. Give me strength to bear the fatigue of the coming day with all that it shall bring. Direct my will, teach me to pray, pray You Yourself in me. Amen.

~ Prayer of St. Philaret

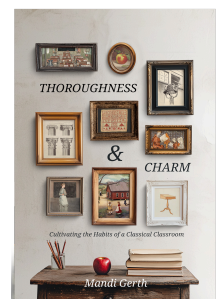
HOME DAY PRAYER

How do you begin your home day? Here's an idea from one TRCA mom. Her family begins with a brief family meeting; scripture is read, catechism recited and they end reciting a prayer together. She chooses one prayer per quarter.

Oh Lord, grant me to meet the coming day in peace. Help me in all things to rely upon Your holy will. In every hour of the day, reveal Your will to me. Bless my dealing with all who surround me. Teach me to treat all that comes to me throughout the day with peace of soul and

FROM THE BOOKSHELF

We have been enjoying [*Thoroughness and Charm: Cultivating the Habits of a Classical Classroom*](#) by Mandi Gerth. The beauty of this book is that Mandi writes as a real life teacher and mom in a collaborative model classical school.



A FAMILY HYMN

Abide With Me

Henry Francis Lyte (1847)

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away.
Change and decay in all around I see.
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour.
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like thyself my guide and strength can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless,
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes.
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

FURTHER UP! FURTHER IN!

This month's resource recommendations is [Focus on the Family Radio Theatre - The Chronicles of Narnia](#).

Every TRCA scholar should grow up in Narnia. One of the best ways to immerse yourself in Narnia besides the books is the Radio Theatre versions. Though only slightly abbreviated, they are true to the books—unlike the movies. They are fully dramatized and keep the attention of kids of all ages. You wouldn't want to know how often I've listened to them.

I have two recommendations when you get these. First, I personally recommend buying and downloading CD tracks rather than buying digital downloads. The CDs have multiple tracks per disc rather than 70 minute

tracks on iTunes. Second, turn the volume up! Experience them like a movie—don't just hear them. When you are finished with Narnia, I recommend nearly all of the FOFRT productions. My other favorite radio theatres are *Les Miserables*, *Ben Hur*, and *The Screwtape Letters*. - Mr. Dietrich

CLASSROOM: JAIL OR FREEDOM?

From [Joshua Gibbs, Director of the Classical Training Institute](#), June 2025.

"Compulsory learning never remains long in the mind," says Socrates, and teachers know he's right. But there's hope.



You can't force someone to learn anything they don't want to learn—or you can force them to “learn” it for a test, but you can't force them to remember it for more than a few minutes after classes let out for the summer.

Here's the thing: if parents govern their homes well, school won't feel compulsory. Parents determine whether school feels like jail or freedom.

School will feel like jail if there are no chores to be done at home, no rules about made beds and clean rooms, no letters written to grandparents, no good books read, no engaging discussions over dinner.

When home life is nothing but unstructured screen time and sports (and bad manners), school will seem like a federal penitentiary—and none of the “learning” will stick.

To a great extent, home life determines whether school life matters or not.

If parents govern their homes well, school will feel real, and their kids will learn for life

Photos from our Upper School Retreat

Do you have TRCA photos that you'd like to share? Please send them to [Mr. Dietrich!](#)

