



Sacred Heart RC Primary School

The Sacred Heart Standard

WESTHOUGHTON

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Executive Headteacher: Mr M Johnson | Head of School: Mrs B Furey | Deputy Headteacher: Miss F Duffy

Monday 19th January 2026

Dear parents and families,

ORDINARY TIME

The Sacred Heart Standard

Last Monday, and again today, we met John the Baptist in our Like Jesus Celebrations of the Word. As we enter Ordinary Time, these accounts begin the public ministry of Jesus, the Lamb of God.

Our think questions were: **What can you do to help more people get the water they need?** and **What can you do so other people will see the Holy Spirit working through you?**

At that time Jesus arrived from Galilee and came to John at the Jordan to be baptised by him. But John tried to make him change his mind. "I ought to be baptised by you," John said, "and yet you have come to me!"

But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so for now. For in this way we shall do all that God requires." So John agreed. As soon as Jesus was baptised, he came up out of the water. Then heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and alighting on him. Then a voice came from heaven, "This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased." (Matthew 3: 13-17)

The next day, John saw Jesus coming to him, and said, "There is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'A man is coming after me, but he is greater than I am, because he existed before I was born.' I did not know who he would be, but I came baptising with water in order to make him known to the people of Israel." And John gave his testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and stay on him. I still did not know that he was the one, but God, who sent me to baptise with water, had said to me, 'You will see the Spirit come down and stay on a man; he is the one who baptises with the Holy Spirit.' I have seen it," said John, "and I tell you that he is the Son of God." (John 1: 29-34)

In today's readings, we witness a powerful moment at the very beginning of Jesus' public ministry: His baptism. In Matthew's account, Jesus steps into the Jordan River to be baptised by John. Although Jesus is without sin, He chooses baptism to fully identify with humanity and to show obedience to God. As He comes out of the water, the heavens open, the Holy Spirit descends like a dove, and God the Father's voice is heard: "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." This moment reveals who Jesus truly is - the Son of God - and shows the beautiful unity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

In John's account, John the Baptist explains the meaning of what he witnessed. He points to Jesus and declares, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." John makes it clear that his role was to prepare the way, while Jesus' role is to bring salvation and new life to all.

These passages remind us that:

- Jesus humbly entered our world and walks with us.
- God clearly calls Jesus His beloved Son—and invites us into that same loving relationship.
- Following Jesus begins with listening, trusting, and stepping forward in faith, even when we don't have all the answers.

Today is a beautiful opportunity to remind children that Jesus knows us, loves us, and shows us how to follow God with trust and humility. Just as God spoke words of love over Jesus, He speaks love over each of us as His children too.

Thank you, God, for sending Jesus to show us your love. Help our family follow Him with open hearts. Amen.

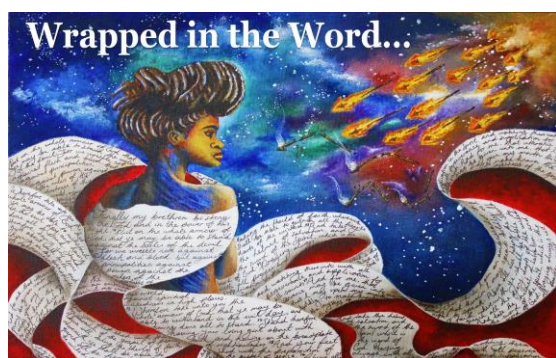
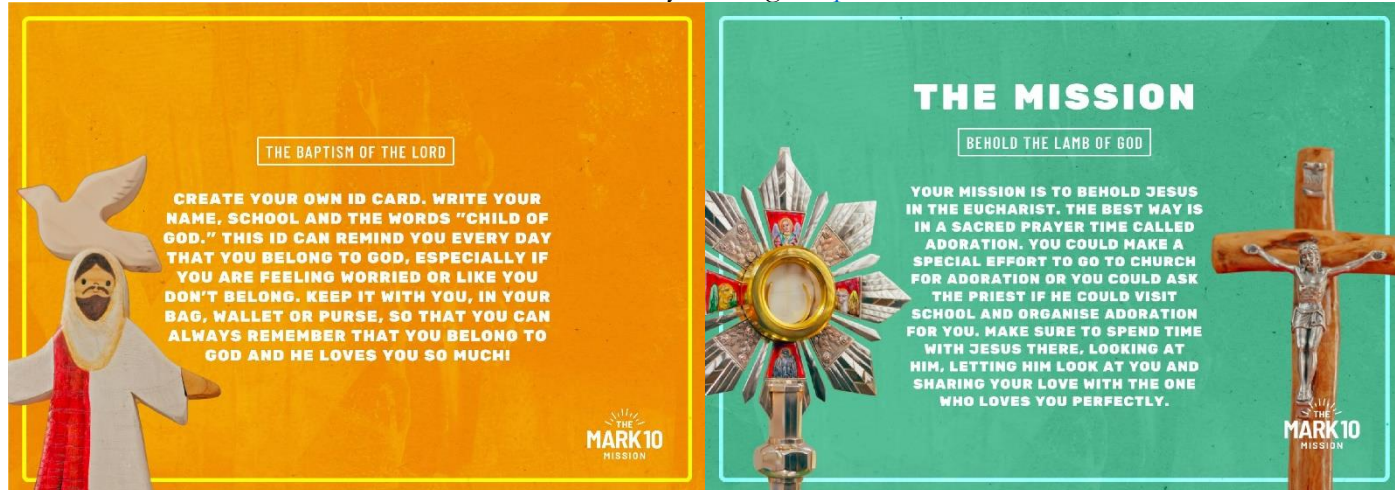
This Sunday is the **'Sunday of the Word of God'**, the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Fr Christopher will wear a green chasuble. This is why our newsletter heading is in green.



MARK 10 MISSION: Our 'wonder questions':

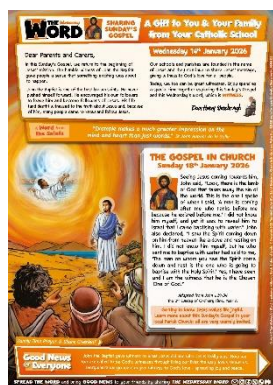
- How do you think St John the Baptist was changed by this meeting with Jesus?
- If you were on the riverbank and heard God's voice saying, "This is My beloved Son", what would be your next move?
- Jesus walked towards John in the Gospel. What did John see in his face?
- When John saw the Holy Spirit descend and recognised that Jesus, the Son of God, was with him, how do you think it made him feel?

You can watch The Mark 10 Mission from home by visiting: <https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/>



LET US PRAY: Jesus offers us new life in the water of our baptism; God sends the Holy Spirit to help and guide us, and so we pray: for all people around the world: that they may have safe water to drink and not have to travel long distances to collect it; for world leaders: that they may make wise decisions so that all people have the water they need to live, and that the Holy Spirit may guide them when they make important decisions, so that they may make life better for all their people; for all people who are poor: that they may see the signs of the Holy Spirit working around them, as we come together with them to build a better

world; for our parish, families and friends: that the Holy Spirit may move us to do what we can to build a better world for everyone to live in, and that with the help of the Holy Spirit, we may work together to look after our world and make it a fairer place for everyone to live. God of life, help us to act so that no one goes thirsty and all people around the world have enough water for their needs. God of power, fill us with your Spirit and inspire us to make changes to our lives so that we can support one another to build a better world. 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.**



WEDNESDAY WORD: You can share the Gospel we will be reading in school as a family, each week, in the Wednesday Word, which is downloadable from

<https://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm>

TEN:TEN PARENT NEWSLETTER: [Click here for the January prayer & liturgy newsletter.](#)

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

ONLINE SAFETY: [Click here for our January online safety newsletter.](#)



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.**

UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE COMMUNICATION & HOME SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP: We believe that strong partnerships between home and school are central to every child's success. Our newsletter, the Sacred Heart Standard, is regularly electronically distributed to keep you up-to-date with key dates, events, achievements, and important notices. Our school website and social media channel are also updated frequently. Please check them for the latest news and announcements.
<https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/> | <https://www.facebook.com/TheJourneyMatters>

UNITE: This term's curriculum promises exciting opportunities for learning across all year groups. Our curriculum outline can be found on our website at <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/curriculum-map/> and is outlined in this term's **UNITE** letters. Thank you to those who came to our drop ins this Wednesday. **UNITE** letters and dates for the year can be found at: <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/unite/>

Spring Term UNITE Letters: [Reception](#) | [Year 1](#) | [Year 2](#) | [Year 3](#) | [Year 4](#) | [Year 5](#) | [Year 6](#)

ACHIEVE: Our monthly drop-in days continue this year, where you can share concerns or gain clarity on matters relating to your child's welfare and progress with our SEND, Safeguarding and Senior Pastoral leads. Anyone is welcome – appointments for **ACHIEVE** can be made via the main office. 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.

The next **ACHIEVE** opportunity is **Wednesday 28th January** (8:30am-4:00pm). Further dates for the academic year can be found at <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/achieve/>

CELEBRATE: The **CELEBRATE** strategy aims to share memorable moments through our [Annual Plan of Provision](#) (APoP), found at <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/apop/> and to celebrate learning. Our APoP contains most of the **dates you will want to put in your diary**, some specific to your child's class. The APoP is a working document, so look out for any amendments and updates throughout the year.

CELEBRATE are those regular opportunities to share in your child's learning and progress in a range of ways. As well as Celebrations of the Word, we celebrate musical achievement every half term in special recitals. All are welcome when classes join the parish for celebration of Mass (in church). 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. Dates of our Achievement, Wellbeing & Development Reviews – Teacher/Parent/Child evenings (11th February 2026); dates that educational reports will be issued & the report drop-in; new Reception intake 2026 dates; and music recitals can be found at <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/celebrate/>

MUSIC RECITAL: Our next music recital, performed by all pupils, is on **Monday 9th February 2026**, 2pm. All are welcome.



CLASS LED FRIDAY MORNING PRAYER: Class-led prayer for this half-term, to which you are invited are below and begin at 9:05am:

- 30th January 2026, 6AT – Esther
- 13th February 2026, 2W, Jochebed



MASS: Our community is welcome to join us for Mass. This Friday is our Reception Mass, 10am, in church.

Our Candlemas Term schedule is below:

23 rd January 2026	10:00-11:00am: Mass at Church – Reception
30 th January 2026	10:00-11:00am: Mass at Church – Y4 & Y5
11 th February 2026	9:30-10:30am: Mass at School – Whole school



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.**

13 th February 2026	10:00-11:00am: Mass at Church – Y3
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SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME: Sunday Mass attendance is required and will be recorded as part of the programme. Registration for the programme is now closed.

TERM	DATE / TIME	FOCUS
Candlemas Term	Sunday 25 th January 2026, 10:00am	Mass – We listen
Lenten Term	Friday 27 th February 2026, 3:00pm Sunday 1 st March 2026, 10:00am Friday 6 th March 2026, 3:00pm Thursday 12 th March 2026, 6:30pm Friday 27 th March 2026, 3:00pm	Parents' Session – Reconciliation 1 Mass – We follow Parents' Session – Reconciliation 2 First Reconciliation Parents' Session – Communion
Pentecost Term	Saturday 25 th / Sunday 26 th April 2026 Saturday 2 nd / Sunday 3 rd May 2026 Saturday 9 th / Sunday 10 th May 2026	Three weekends for First Eucharist – Saturday 6:00pm / Sunday 10:00am Mass
Trinity Term	Sunday 7 th June 2026, 10:00am Monday 8 th June 2026, 1:30pm	Celebration Mass School celebration party

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!

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 + 01942 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

EASYFUNDRAISING: Help us raise funds for playtime equipment and resources- totally free! [Click here to download the Easyfundraising app to begin.](#)

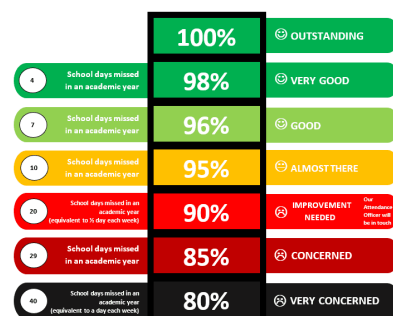


ATTENDANCE: The latest National attendance statistics can be found at: <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/pupil-attendance-in-schools>



Class	%
Attendance 12th-16th Jan 2026	
Whole School	96.5
RA	98.3
RS	95
1C	96
1S	97.3
2D	100
2W	97
3C	98
3B	95.2
4W	96
4K	95.3
5D	93.4
5K	97.7
6AT	95.1
6BT	96.2

Congratulations to 2D who achieved 100% attendance for the week!
Attendance Ladder



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

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

ADMISSION TO RECEPTION CLASS 2027: Following a change to the Diocesan model policy, our Governing Board are consulting on their admission arrangements for 2027-2028, in line with the School Admissions Code, and are therefore inviting comments on the proposed admissions policy for September 2027. The draft policy can be found at: <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2027-Proposed-Admission-Policy-2027.pdf>. If you have any questions, comments or wish to discuss any points relating to this consultation, please contact the school via email: office@sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk.



BRING & BUY APPEAL: Later this month, our Apostles will lead our annual bring & buy appeal. If you need to make room for new books, toys etc, and are clearing space, please consider sending things into school to stock our appeal tables.

BISHOP'S FUND: Did you read the recent article from The Bolton News: <https://www.theboltonnews.co.uk/news/25761178.westhoughton-mums-petition-funded-nhs-wheelchairs/> Thank you to the Diocese of Salford Bishop's Fund, who we successfully applied to in order to fund the wheelchair.

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



FAIRACHIEVER SCHOOL: We have been awarded the Fairachiever award valid for the next three years. Feedback received is below. Thank you to Mrs Clarke who leads in this area.

Congratulations on achieving the FairAchiever Award! This is a fantastic recognition of your school's deep and sustained commitment to Fairtrade values. Your clear, manageable action plan focused on keeping Fairtrade visible, purposeful, and pupil-led and shows real strategic thinking and care for both impact and sustainability. By embedding Fairtrade-linked lessons across the curriculum, empowering PSHE Ambassadors, and integrating Fairtrade into everyday school life and community events, you are ensuring that these values

are lived out meaningfully by every pupil and staff member. Your strong partnerships with local businesses and efforts to involve the wider community further strengthen your impact and provide valuable real-world connections for your students. Well done for building on strong foundations and setting out practical next steps that will keep Fairtrade at the heart of your school. Your approach is a model of best practice. Congratulations again on this well-deserved award!



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

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AND FINALLY: This newsletter covers a two-week period. This Thursday/Friday, is the annual senior Diocesan school leadership conference. Fr Columba Jordan CFFR is the keynote speaker and Mr Johnson will be welcoming him from Manchester Airport on Wednesday. We are familiar with Fr Columba at school – as a contributor to The Mark 10 Mission. A native of Co Kildare, Fr Columba is a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal currently serving in St Patrick’s Friary, Limerick. He is the European Vocations Director as well as a popular speaker and

presenter.

We have been preparing our **Ordinary Time pledges** – and Miss Duffy will share these with Fr Columba this week.



Ordinary Time pledges:

- What will your class Caritas (love in action) Ordinary Time pledge be this year?
- Choose a cause / charity that you will support etc. What will you pledge to do? Create an A3 (cartridge paper) display of your pledge – bring to Ruah this Friday.
- We will show the pledges to Fr Columba next week!

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

M Johnson

Mr M Johnson
Executive Headteacher

B Furey

Mrs B Furey
Head of School

F Duffy

Miss F Duffy
Deputy Headteacher

Today begins the Week of Prayer for [#ChristianUnity](#). I therefore invite all Catholic communities to strengthen prayer for the full visible unity of all Christians. Our commitment to unity must be consistently accompanied by commitment to peace and justice in the world.

Pope Leo XIV, @Pontifex, X, 18th January 2026



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

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

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 3:13-17

At that time: Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptised, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'

AS YOU SLOWLY READ OR LISTEN TO THE SCRIPTURE, WHICH LINE STANDS OUT? HIGHLIGHT IT IN THE TEXT. PRAY ABOUT HOW GOD MAY BE SPEAKING TO YOU THROUGH THIS LINE?

WORD OF THE WEEK

BAPTISM

PRAYER

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE LOVE OF GOD ALIVE AND PRESENT WITH YOU. WHAT ARE THREE WAYS YOU WOULD LIKE THE HOLY SPIRIT TO WORK THROUGH YOU THIS WEEK?

1.

2.

3.

WONDER QUESTIONS

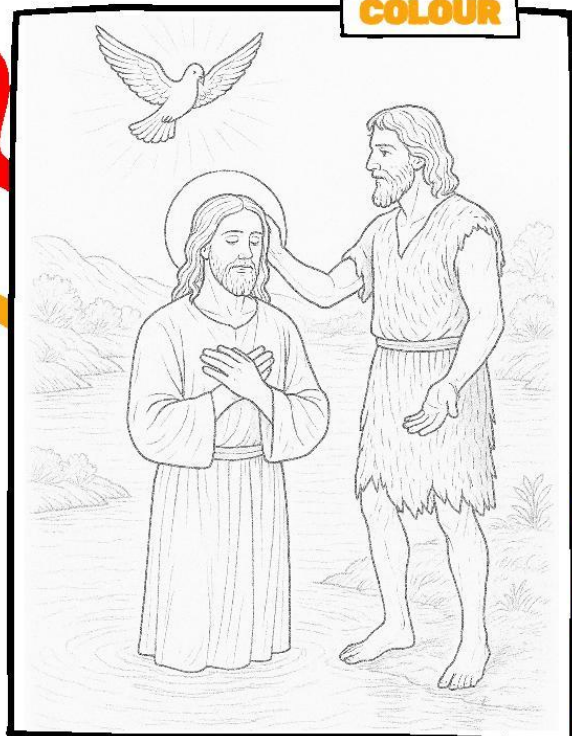
HOW DO YOU THINK ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WAS CHANGED BY THIS MEETING WITH JESUS?

IF YOU WERE ON THE RIVERBANK AND HEARD GOD'S VOICE SAYING, "THIS IS MY BELOVED SON" WHAT WOULD BE YOUR NEXT MOVE?

MISSION

CREATE YOUR OWN ID CARD. WRITE YOUR NAME, SCHOOL AND THE WORDS "CHILD OF GOD." THIS ID CAN REMIND YOU EVERY DAY THAT YOU BELONG TO GOD, ESPECIALLY IF YOU ARE FEELING WORRIED OR LIKE YOU DON'T BELONG. KEEP IT WITH YOU, IN YOUR BAG, WALLET OR PURSE, SO THAT YOU CAN ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT YOU BELONG TO GOD AND HE LOVES YOU SO MUCH!

COLOUR



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

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

MISSION FILE

GOSPEL

JOHN 1:29-34

At that time: John saw Jesus coming towards him, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me." I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptising with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John bore witness: 'I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptise with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptises with the Holy Spirit." And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.'

WORD OF THE WEEK

DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYER

IN YOUR TIME OF ADORATION, WHAT DID YOU SENSE JESUS SAYING TO YOUR HEART?

AS YOU SLOWLY READ OR LISTEN TO THE SCRIPTURE, WHICH LINE STANDS OUT? HIGHLIGHT IT IN THE TEXT. PRAY ABOUT HOW GOD MAY BE SPEAKING TO YOU THROUGH THIS LINE?

WONDER QUESTIONS

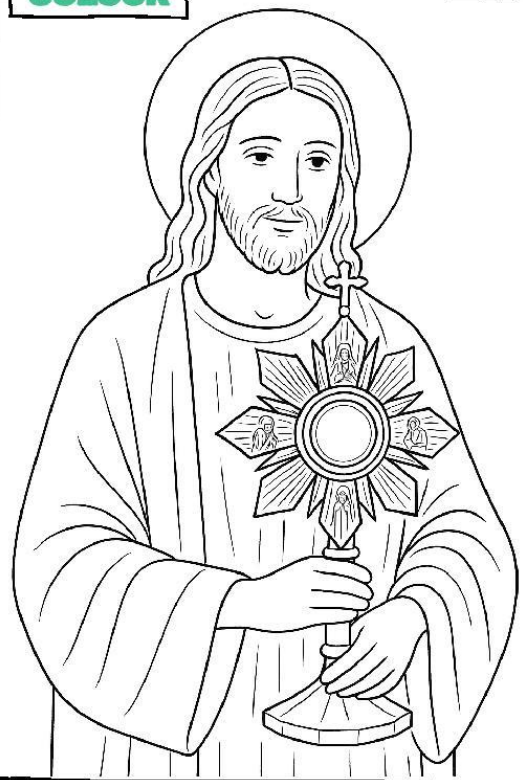
JESUS WALKED TOWARDS JOHN IN THE GOSPEL. WHAT DID JOHN SEE IN HIS FACE?

WHEN JOHN SAW THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCEND AND RECOGNISED THAT JESUS, THE SON OF GOD, WAS WITH HIM, HOW DO YOU THINK IT MADE HIM FEEL?

MISSION

YOUR MISSION IS TO BEHOLD JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST. THE BEST WAY TO DO THIS IS IN A SACRED PRAYER TIME CALLED ADORATION. THIS HAPPENS IN MOST CHURCHES AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK, SO YOU COULD MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO GO THERE. IT MAY BE THAT YOU HAVE A TABERNACLE IN SCHOOL WHICH COULD BE OPENED AT LUNCHTIME FOR ADORATION OR THE PRIEST COULD VISIT SCHOOL AND ORGANISE ADORATION FOR YOU. MAKE SURE TO SPEND TIME WITH JESUS THERE, LOOKING AT HIM, LETTING HIM LOOK AT YOU AND SHARING YOUR LOVE WITH THE ONE WHO LOVES YOU PERFECTLY.

COLOUR





Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, we return to the beginning of Jesus' mission. The humble witness of John the Baptist gave people a sense that something exciting was about to happen.

John the Baptist is one of the best known saints. He never pushed himself forward. He encouraged his own followers to leave him and become followers of Jesus. His life (and death) witnessed to the truth about Jesus and, because of him, many people came to know and follow Jesus.

Wednesday 14th January 2026

Our schools and parishes are founded in the name of Jesus and they continue to share Jesus' message, giving witness to God's love for all people.

Today, we too can be great witnesses. Enjoy spending a special time together exploring this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **WITNESS**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



**A Word from
the Saints**

"Example makes a much greater impression on the mind and heart than just words." St John Baptist de la Salle

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 18th January 2026



Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, "Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me.' I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water." John also declared, "I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit.' Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God."

*Adapted from John 1:29-34
The 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A*

**Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful.
Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your
local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.**

Family Time Prayer & Share Overleaf ▶

**Good News
for Everyone**

John the Baptist gave witness to what Jesus did and who Jesus really was. Now we too are called to be God's witnesses through living our lives the way Jesus shows us. Everywhere we go we can give witness to God's love – spreading joy and peace.

SPREAD THE WORD and bring **GOOD NEWS** to your friends by sharing **THE WEDNESDAY WORD**      



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

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Good News for Families

10 TOGETHER TIME



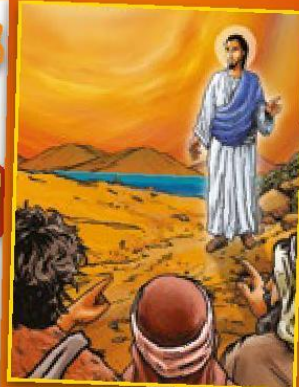
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READ & REFLECT! Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming towards him and said, "Look, there is the lamb of God! He is the one who will take away the sin of the world. When I baptised him, I saw the Spirit come down on him from heaven like a dove. God had said to me, 'One day, when you are baptising with water, you will see the Spirit come down and rest upon a certain man. He will be the one who will baptise people with the Holy Spirit.'" Then John said, "I saw this happen and I am the witness that Jesus is God's Chosen One."

What did John the Baptist say that he was the witness to?

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.



Sunday Gospel Gallery

Look at this Sunday's Gospel picture. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

2

SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love: This Wednesday's Word...

"People today listen more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if they do listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses."

Pope Paul VI (Evangelii Nuntiandi)

Ask your child what the word 'witness' means to them. Which well-known people or saints does your child know who have been great witnesses for Jesus (e.g. Mary his mother, St Joseph, St Teresa of Calcutta, St David, St Patrick)? Who does your child know to be a great witness today (e.g. our present Pope - Leo XIV, a family member, a priest, a teacher, a friend)? Who has recently brought the message of Jesus to your child at home, at school or in the parish?



Through our words and especially through our actions, we can be God's witnesses, through living our lives the way Jesus shows us. Choose a special way to be God's witnesses - sharing and showing love to everyone you meet this week. Perhaps you can: be kind and loving in your simple everyday words and actions; pray for help to be a good witness; tell others about the hope, goodness and peace that Jesus can bring into their lives; be fair and generous with everyone you meet.

WITNESS



3

★ Dear Lord Jesus, please help us to be your witnesses by our love, so that others will come to know the joy of knowing you. Amen. ★

FINDING THREE

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

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

☒ JOHN
☒ WITNESSED
☒ HEAVEN
☒ OPEN
☒ JESUS
☒ BAPTISED
☒ CHOSEN
☒ ONE

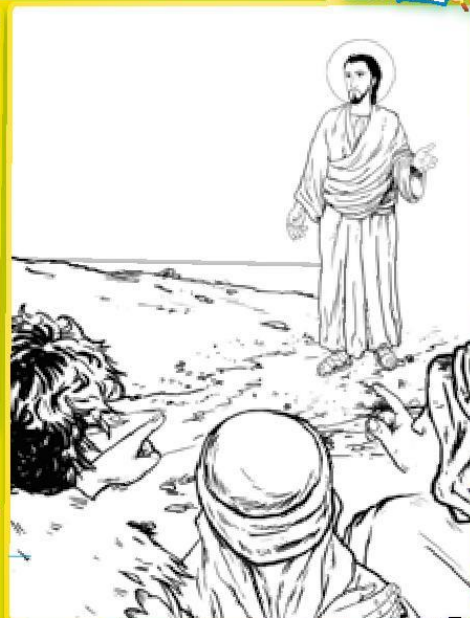
SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

Cross out the letters **b d f** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

Jebsfuds Chofbsend sfabwd wiftnbedss

"I ____ this happen and I am the ____
that ____ is God's ____ One."

Within the Catholic Church, this Sunday (18th January 2026) is known as Peace Sunday. This special day reminds us of the need to be witnesses to peace around our world. Find out more at paxchristi.org.uk



Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture

This week I will try my best to...

Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley



More about the Catholic Faith: wednesdayword.org & cbcew.org.uk



UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

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Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear about Jesus starting to gather together the first Christian community.

Christian communities (just like families) are never perfect - even Jesus' closest disciples weren't always the ideal set of people. However, everyone works better with others in community.

Our schools and parish communities were founded to be places of love, friendship, security and inclusiveness.

Wednesday 21st January 2026

People in the past answered Jesus' call to form our Catholic school communities which now welcome and support us and our children. Now it's our turn to continue the work, to build on and develop the warm and loving community of our school - together.

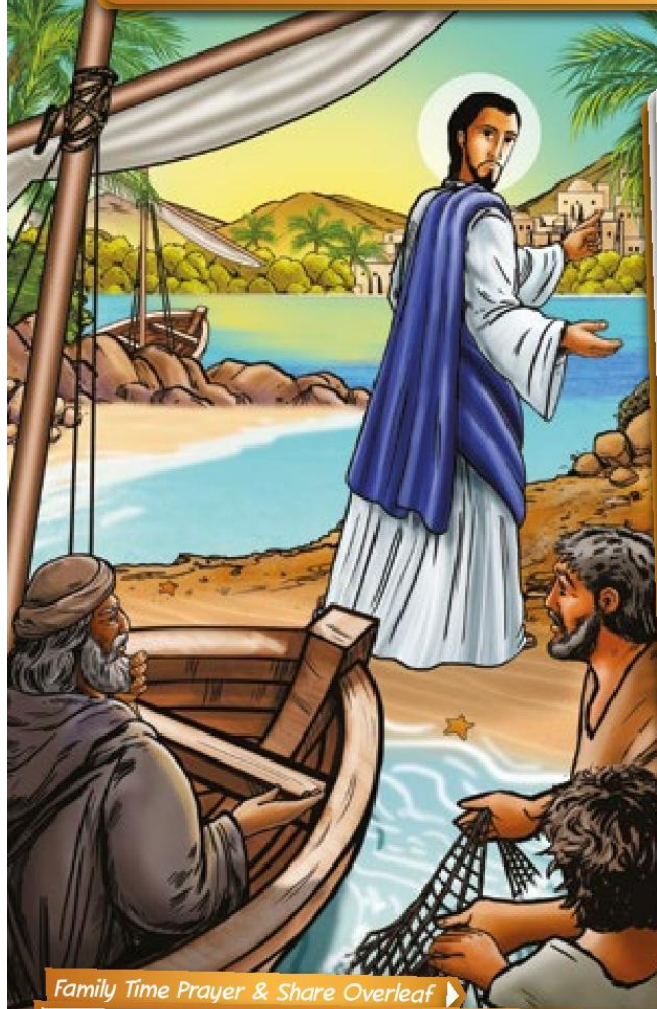
Enjoy a special time together this evening, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **COMMUNITY**.

Dom Henry Warsbrough



A Word from the Saints

"Whatever gifts and talents we are given by God are to be shared with the entire community." St Baldwin of Canterbury



THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 25th January 2026



Hearing that John the Baptist had been arrested, Jesus went back to Galilee and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town. From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand." As he was walking beside the

Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of people." And they left their nets at once and followed him. Going on from there, he saw another pair of brothers, James, son of Zebedee, and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving their boat and their father, they followed him. Jesus went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

Adapted from Matt. 4:12-23
The 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A

Come and learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church and say a prayer for your family & friends: all are very warmly invited.

Family Time Prayer & Share Overleaf ▶

Good News for Everyone

When we read the Gospels, we see that Jesus gathers round him a community which receives his word, follows it, shares in his journey and becomes his family. Jesus came for everyone and with him we, and our children, will never be on our own.

SPREAD THE WORD and bring **GOOD NEWS** to your friends by sharing **THE WEDNESDAY WORD** 



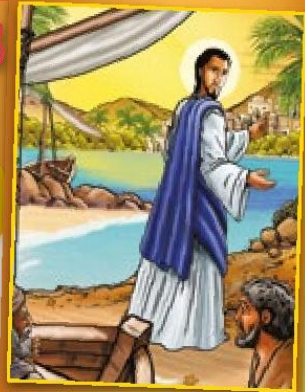
UNITE | ACHIEVE | CELEBRATE

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.



Good News for Families

TOGETHER TIME



1

READ & REFLECT! Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

One day, as Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two fishermen, Peter and his brother Andrew. They were fishing and Jesus called to them, "Follow me. From now on you will be gathering people instead of fish." Straightaway they left their nets and followed Jesus. Then Jesus saw two other brothers, James and John, who were also fishermen. When Jesus called them to follow him, they were in a boat with their father, Zebedee. But they too followed Jesus at once.

What did Jesus say the fishermen would be gathering from now on?

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.

Sunday Gospel Gallery

Look at this Sunday's Gospel picture. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

2

SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love: This Wednesday's Word...

"Community is the place where love is proven, where we learn to forgive, to begin again, and to serve one another."

St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus starts to form a community. Ask your child what the word 'community' means to them. Which communities do they belong to (e.g. family, cubs, brownies, football, etc.)? Another word we could use for our school is 'community'. What does your child enjoy most about their school community? Can they remember who made them feel really welcome when they started school?

COMMUNITY

Each of you name at least one thing that other family members are good at, which could help strengthen the family community. Without our own unique contribution to our community, something valuable will be missing. How can we also use our gifts for the good of the different communities we belong to? Perhaps we can: join a school team; welcome new people into our community; volunteer to use a gift or skill to help out with a project; join with others to organise a family fun night at school; support a fundraising event.

3

★ Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for our school and parish **communities**. Please help me say 'Yes' to you, and enrich the **communities** to which I belong. Amen.

FINDING THREE

G A R E E L I L A G L N
E W N T L E A G N A E G
J J E S U S S I L T W T
D E T L U W R P S H F L
E R S S P E O P L E L F
W M E D H R G E L R F O
O J S T L W I T D I T L
L G A L I L E E T N L L
L G R G E R L F W G E O
O T N E M R E H S I F W
F I S H E R M E N D T E
N E L P O E P L P O S D

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

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

- ☒ GALILEE
- ☒ FISHERMEN
- ☐ LEFT NETS
- ☐ FOLLOWED JESUS
- ☐ GATHERING PEOPLE

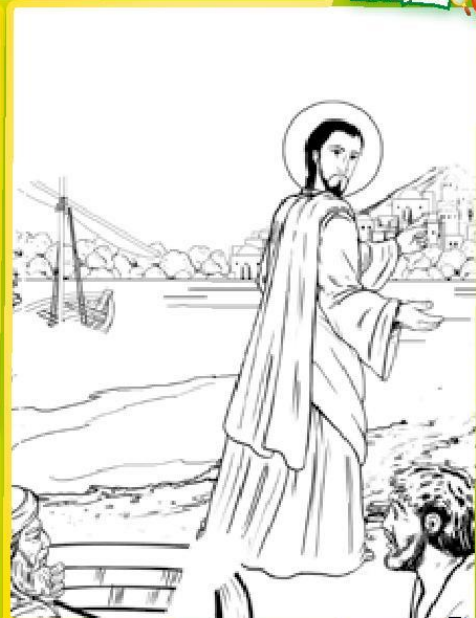
SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**

Cross out the letters **u n m** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

wuemren camlulend fomlunlow uhinsm

Peter and _____ brother Andrew _____ fishing
and Jesus _____ to them, "_____ me".

In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear Jesus calling the fishermen to follow him. Today, Jesus calls people, like you and me, to help him - to build his community - a community built on love.



Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture

This week I will try my best to...

Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley

More about the Catholic Faith: wednesdayword.org & cbcew.org.uk



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.