

Sacred Heart RC Primary School

The Sacred Heart Standard

WESTHOUGHTON

www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk

office@sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk

01942 634681

Executive Headteacher: Mr. M Johnson | Deputy Headteacher: Mrs. S Bridge

Friday 28th February 2025

Dear parents and families,

LENTEN TERM

The Sacred Heart Standard

On Monday, in our Like Jesus Gospel Celebration of the Word, we listened to Luke's recount of the Sermon on the Plain where Jesus makes clear the way to follow him – by prioritising those most vulnerable. He tells us, 'Do for others just what you want them to do for you'; and to 'Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.' Our questions this week: **What will you do this week if you see someone sad, angry or hurt? What gift do you think you can give to others this week?**



When Jesus had come down from the hill with the apostles, he stood on a level place with a large number of his disciples. A large crowd of people was there from all over Judea and from Jerusalem and from the coast cities of Tyre and Sidon;

Jesus looked at his disciples and said,

'Happy are you poor; the Kingdom of God is yours!

'Happy are you who are hungry now; you will be filled!

'Happy are you who weep now; you will laugh!

'Happy are you when people hate you, reject you, insult you, and say that you are evil, all because of the Son of Man! Be glad when that happens and dance for joy, because a great reward is kept for you in heaven. For their ancestors did the very same things to the prophets.

'But how terrible for you who are rich now; you have had your easy life!

'How terrible for you who are full now; you will go hungry!

'How terrible for you who laugh now; you will mourn and weep!

'How terrible when all people speak well of you; their ancestors said the very same things about the false prophets.'

'But I tell you who hear me: love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who ill-treat you. If anyone hits you on one cheek, let him hit the other one too; if someone takes your coat, let him have your shirt as well. Give to everyone who asks you for something, and when someone takes what is yours, do not ask for it back.

Do for others just what you want them to do for you.

*'If you love only the people who love you, why should you receive a blessing? Even sinners love those who love them! And if you do good only to those who do good to you, why should you receive a blessing? Even sinners do that! And if you lend only to those from whom you hope to get it back, why should you receive a blessing? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount! No! Love your enemies and do good to them; lend and expect nothing back. You will then have a great reward, and you will be children of the Most High God. For he is good to the ungrateful and the wicked. **Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.** 'Do not judge others, and God will not judge you; do not condemn others, and God will not condemn you; forgive others, and God will forgive you. Give to others, and God will give to you. Indeed, you will receive a full measure, a generous helping, poured into your hands — all that you can hold. The measure you use for others is the one that God will use for you.'* (Luke 6:17, 20-38)

It's not Jesus' thinking that's upside down. It's ours. He doesn't want us to think that the only way we can be happy is to have lots of money and all the best toys and latest stuff. Jesus loves all people, but he has a special love for people who are poor, hungry, sad or picked on. And he asks us to be the same. We are called to do



what we can to help all people in our world to be happy. We can stick up for them and try to change the world to make it fairer for all people. We all aim to be Caritas Ambassadors!

God of all, we give you thanks for your great love. Especially for those who are poor, those who hunger, and those who are sad. Amen.



This Sunday is the 8th Sunday of Ordinary Time. Father will wear a green coloured chasuble. That is why our newsletter heading is in green.

MASS TIMES: Note that during school term time, Friday morning Mass is at 10am. Children's Liturgy of the Word is on Sunday, 10am Mass. All are welcome! Remember to bring your palms from last year to Mass – they will be burnt to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday next week.

The reading for this Sunday can be found on the [Wednesday Word](#)

SACRED HEART OF JESUS
 8 LORD STREET + WESTHOUGHTON + BOLTON + BL5 3SE
 Rev Fr Christopher Dawson JCL + 01842 812174
 A Parish in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Salford + Registered Charity No. 250037

MASS TIMES
 Mon | Tue | Wed | Thur | Fri: 9:00am
 Sat: 6:00pm (Vigil Mass)
 Sun: 10:00am
 Holy Days: 7:00pm (Vigil) | 10:00am
 Confessions: Sat (5:30pm before Vigil Mass)

Note that weekday Mass times are subject to change – please see times advertised on Parish Bulletin or posted in the Narthex window.

**SACRED
HEART
OF JESUS**
Westhoughton

WONDER QUESTION: This week, we wondered about the reaction of the crowds of disciples to Jesus' message. Were they prepared to show mercy and put others before themselves?



LET US PRAY: We pray for world leaders: that they may know and understand the challenges their people face and that they may be moved to do what they can to change things for the better. We pray for all people who are poor, hungry, hurt or sad in our world. That they may know that they are loved and find happiness and hope for the future. We pray for Pope Francis. Grant him healing and peace. God of love, help us to be giving and loving to one another. Fill us with your gifts of peace, hope and love. Amen. We continue to pray: **Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions... love one another. So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.**



“Where are you?” (Gen 3:9)

Lenten Term

“Where is your brother?” (Gen 4:9)

UIΘGD

So that in all things God may be glorified...



Like Jesus...

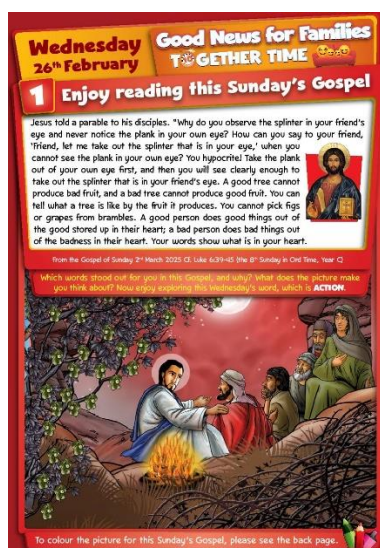
LEARN | LOVE | LEAD
LOVE ONE ANOTHER



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions... Love one another!
So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.

CHAPLAINCY NEWSLETTER: Mrs Doodson, our lay chaplain, [has written to all families](#). Her newsletter introduces Lenten Term **stay and pray** opportunities for families and parishioners, which start next Thursday morning, from 8:30am, in the Croi. All are welcome.



THE WEDNESDAY WORD: You can enjoy the latest edition of the Wednesday Word as a family by [following this link](#).



TEN:TEN RESOURCES: Click here for the [February newsletter](#).

CHURCH BULLETIN: Our parish bulletin can be downloaded from our website at <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/parish-bulletin-social-media/>

OTHER LETTERS ISSUED OVER THE LAST WEEK:

Most updates are via our App. Please ensure you check the app regularly.

- <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/sacred-heart-standard/>

MARK 10 MISSION: [Episode 22: Jesus is always with you – 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time](#): In the Gospel, Jesus is speaking to the crowds. He shares with them a challenging teaching. He gives a list of all the ways they can be "Blessed" but none of the ways sound very good at all. Mary helps us reflect upon how, even in the most difficult moments, Jesus is always close and loving us. We take this into a time of prayer and then sing 'One and All' with Angel.

THE MARK 10 MISSION
LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME

THE MISSION

BLESSED ARE YOU

It can be easy to forget all of the good things that we have. Your Mission is to make a list of all of the things you are thankful for. At the end of the list, write a prayer thanking God for all of the good things he has given you.

GOOD THINGS



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions... Love one another!
So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME KEY DATES:

Upcoming dates this month -

Friday 7th March, 3pm: Parents' Session – Reconciliation

Sunday 9th March, 10am: Mass – We follow

Thursday 13th March, 6:30pm: First Reconciliation

Friday 11th April, 3pm: Parents' Session – Communion

Three weekends for First Eucharist: 26th / 27th April, 3rd / 4th May, 10th / 11th May 2025

Sunday 8th June, 10am: Celebration Mass.

HUMAN RIGHTS AWARENESS – DRESS UP

DAY: Our annual Human Rights day will take place next Monday. Children are invited to dress as a human rights hero. A poet in residence will work with our children on Monday, and they will meet a human rights activist. Remember that human rights heroes wear everyday clothing! There is no need to buy a costume!



WORLD BOOK DAY: [World Book Day](#)

2025 will take place next Thursday 6th March.

This year, World Book Day invite everyone to 'Read Your Way'. Research shows that children

feel reading is something they have to do, rather than something they choose to do. Children may come to school dressed in a costume that reflects a book they love – bring the book along too if you can! Children will also have the opportunity to visit our 'World Book Day Cafe' where they can enjoy a drink and read. There will be a book swap at the cafe where children can bring a book from home that they no longer want and swap with someone else. We look forward to seeing all children dressed up and celebrating reading! Our book fair is open until DATE – please visit after school.

ART COMPETITION: [Westhoughton Rotary Club](#)

are hosting their annual Primary School Art Competition for Year 3 and Year 5 children.

- Y3 theme: My favourite game - It can be any type of game, indoor or outdoor. An illustration of whichever you enjoy most.
- Y5 theme: Winter - A painting or coloured drawing which sums up this time of year.

Each piece of work must have the pupil's name, year group & school ON THE BACK. The entries will be collected on the morning of **Wednesday 12th March 2025**.



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions... Love one another!
So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.

UIOGD - SCHOOL PRAYER: Our exercise books all have the Benedictine mission, UIOGD, on them. UIOGD is an acronym for the Latin phrase, Ut In Omnibus Glorificetur Deus, which means 'so that in all things God may be glorified'. It's the basic mission of Benedictine spirituality.

Our school prayer now has an extra 15 words: **So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.** This will help us remember why we have UIOGD on our books, and reminds us that all we do is an opportunity to be sacred...

<https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/prayer/>



We gather...

Jesus lives in our school:
in our minds and words and actions...
Love one another!

So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in You...

 **Gather**

UIOGD
So that in all things God may be glorified...



FORD CASTLE – Y5 RESIDENTIAL: Balances for Ford Castle (10-12 April 2025) are now due as we must make final payments to PGL. Please ensure that the balance is paid, via school money. Note that unpaid balances will forfeit the place and deposits are non-refundable. If there is any issue, please make an appointment to speak to our senior pastoral lead, Mr Dootson. Children are asked, by PGL, to bring a sleeping bag / pillow or equivalent, with them to the Castle. They will sleep inside this on bunk beds.

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS: Congratulations to all who celebrated their Baptism Birthday this week. Please remind your child when it is the anniversary of their baptism.



LIKE JESUS AWARDS: Congratulations to those awarded certificates this week!



YOUNG VOICES: What a wonderful time the Sacred Heart Singers had at the Co-op Live arena on Tuesday for Young Voices! Thank you to Mrs Garside, Miss Purtill (& Miss Fairhurst, who joined us via video call!) who have coached the children ahead of their performance.



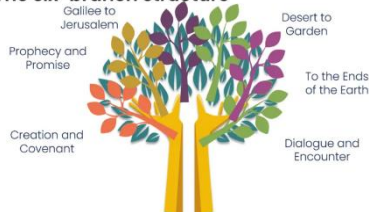
RE THIS TERM: We are now up to Branch 4 – Desert to Garden. *‘Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day’ (1 Cor 15:3).* In this branch, pupils will study the season of Lent and its culmination in the events of Holy Week. They will learn about the Paschal Triduum at the heart of the Catholic Church’s Liturgy and life. The title of this branch points both to the

liturgical journey from the desert of Lent to the garden of Resurrection, but also to the Paschal journey from darkness to light, barrenness to fruitfulness, death to life. We follow the model curriculum of the [RE Directory](#), *‘To know you more clearly’*.

You can find the general content, knowledge lenses, key vocabulary and expected outcomes on the following pages:

Reception – page 67/68 | Y1 – p87-89 | Y2 – p106-108
Y3 – p123-125 | Y4 – p140-143 | Y5 – p158-161 | Y6 – p176-179

The six-branch structure



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

**Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions... Love one another!
So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.**

CARITAS PLEDGE - YOUNG PARENTS APPEAL: One of our Caritas Jubilee Hope pledges is to support the **Young Parents accommodation** offered by Caritas Diocese of Salford. Please send in any donations that would support young mums and dads and their babies – for example, nappies and toiletries, dummies, wipes, baby food, baby clothes, etc. The crib collection area is located next to our pastoral room. **There will be a non-uniform day on the feast of the Assumption – 25th March – in exchange for donations for the appeal.**

<https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/service/young-parents-accommodation-blackburn/>

The Young Parents' Accommodation provides high-quality, safe, supported accommodation for young parents and their children, at a time in their life when they are vulnerable and need a period of stability. The Caritas team helps them prepare for independent living, providing a safe, nurturing environment where young mothers and fathers can develop parenting skills to enable their babies to thrive. While the team predominantly supports young women aged 18-30 years and their babies up to the age of two years, they also are able to provide safe refuge for single fathers and young couples in the family room.

The support provided enables young families to develop confidence and their abilities, with Caritas working alongside them so they can transform their lives with dignity. Caritas work closely with partners across Greater Manchester and Lancashire, including local authorities, voluntary and statutory bodies and regularly contribute to safeguarding assessments to ensure children are protected. Working with others in this way ensures a strong multi-agency approach, helping ensure a comprehensive, safe and effective service that can have a huge impact on the lives of the families. The centre's work seeks to help the young parents and their families to move on from temporary accommodation to safe, secure permanent homes in their community, ready for independent living.

61

adults and children safely accommodated in our Young Parents' Accommodations last year, with a support plan in place..

5579

nights of accommodation provided by our two Young Parents' Accommodations last year.

12

babies born to mothers staying in our accommodations last year and supported through pregnancy and beyond.



ST PATRICK'S DAY – MONDAY 17TH MARCH: On St Patrick's Day, 17th March, we invite children to come to school wearing green or an item of green. This is the day we ask children to bring an Easter egg to school in readiness for our Easter raffle on 15th April. Tickets will go on sale in due course.



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

THANK YOU to all who embrace our now established **UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE** strategy.

UNITE are informal gatherings for parents, senior leaders and year group teachers – we explore how to unite to ensure your child is happy, progresses well and enjoys learning, School curriculum and homework expectations are shared and explained.

UNITE letters for the Spring Candlemas & Lenten Terms are below:

<https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/unite/>

Thank you to all who attended our Parent's evening this week.

ACHIEVE are monthly drop-in days (with drinks and biscuits) where you can share concerns or gain clarity on matters relating to your child's welfare and progress with our SEND, Safeguarding and Pastoral leads. Anyone is welcome – appointments for **ACHIEVE** can be made via the main office or by emailing achieve@sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk Of course, the first point of contact for day-to-day matters is always your child's teacher, and Mr Dootson, our senior pastoral lead, is always available to speak to parents.

Our March achieve date is Wednesday 26th March 2025.

<https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/achieve/>

CELEBRATE are those regular opportunities to share in your child's learning and progress in a range of ways. As well as class-led Friday morning prayer (class assemblies) we celebrate musical achievement every half term in special recitals. Sporting and artistic celebrations will also take place throughout the year. Look out for dates on our newsletters and social media – add them to your diary and join us to **CELEBRATE** together... [Our revised Annual Plan of Provision is on the school website.](#)

<https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/celebrate/>

Lenten half term:

Friday morning prayer 9:05am, school hall:		Mass
28 th February 2025: All pupils - Burning of the Palms		28 th February 2025: 10:00-11:00am: Mass at Church - Y3
7 th March 2025: All pupils - Led by Lay Chaplain –St Joseph's Penny Lenten Appeal		5 th March 2025: 10:00-11:00am: Mass in School – Ash Wednesday
14 th March 2025: 1P - St Juan Diego		7 th March 2025: 10:00-11:00am: Mass at Church – Y4
21 st March 2025: Y4 & Y5 - Led by Lay Chaplain - St Oscar Romero (24 th)		14 th March 2025: 10:00-11:00am: Mass at Church – Y5
28 th March 2025: RB – Sacred Heart of Jesus		21 st March 2025: 10:00-11:00am: Mass at Church – Y6
4 th April 2025: Y2 & Y3 - Led by Lay Chaplain – Stations of Light		28 th March 2025: 10:00-11:00am: Mass at Church – Reception
11 th April 2025: 3C - St Marianne Cope		4 th April 2025: 10:00-11:00am: Mass at Church – Y1
		11 th April 2025: 10:00-11:00am: Mass at Church – Y2
Sacrament of Reconciliation:	DATE	YEAR GROUP
	7 th March 2025	1:15-2:30pm: Y4 Reconciliation (Croí Ró Naofa Íosa)
	13 th March 2025	6:30pm: Sacramental Programme First Reconciliation (Sacred Heart of Jesus Church)
	14 th March 2025	
	21 st March 2025	1:15-3:30pm: Y5 Reconciliation (Croí Ró Naofa Íosa)
	28 th March 2025	1:15-3:30pm: Y6 Reconciliation (Croí Ró Naofa Íosa)
		1:15-3:30pm: Catch-up Reconciliation (Croí Ró Naofa Íosa)

Mon 31st March 2025, 2pm - YR: The Proud Tree | Monday 14th April, 1:30pm - Passion @ Sacred Heart



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions... Love one another!
So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.

ORDO FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:

SPRING TERM WEEK 9:

Liturgical Week: EIGHTH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME/Beginning of Lent
A Theme for the Week: READY FOR LENT

During Ordinary Time (Winter) we are asked to pray for these intentions: Peace on Earth: Christian Unity: The Sick and Those Who Care For Them: Victims of Trafficking and Those Who Work to Combat It: The Unemployed. During Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions: Candidates for the Sacraments: Women: The Needy and Hungry of the World: Penitents and Wanderers: Survivors of Sexual Abuse.

Date	Saints, Feasts and Special Days	Notes	Ideas
Monday 3rd March	World Wildlife Day (UN)	 This is a United Nations International day to celebrate all the world's wild animals and plants and the contribution that they make to our lives and the health of the planet. See https://wildlifeday.org/en	
Tuesday 4th March	Saint Casimir	 Casimir was a Polish Prince in the 15th Century, who lived a very good and holy life. He was very devoted to Our Lady and the Blessed Eucharist. He sadly died at a young age.	<i>Talk about the powerful example of famous people showing Christian faith.</i>
Wednesday 5th March	ASH WEDNESDAY	 Day of fasting and abstinence Lent is a forty day season of preparation for Easter, during which Catholics and most Christians practise acts of fasting and abstinence, together with greater prayer and acts of charity.	
	Lent Weekday		
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day	 Since it was first celebrated in the UK and Ireland over 25 years ago, the day has grown to become an essential calendar fixture for schools, settings and communities. It provides a fantastic opportunity to focus on reading for pleasure, supporting children's autonomy in book choice, and embedding a habit of reading that brings a wide range of benefits. See https://www.worldbookday.com/	
Friday 7th March	Saint Perpetua and Saint Felicity, Martyrs	 They both came from North Africa, and were martyred for being Christians at about the beginning of the third century. Perpetua was a young noble woman, Felicity was a slave. They became close and died together.	<i>Talk about friendship despite differences!</i>
	Women's World Day of Prayer		
	British Science Week	https://www.britishtscienceweek.org/	
Saturday 8th March	Saint John of God	 John lived in the 16th century, a time when hospitals and doctor were only for the rich and powerful who could pay for treatment. He started as a soldier, but eventually decided to dedicate his life to God and care of the poor, especially creating free hospitals, and founding a religious congregation called the Hospitallers of Saint John of God, which still exists today! See their work at https://sjog.uk/index.php	<i>Talk about healthcare in the developing world.</i>
	International Women's Day (UN)	 https://www.internationalwomensday.com/theme	
Sunday 9th March	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	 Luke 4:1-13: 'Jesus was led by the Spirit in the wilderness and tempted by the devil'	

THEME FOR THE WEEK: READY FOR LENT (Mass/Liturgy/Prayer Resources)

Bible Passages

Isaiah 58:6-9 - Giving Things Up

"The kind of fasting I want is this: Remove the chains of oppression and the yoke of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Share your food with the hungry and open your homes to the homeless poor. Give clothes to those who have nothing to wear, and do not refuse to help your own relatives. Then my favour will shine on you like the morning sun, and your wounds will be quickly healed. I will always be with you to save you: my presence will protect you on every side. When you pray, I will answer you. When you call to me, I will respond, if you put an end to oppression, to every gesture of contempt, and to every evil word."

Psalm 27

The Lord is my light and my salvation:
I will fear no one.
The Lord protects me from all danger:
I will never be afraid.

When evil people attack me and try to kill me,
they stumble and fall.
Even if a whole army surrounds me,
I will not be afraid:

I have asked the Lord for one thing:
one thing only do I want:
to live in the Lord's house all my life,
to marvel there at his goodness,
and to ask for his guidance.

Hear me, Lord, when I call to you!
Be merciful and answer me!
When you said, "Come worship me,"
I answered, "I will come, Lord."
Don't hide yourself from me!

Don't be angry with me:
don't turn your servant away.
You have been my help:
don't leave me, don't abandon me,
O God, my saviour.

I know that I will live to see
the Lord's goodness in this present life.
Trust in the Lord.
Have faith, do not despair.
Trust in the Lord.

Matthew 6:24-34 - Give Up Worldly Concerns

Jesus said: "You cannot be a slave of two masters: you will hate one and love the other: you will be loyal to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. This is why I tell you: do not be worried about the food and drink you need in order to stay alive, or about clothes for your body. After all, isn't life worth more than food? And isn't the body worth more than clothes? Look at the birds: they do not plant seeds, gather a harvest and put it in barns: yet your Father in heaven takes care of them! Aren't you worth much more than birds? Can any of you live a bit longer by worrying about it? And why worry about clothes? Look how the wild flowers grow: they do not work or make clothes for themselves. But I tell you that not even King Solomon with all his wealth had clothes as beautiful as one of these flowers. It is God who clothes the wild grass—grass that is here today and gone tomorrow, burned up in the oven. Won't he be all the more sure to clothe you? What little faith you have! So do not start worrying: 'Where will my food come from? or my drink? or my clothes?' (These are the things the pagans are always concerned about.) Your Father in heaven knows that you need all these things. Instead, be concerned about everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what he requires of you, and he will provide you with all these other things. So do not worry about tomorrow: it will have enough worries of its own. There is no need to add to the troubles each day brings."

Prayers

Grant us, O Lord, we pray, that the course of our world may be directed by your peaceful rule and that your Church may rejoice, untroubled in her devotion. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

(Lent) Grant, O Lord, that we may begin with holy fasting this campaign of Christian service, so that, as we take up battle against spiritual evils, we may be armed with weapons of self-restraint. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with

you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lord God, every year the Church gives us this special season of Lent, when we follow Jesus into the desert to learn more about ourselves and become better people. Help us to give things up, to give things away, and to give time to you in prayer.

May this Lent be a special time of grace, so that we can rise at Easter with Jesus, renewed, refreshed and reborn!

Lord, help us give something up: grant us a good Lent! Help us to give things away: grant us a good Lent! Help us to pray more: grant us a good Lent!

It is good to give thanks to you, O LORD.
Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Next Sunday's Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

Jesus returned from the Jordan full of the Holy Spirit and was led by the Spirit into the desert, where he was tempted by the Devil for forty days. In all that time he ate nothing, so that he was hungry when it was over. The Devil said to him, "If you are God's Son, order this stone to turn into bread." But Jesus answered, "The scripture says, 'Human beings cannot live on bread alone.'" Then the Devil took him up and showed him in a second all the kingdoms of the world. "I will give you all this power and all this wealth," the Devil told him. "It has all been handed over to me, and I can give it to anyone I choose. All this will be yours, then, if you worship me." Jesus answered, "The scripture says, 'Worship the Lord your God and serve only him!'" Then the Devil took him to Jerusalem and set him on the highest point of the Temple, and said to him, "If you are God's Son, throw yourself down from here. For the scripture says, 'God will order his angels to take good care of you.' It also says, 'They will hold you up with their hands so that not even your feet will be hurt on the stones.'" But Jesus answered, "The scripture says, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the Devil finished tempting Jesus in every way, he left him for a while.



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions... Love one another!
So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.

PALMS TO ASHES: This morning's prayer brought us all together for burning of the palms ready Ash Wednesday, next week.



We gather here to turn these palms from our celebration of **the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem** into ashes, that we may be reminded of our humanity and our need of God.

Let us pray...



We are going on a Journey, a Pilgrimage, but to where?

- A journey... to God
- A journey... to freedom
- A pilgrimage... of faith
- A pilgrimage... of hope
- A pilgrimage... of love

And where do we start?

- We go back to our beginnings...
- To remember what we were when God created us: creatures of the earth.
- And to remember what we become, because God loves us.



Two children come forward with palms for burning...



Reception

Dear God,
Thank you for loving me so much.
Help me to be kind and loving to others.
As we burn these palms, may we remember that you love us always.
Amen.

Year 1

Loving God,
Thank you for this special day.
As we burn these palms, help me to follow Jesus and share His love with others.
Let the ashes remind me to be kind, patient, and full of love.
Amen.

Year 2

God,
We come to you today with thankful hearts.
We remember how Jesus gave His life for us.
As we burn these palms and make ashes, help us grow in faith, love, and kindness.
Please help me be more like Jesus every day.
Amen.

Year 3

Dear God,
Thank you for Jesus, who loves me so much.
As we burn these palms, help me to remember to be kind and helpful.
Let this ash remind me to love you with all my heart.
Amen.

Year 4

Dear Jesus,
We thank You for Your love and care.
As we burn these palms and make ashes, help us to remember how much You sacrificed for us.
Let this be a time to grow closer to You, and help me to be a better friend and helper to others.
Amen.

Year 5

Gracious God,
We thank You for this season of Lent, where we can grow closer to You.
As we burn these palms to make ash, help us to reflect on Jesus' sacrifice.
May this ash remind us to live lives of love, repentance, and service to others.
Amen

Year 6

Heavenly Father,
We remember today the love You showed by sending Jesus.
As we burn these palms and create ashes, help us to prepare our hearts for Lent.
May the ashes remind us of the need for repentance, love, and grace.
Help me to follow Jesus with all my heart, and share His love with the world.
Amen.





ASH WEDNESDAY: All are welcome to our Ash Wednesday Mass, next Wednesday, 10am, in the school hall. Please remember Ash Wednesday is a day of abstinence from meat.

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday	6pm
Sunday	10am
Mon, Tues and Thurs	9am
Ash Wednesday	10am in school 7pm in Church
Friday	10am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday	5.30 – 5.50 pm
----------	----------------

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday	7pm
--------	-----

Ash Wednesday is this Wednesday and marks the beginning of Lent. Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence. Mass with the blessing and distribution of ashes at 10am in Sacred Heart School and 7pm in Church.

Stations of the Cross. On the Fridays of Lent Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 7pm in Church. All welcome.

Reconciliation Service. The children preparing to receive the Eucharist for the first time this year will celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation on Thursday 13 March at 6.30pm. There will be several priests joining us and other parishioners are welcome to join us. Please continue to pray for these children and their families. The next Sunday celebration for the communion candidates is on 9 March.

FEAST THEN FAST:

Pancake Day or Mardi Gras is the name given to Shrove Tuesday, a Catholic day of feasting before Lent. The day is celebrated by eating pancakes, fritters, and other rich foods that are not traditionally eaten during Lent.

[Easy pancake recipe](#)
- [click here.](#)



MATILDA



Re-called twice from 10,000 children to audition for the role of Matilda for the west end UK tour.

This audition on

SUNDAY!

I have got a big script to **LEARN** for Sunday too.

WELL DONE: One of our pupils have been re-called to audition for the role of Matilda in the West-end! We send best wishes for the audition on Sunday!



PILGRIMS OF HOPE: One of our Y6 entries won the national competition! Well done!



Children's Liturgy of the Word - continues to welcome children aged between 3 and 8 years old, and who have not yet made their first holy communion, to celebrate the Sunday's scripture readings in an age-appropriate way at Sunday Mass. Please remember to register your child each week as you arrive for Mass.

World Day of Prayer. This year the ecumenical prayer service has been prepared by Christians of the Cook Islands. All are welcome to join us at Sacred Heart on Friday 7 March at 1pm. Refreshments afterwards.

Diocesan Synod: The End of the Journey This weekend, our Diocesan Synod draws to a close with the final stage of the journey. On Saturday, clergy and lay synod members gathered to vote on the 40 recommendations that will form our Pastoral Plan to guide our diocese in the years to come. To find out more about the process, the recommendations, and results, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/diocesan-synod-end-of-the-journey>



6BT CARITAS JUBILEE PLEDGE REPLY: Class 6BT sent messages of hope to the Prison service. This week, they received a response from the Prison chaplain.

My sincerest thanks to you and your marvellous pupils for the letters.
What a fabulous Jubilee Year project.

The letters brought great joy to the Men who attended Mass last Sunday.
It moves them to be thought about.
The messages brought smiles galore.

For those a long way from their own children the messages were particularly moving.

The bright, beautifully presented work showed great care and much love.
This is Catholic Education at its best.

Congratulations.

All blessings,

James Gallogly B.Ed, Cert. R.E.



Roman Catholic Chaplain / Managing Chaplain / Family Liaison Officer

✉ HMP Manchester
1 Southall Street,
Manchester,
M60 9AH
☎ 0161 817 5930
✉ JamesAnthony.Gallogly@justice.gov.uk

For general chaplaincy enquiries please use chaplaincy.manchester@justice.gov.uk
My usual working hours are Sunday 0800-Thursday 1600.

THE SHEEPFOLD: Our site team have been busy treating the floor of #TheSheepfold, our outdoor chapel space. **#TeamSacredHeart**



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions... Love one another!
So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST WEEK: Keep an eye on our social media at: <https://www.facebook.com/TheJourneyMatters/> to keep up with images from our learning journey...



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions... Love one another!
So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.



Online Safety Newsletter

March 2025

The impact of smartphones



There is a growing concern on how excessive use of smartphones can affect our children.

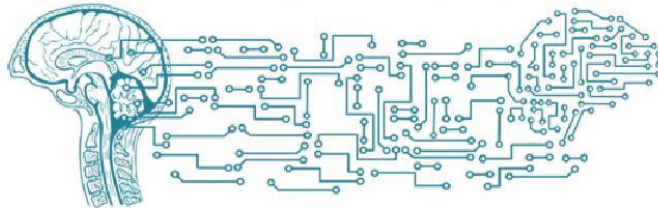
In addition to the effects of seeing inappropriate content online, the risk of cyberbullying and grooming, it is important that we also highlight the effects of smartphone use on our children's mental health.

If your child is using a smartphone then please try to ensure they maintain a healthy screentime limit.

According to King's College London, "two new studies of smartphone habits in teenagers have identified links between problematic smartphone use and depression, anxiety and insomnia." You can read more about these studies here: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/news/teens-with-problematic-smartphone-use-are-twice-as-likely-to-have-anxiety-and-many-are-eager-to-cut-down>

Compass have published an article as well on what effects mobile phones have on children here: <https://www.compass-uk.org/services/compass-changing-lives/what-effects-do-mobile-phones-have-on-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health/>

Artificial Intelligence (AI)



What is AI?

AI is when a computer/machine can learn and perform tasks like a human. Its popularity continues to increase, and examples include:

- **Virtual assistants** like Alexa and Siri.
- **Chatbots** such as ChatGPT and My AI from Snapchat

Potential Risks of AI?

- **Chat apps** - A simple search of "AI Chat" within the App store highlights the number of apps already available and just scrolling through, you can see that they are not suitable for children with many rated as 17+.
- **Image manipulation** – there are AI tools that can be used to digitally remove clothes from photos, which clearly raises serious safeguarding and privacy concerns.
- **Deepfakes** – there are also AI tools that create realistic, fake videos which can be used to spread misinformation or cause harm.

Child Rescue Coalition discuss the dangers in more detail here:

<https://childrescuecoalition.org/educations/the-dark-side-of-ai-risks-to-children/>

How can I protect my child?

As always, to keep your child safe online, it is important to:

- Develop your child's digital literacy by highlighting the risks of AI and showing them how important it is to verify what they see online.
- Set up appropriate parental controls on their devices/ broadband.
- Chat to your child regularly and ensure your child knows that they should talk to you or another trusted adult if anything concerns them.

Further information

For further information, the NSPCC and Internet Matters provide useful guides on their websites:

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2025/artificial-intelligence-safety-tips-for-parents>
- <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/parent-guide-to-artificial-intelligence-ai-tools/>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.03.25. The inclusion of any links does not imply any affiliation with or endorsement of the linked websites, documents, or videos, nor are we claiming any ownership or copyright in the content of the linked materials.



TikTok

You must be over 13 years of age to use TikTok. TikTok is a social media platform for sharing and watching short video clips. Some of the videos may not be appropriate for your child to view and there is also the risk of strangers contacting your child. If your child is using TikTok then make sure appropriate security/privacy settings are applied.



Account set up

It is important that when setting up an account, your child enters their real date of birth as accounts are tailored by age e.g., Direct Messaging is disabled for accounts aged 13-15. In addition, advertisements are tailored by age. By default, accounts for people under 16 are set to private and we would recommend keeping it as this. This means your child must approve follower requests. You can read more about the other settings available, such as switching off comments and restricted mode here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/privacy-and-safety-settings-for-users-under-age-18>

Family Pairing

This allows you to link your own account to your child's account. You can then set controls such as restricted mode. You can find out more here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/account-and-user-safety/family-pairing>

Inappropriate content, themes and challenges on TikTok

Whilst against TikTok's guidelines, explicit and inappropriate content can be found on this platform, for example nudity/sexual content and hate speech. Some of the songs available to lip sync to may contain inappropriate lyrics or adult themes. We often see viral challenges on social media, some of which can be dangerous. If your child is using TikTok, chat to them regularly about what they are viewing.

Stranger contact

Talk to your child about who is following them online and ensure that they understand that people may not be who they say they are when online. It is important that children understand not to share personal information.

Refresh your feed

You can refresh your "For You" feed to update the content recommended: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/refresh-your-for-you-feed>

Blocking and Reporting

Ensure your child knows how to use the safety features available to them, including how to report comments, direct messages and another user.

Further information

- <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok>
- <https://safeguarding.thekeysupport.com/factsheets-and-briefings/child-safety-tiktok-parent-factsheet/>

Talk PANTS with the NSPCC

Talk PANTS was developed to help you have conversations with your child to help them understand that their body belongs to them.

You can find out more here as well as a further link to helpful questions:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

LEGO Arcade

Are you looking for games for your child to play online? LEGO have a selection of fun games including Lego Ninjago and Lego Friends:

<https://kids.lego.com/en-gb/arcade>

Stars Messenger App

The Stars Messenger App is rated as 4+ on the App store. It is a free messaging and video app designed for children to use. Users need their friend's username as well as their unique private Friend Code to add each other. There is also an optional Parent View available for a monthly charge.

South West Grid for Learning provide a full guide to staying safe on this app as well as safety considerations:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/a-guide-to-staying-safe-with-the-stars-messaging-app/>



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions... Love one another!
So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.



Class	%
Attendance	10 th – 14 th February 2025
Whole School	93.5
RB	91.9
RS	90.3
1C	97.3
1P	94.3
2B	92.7
2D	95.3
3C	98
3E	96.2
4F	90
4W	99.3
5A	94.3
5D	99.3
6B	80.3
6BT	90.6

ATTENDANCE: The latest National attendance statistics can be found at:

<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/pupil-attendance-in-schools>

HUMAN DIGNITY:

This half term we focus on solidarity...

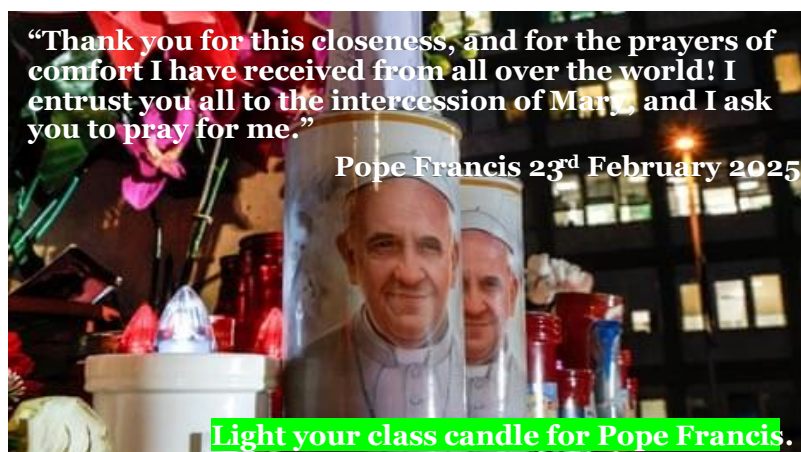
**Loving God,
We believe that we are one big human family.
Help us to reach out to people who are suffering or sad, showing them the love you have shown to us.**

**Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer**



Showing we care
Solidarity

PRAYERS: In our Celebration of the Word, we placed the lit candle before Pope Francis and prayed for him during this time of illness. Please keep Pope Francis in your prayers.



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

**Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions... Love one another!
So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.**



AND FINALLY: We welcomed back Mrs Wroe today for a keeping in touch day ahead of her return from maternity leave on 17th March.

Thank you for your continued support and trust as we walk together.

M Johnson

Mr M Johnson

Executive Headteacher Director of Teach Heart Alliance

B Furey

Mrs B Furey

S Bridge

Mrs S Bridge

Deputy Headteacher

In the #GospelOfTheDay, Jesus proclaims blessed those who are poor, afflicted, meek and persecuted. It is a change of mentality, a revolution of perspective. Artists are called to take part in this revolution. The world needs prophetic artists.

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/homilies/2025/documents/20250216-omelia-giubileo-artisti.html>

Pope Francis, Twitter @ Pontifex, 16th February 2025



MISSION FILE

GOSPEL

Luke 6:17, 2-23

At that time: Jesus came down with the Twelve and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon. And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and spurn your name as evil on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven.

As you slowly read or listen to the Gospel, which line stands out? Highlight it in the text. Pray about how God may be speaking to you through this line?

Wonder Questions

Why do you think Jesus looked at his disciples when he gave this teaching?

Why does Jesus let difficult times come?

WORD OF THE WEEK

RESPONSIBILITY

PRAYER

What are the things that you are thankful for?

Write a prayer thanking God.

MISSION

It can be easy to forget all of the good things that we have. Your Mission is to make a list of all of the things you are thankful for. At the end of the list, write a prayer thanking God for all of the good things he has given you.

GIVE THANKS TO
THE LORD FOR HE
IS GOOD, HIS LOVE
ENDURES FOREVER

PSALMS 136:1

COLOUR

UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions... Love one another!
So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.

Wednesday
26th February

Good News for Families
TOGETHER TIME 

1

Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

Jesus told a parable to his disciples. "Why do you observe the splinter in your friend's eye and never notice the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your friend, 'Friend, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye,' when you cannot see the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your friend's eye. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot produce good fruit. You can tell what a tree is like by the fruit it produces. You cannot pick figs or grapes from brambles. A good person does good things out of the good stored up in their heart; a bad person does bad things out of the badness in their heart. Your words show what is in your heart."



From the Gospel of Sunday 2nd March 2025 Cf. Luke 6:39-45 (the 8th Sunday in Ord Time, Year C)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Now enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **ACTION**.



To colour the picture for this Sunday's Gospel, please see the back page. 



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions... Love one another!
So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.

2

Wednesday's Word

ACTION



"We must live the faith, not only with our words, but with our actions." Pope Francis

What did Jesus say 'a good person' does? In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus is using parables - short stories - to teach us important lessons. Just as good fruit is a sign of a good tree, so our words and actions show what is truly inside our heart. Ask your child what the saying, 'Actions speak louder than words' means to them. Tell your child about a time when someone was a really good friend or neighbour to you because of something they did. Then ask your child if they can remember a time when someone was really good to them.

"Actions speak louder than words; let your words teach and your actions speak." St Anthony of Padua

This Gospel also reminds us not to criticise others' actions but rather to look at our own actions and try to grow in goodness. Decide on some kind of action that you could take to show your love for God and others. Perhaps you can: visit a person who may need your help; try to be humble and truthful about any of your own faults; say sorry to one another for anything you have done wrong; help around the home more; offer to help out with a voluntary project; resist being quick to criticise; always try to look for the good in others; remember to be understanding, compassionate, caring and speak kindly of others.

3

Dear Lord Jesus, please help us to be good friends to our family, our neighbours and all who we meet through our words and actions. Amen.

WEDNESDAY
WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

JESUS
PARABLES

SPLINTER
PLANK

TREE
FRUIT

GOOD
HEART

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**

S	F	P	L	A	N	K	D	O	O	G	S
P	S	R	J	F	M	F	E	S	E	P	A
L	D	E	U	I	R	R	Y	T	L	K	E
I	O	I	L	I	F	U	Z	I	R	R	Z
N	N	F	P	B	T	I	N	T	K	E	L
T	K	B	A	D	A	T	L	R	N	T	E
E	G	S	R	G	E	R	M	Q	A	R	J
R	O	B	A	R	Q	J	A	S	L	A	H
N	O	R	B	T	R	E	E	P	P	E	E
R	D	F	L	C	I	E	S	B	H	A	
R	O	V	E	S	Z	D	H	G	U	K	R
L	D	Y	S	E	J	E	S	U	S	S	T

Cross out the letters

U M W
in the 4 jumbled words to find 4 real words.

thuminwgs stuwormed hemarwtv gumowod

"A _____ person does good _____ out of the good _____ up in their _____."

This week let's remember to keep any promises and to show our love in action by setting a good example for our friends - showing them good and right things.

This week I will try my best to...

Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

Jesus lives in our school: in our minds and words and actions... Love one another! So that, in all things that we think, say and do, God may be glorified.