



18th November 2022



Reflection on the week: We began the week by reflecting on the first reading from last Sunday's liturgy, Theassalonians 3:7-12 Do not give food to anyone who refuses to work. St Paul was very clear in his message about people choosing the best path to get the most out of life. At assembly we talked about how we should always try our best at all times, even if we find it difficult. This week I attended a beautiful Class Mass with our Year 5 pupils and they certainly tried their best as they read beautifully and sang their hearts out. It was a very uplifting experience and I felt incredibly proud of them all. My thanks to Mrs Guna, Miss Clarke and Mr Maybury for preparing the children so well.

Wishing our families many blessings, Mrs Kerrell Headteacher

Reading Zone

We are excited to invite our Year 3 and 4 parents to the Reading Zone session this week. This will take place on Tuesday 22nd November and Thursday 24th November from 8.50am-9.15am. Please come to Reception where we will meet you and take you to join the session.

Please remember that it is very important that you read with your child three times per week and sign their diary. Reading at home with you, not always their school book, is more important now than ever as reading underpins so much of what your child learns at school.

Colchester Castle Trip

Our Year 3 children had a fantastic trip to Colchester Castle today to support their learning about the Romans. They especially enjoyed the secret room and seeing the many artefacts found on the site. They felt like proper history detectives for the day.

Volunteer Helpers

We really appreciate all offers of help in school and especially offers of help for our trips. Just a reminder to parents and carers please that if you are committing to help on a trip, that you can definitely come as it may be difficult to replace you at short notice.

Healthy Snack

We are still having children in Key Stage Two with a snack at Breaktime that is not fresh fruit or vegetables. We are a Healthy School and follow the guidance from Essex-please follow this link:

<https://essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk/service/healthy-schools/>

We will take snacks away that are not fruit and vegetables so to avoid your child having to wait until lunchtime, we ask please that parents follow our policy.

Multi Faith Week

I have seen some fantastic work from the children this week as part of our Multi Faith week. The children have enjoyed learning about Judaism and the differences and similarities between our Catholic faith and the faith of the Jewish people. We talked about the importance of learning about other faiths and cultures so that we can show respect and kindness towards everyone we meet in life.

Parish Christmas Bazaar

Please come along to the Parish hall and support the Parish Bazaar on Sunday 12pm until 2pm. Full details are further in this newsletter.



World Cup England Match

Pupils in Key Stage 2 will have the opportunity to watch England's first game of the World Cup, in their classrooms, during their lunch break. Please send a packed lunch in with your child on Monday if they would like to watch the match.

Holy Cross Maintain a Five Star Rating

The Catering Team at Holy Cross received an unannounced visit from the Environmental Health Inspection Team last Thursday. Among areas examined during the visit were:

- How hygienically food is handled, including how it is prepared and cooked
- The condition of our kitchen's structure, including the cleanliness and ventilation
- How the Catering Team manages and records what they do to make sure food is safe
- Allergen labelling
- Microbiological examination was also conducted

Congratulations to Mrs. Alger and her team who consistently maintain an excellent standard and once again achieved a top rating of 5. The result of this inspection is testament to their diligence in ensuring the very best for our children.



Gospel Values Awards

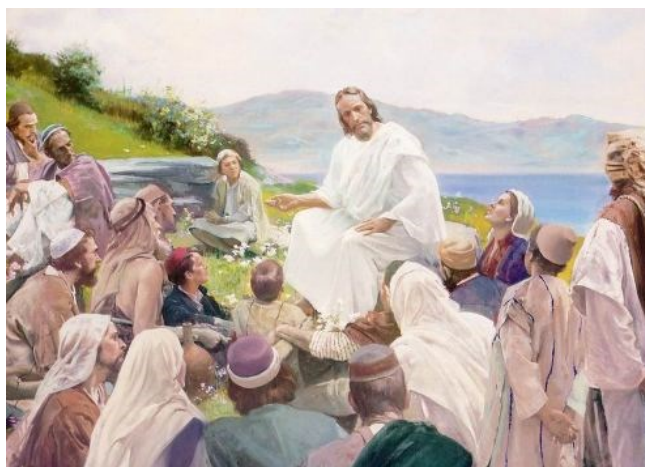
The Gospel Value this week is...

Forgiveness

- reconciliation

"Her sins, which were many, have been forgiven." (7:47)

"Father, forgive them..." (23:24)



Congratulations to the following children who received the Gospel values certificate this week.

Dragonflies: Caliyah Aboagye-Manu

Grasshoppers: Arnas Gavutis

Hedgehogs: Arianne Brest Ndeyi

Squirrels: Enoch Goodfellow

Badgers: Harry Tupper

Foxes: Keaton Peters

Hares: Stevie Ginn

Rabbits: Julia Czarny

Kingfishers: Logan Coombe

Robins: Pola Bubetty

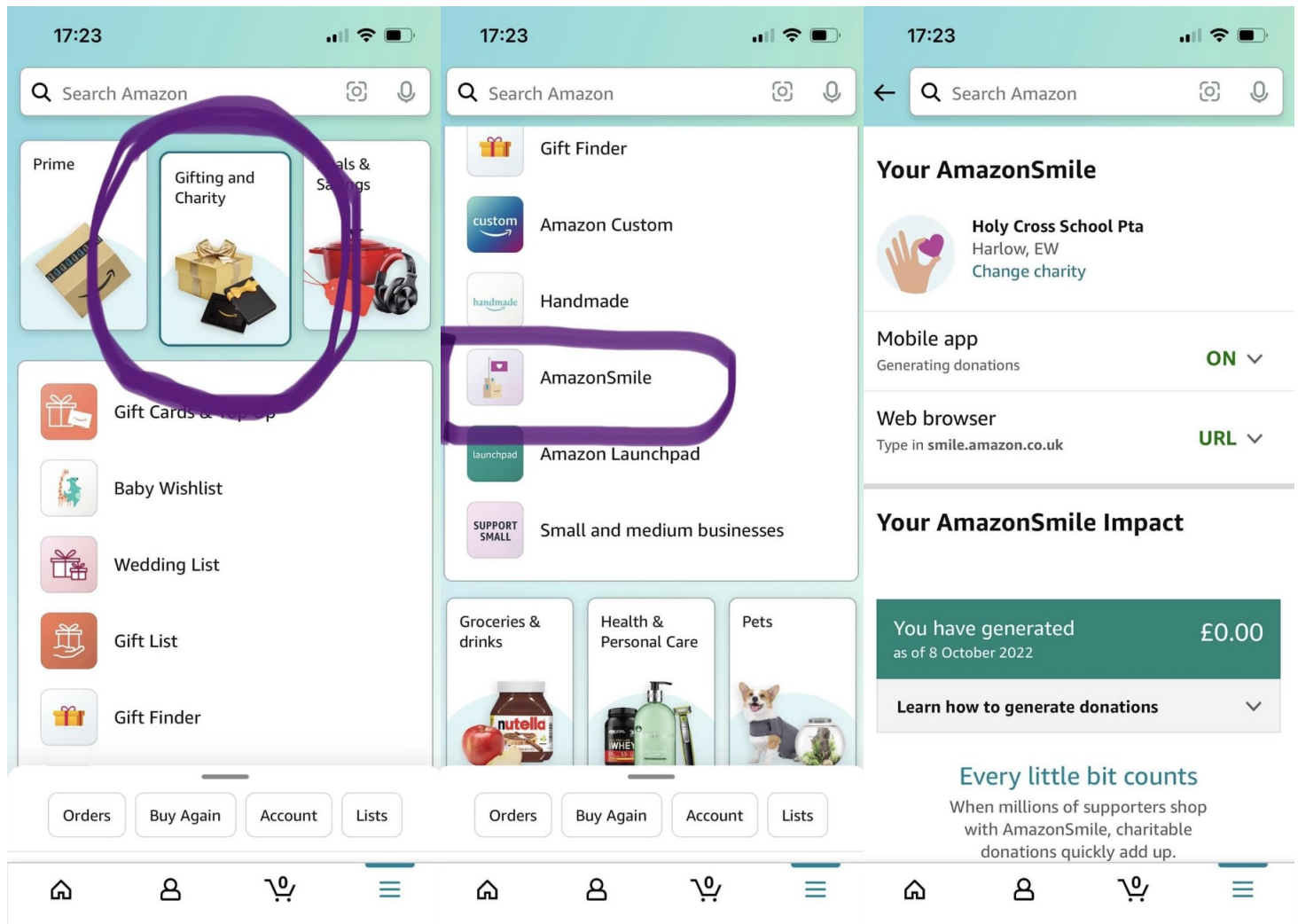
Eagles: Laela Spicer

Owls: Toby Field



Did you know that if you have an Amazon account you can help support the without costing you anything?

All you have to do is link your account to Amazon Smile and Holy Cross School PTA as the charity. Amazon will donate a percentage of all qualifying to us, for the benefit of all our children.



Art Calendar Competition

Thank you to everyone who entered the Art Calendar competition. Most winners were announced last week. The winners for Reception were:

Butterflies:

Phoebe Tupper

Ladybirds:

Alice Thorpe

Pupil Premium Funding in Key Stage 1 and 2/Free School Meals in Key Stage 2

Our school can obtain additional funding to support your child's education and if you're a parent whose child is in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) they could avail of free school lunches. Please read the information below and if this applies to you, please contact us as detailed.

Pupil Premium in Key Stage 1

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and if you meet any of the eligibility criteria below, our school will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at our school to help your child.

At Holy Cross, we receive an extra funding for every eligible pupil who is registered.

To apply please contact:

admin@holycross-pri.essex.sch.uk or telephone
Mrs. Thomas on 01279-424452

Free School Meals and Pupil Premium in Key Stage 2

Children in E.Y.F.S, Years 1 and 2 are automatically entitled to a free school lunch under the Governments' Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme, this stops when children enter Year 3.

However, if you meet the eligibility criteria below, your child may be entitled to a free school lunch.

In addition to free school lunch our school will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at our school to help your child.

To apply please use this link

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

Your child may be eligible for free school meals if you are receiving any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (not Working Tax Credit), with an annual income below £16,190
- Pension Guarantee Credit
- Employment and Support Allowance, income related
- Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act, 1999
- Working Tax Credit run-on, paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit, with a household income of £7,400 or less (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No, pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive funding which can support your child in other ways.



HOLY CROSS PARISH

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Have a jolly holly holiday season in our bazaar!

**SUNDAY 20TH NOVEMBER
12PM TO 2PM
HOLY CROSS PARISH HALL**

Admission is completely free, so bring your entire family! Refreshments will also be available at the bazaar.

Donations of candles, toiletries, bottles and sweets gratefully received



ATTENDANCE MATTERS





Congratulations to the winners of the KS1 Attendance Award are Squirrels achieving 98% attendance. Well done! The winners of the KS2 Attendance Award are Hares, also attaining 98% attendance. Well done!

Please ensure you are sending your child into school everyday, unless they are not well enough to attend. Attending school is so important and makes a huge difference to your child's learning. The gates open at **8:30am** until **8.50am**.

Familiarise yourself with the symptoms of COVID 19. If your child displays any COVID 19 symptoms they must have a negative test before they may attend school. There is no need to keep your child off with a common cold, if they are well enough to come in.

Parents of children below attendance targets will be invited in for a meeting with the Educational Welfare Officer.

It is essential you notify us of your child's absence by 9am either by telephone or using the Pupil Asset report absence option on every day of absence. We need full details of why your child is unable to attend school. We are frequently having to contact parents, to find out why their child is absent from school.

Butterflies	87%
Ladybirds	94%
Dragonflies	97%
Grasshoppers	95%
Hedgehogs	90%
 Squirrels	98% 
Badgers	95%
Foxes	93%
 Hares	98% 
Rabbits	95%
Kingfishers	97%
Robins	97%
Eagles	96%
Owls	96%



Times Tables Rockstars

Congratulations to the following children for trying really hard with their times tables this week.

Hedgehogs: Sebastian Gronert

Badgers: Priscilla Asare

Hares: Emilie Patasuite

Kingfishers: Dominica Nguyen

Eagles: Kingsley Udeagha

Squirrels: Keziah Adisa

Foxes: Emmanuella Boateng

Rabbits: Edward Guna

Robins: Holly-Mai Boone-Jolley

Owls: Julia Margryta

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

AMIGO

Amigo is a social platform which purports to connect strangers from around the world – and, with built-in translation software, it reduces the expected language barriers. Focusing heavily on one-to-one chat, video calls and live streams, Amigo encourages its users to build up online relationships and unlock exclusive features such as private video and audio calls: essentially, the more that people chat, the more functions become available to them. This is an app designed with mature users very much in mind and is therefore definitely not recommended for children.

AGE RATING

18

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONE-TO-ONE COMMUNICATION

While online chats and livestreaming are a great way to communicate with people that children can trust (such as friends and family), Amigo encourages users to connect with complete strangers and develop a friendship through private chats, calls and videos. This will be a clear red flag for most parents, due to the possibility of a child encountering inappropriate content or an online predator.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTACT

Within minutes of signing up for our trial of Amigo (and without using a profile photo), users of the opposite sex were messaging with suggestive statements such as "You're just my type" and "Let's have fun". While the app's stated intent is to help people build friendships, some users obviously seek to take those relationships in a more mature and amorous direction.

MEMBERSHIP COSTS

Like many apps that are free to download, Amigo's business model is centred on in-app purchases. Users are encouraged to pay for VIP membership – enabling them to send more messages each day and boosting their profile's visibility. People can also buy coins (again, for real money) which allow them to send virtual gifts and further increase the number of messages they can send daily.

LACK OF AGE VERIFICATION

Amigo makes no secret of the fact that it's for people aged 18 or above. There's no age verification, however, so a young person could simply sign up under a false date of birth. The app's algorithm claims to match users of similar ages (making them more compatible), but either the algorithm isn't very reliable, or most users have entered a fake age which doesn't correspond with their profile pic.

REWARDS FOR REPEATED USE

Amigo gifts virtual coins to users if they reply to messages within 10 seconds, while there are also daily rewards for posting comments, sharing a video, getting likes or simply opening the app. It also encourages increasing 'Intimacy Levels' with other users to unlock extra features: once someone's online 'friendship' reaches Intimacy Level 3, they can hold one-to-one video calls with each other.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MONITOR DOWNLOADS

As well as frequent catch-ups with your child about what they've enjoyed doing online, you could consider taking the additional step of physically checking their phone every so often to see which apps they've installed. The safest option could be to enable 'ask to buy' (Apple) or 'purchase approvals' (Android) on their device, meaning your authorisation is needed to download any apps.

BLOCK, REPORT, DISCUSS

Many children already know that connecting with strangers online is dangerous, but it never hurts to refresh their memory. Whatever communication apps your child uses, make sure they're fully aware that if anything online makes them feel uncomfortable, scared or upset, then they can block the user responsible, report the content, take a screenshot as evidence and come to tell you straight away.

RESPECT AGE RESTRICTIONS

Apps have age restrictions for a reason, and Amigo is very definitely a mature content platform. Given that many of Amigo's users apparently use a bogus date of birth, you might want to remind your child about the implications of setting up a fake profile – such as being exposed to messages and videos that make them feel uncomfortable or feeling pressured into chatting with strangers.

ACTIVE LISTENING

If your child does approach you with a concern, make time to stop what you're doing and actively listen. Let them talk without interrupting or showing any judgement, then discuss their options and the possible solutions: this empowers them and reassures them that you're there to be supportive. If the issue is one that has put your child at risk, however, you may wish to contact the police.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



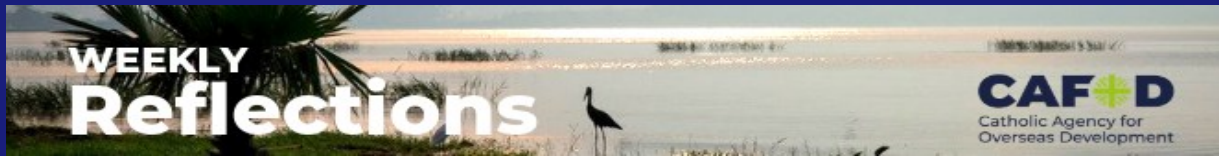
@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety



Based on the gospel for Sunday 20 November, Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe: Luke 23:35-43

"Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Content warning: This reflection includes references to a shooting.

Many different people were present at the crucifixion of Jesus, doing different things. The people stood watching, the rulers sneered, the soldiers mocked. One criminal insulted and a second criminal said: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom".

So often, when we think of Jesus' death on the cross, we think of it just as something that happened long ago. But there are people who continue to be condemned today.

About 35 years ago, as a young man in Nigeria, I was at the scene of a military firing squad, where six condemned criminals were tied to wooden posts. There was a large crowd of people made up of family members, civil authority and local onlookers watching on.

Like Jesus, the fate of these men was determined, whether justly or unjustly. They had to die.

A commanding voice instructed the soldiers to aim and fire. There was absolute silence and all the condemned men were killed. I was extremely terrified.

Over the years that experience has helped me deepen my understanding of Jesus being killed on the cross. It taught me that we cannot avoid suffering, but that Jesus is always there.

From the excruciating place on the cross, Jesus offered paradise to the second criminal. As a priest, I have spent time comforting the dying, visiting prisons and hospitals, holding funerals and working as a missionary in South Sudan during the conflict there.

My experience and my faith have taught me not to run away from difficult situations.

It is for us all to put ourselves in the shoes of those who are condemned today. How do we accompany those who are suffering and give hope?

Christ Jesus, you are with us always. Strengthen us as we accompany others through times of suffering and share your hope with us all. Amen.



The Words of Pope Francis

Let us pray that the Lord might convert the hearts of those who are still directed toward war, and make the desire for peace prevail for tortured Ukraine, to avoid every escalation and to be open to the way of cease fire and dialogue.

A Weekly Gift to you and your family from your Catholic School

THE Wednesday
WORD



SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL WITH PARENTS & FAMILIES

Dear Parents and Carers,

This Sunday we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. In this Sunday's Gospel, the leaders, the soldiers and the people all mock Jesus as God's Chosen One and as king.

Jesus' kingship is not one of military or political power, but one of love and mercy. Jesus forgave those who crucified him. He also showed mercy to the criminal who was sorry and called him to share in his kingdom – an offer Jesus also makes to us today.

Wednesday 16th November 2022

Pope Francis reminds us that, "In life we all make many mistakes. Don't be afraid to ask God for forgiveness. God is pure mercy." Each one of us receives mercy as a gift from God – it is a gift which we are called to share with others.

Enjoy a special time together this evening exploring this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **MERCY**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



To see this week's Parish Version of The Wednesday Word: wednesdayword.org – Parents' Pages – Lectio Divina with Fr Henry.

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 20th November 2022



The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. "He saved others," they said, "let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One." The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself." Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals hanging there abused him. "Are you not the Christ?" he said. "Save yourself and us as well." But the other spoke up and rebuked him. "Have you no fear of God at all?" he said. "You received the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus," he said, "remember me when you come into your kingdom." "Indeed, I promise you," Jesus replied, "today you will be with me in paradise."

Adapted from

Luke 23: 35-43 (the Feast of Christ the King, Year C)

**Everyone can learn more about this Gospel
in Church – all are warmly invited.**

"Mercy is the very foundation of the Church's life. May every Church be a place of mercy." *Pope Francis*



THE Wednesday
WORD

CONNECTING HOME, SCHOOL AND PARISH THROUGH SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

Many people who came into contact with Jesus felt the healing power and joy of God's mercy. Today, the Church helps us to experience this mercy (especially through the Sacrament of Reconciliation) and encourages us to be 'merciful' to others - which brings us great peace.



1 Our Special Time Together

Enjoy reading the Gospel overleaf (or below for younger children)

While Jesus was on the cross, the leaders of the people insulted him saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One." The soldiers also mocked and made fun of him saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself." Above Jesus was a sign which said, 'This is the King of the Jews.' There were two criminals who were also on crosses alongside Jesus, and one of them said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus replied, "I promise you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

What did Jesus say to the criminal? Which word or words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? See the Gospel picture opposite. What does it make you think about?



2 Wednesday's Word is ...

MERCY



3

Loving God & Each Other

"Read the gospels! This way we will learn what is most essential in our lives: love and mercy." *Pope Francis*

Mercy is a virtue. Ask your child what the word 'mercy' means to them. You may want to share with your child what the word 'mercy' means to you. Ask your child who they know to be a 'merciful' person. Can you or your child remember a time when you have been merciful - when you gave someone another chance? How did it feel?

"God is so merciful towards us. We too should learn to be merciful." *Pope Francis*

Each time we show 'mercy', we open ourselves to receive mercy from God. Being compassionate, being patient with others even if we are being treated unfairly, forgiving others (even if we feel they don't deserve forgiveness), sometimes giving people more than they deserve, these are just some ways of showing mercy. Is there someone to whom you could show mercy? Each of you choose one way in which you will try to show mercy at home, at school or in the community in this coming week.



Dear Lord Jesus, please help us to grow in the virtue of **mercy** - to be open to receiving your mercy and showing **mercy** to others. Amen.

Gospel Gallery

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

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

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



JESUS KING



CRIMINAL ASKED



REMEMBER TODAY



PROMISED PARADISE



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



Search for at least three differences between this picture and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring.

Cross out the letters **h n v** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

fondvahy Jevshuns Panravidishe provmishen

_____ said, "I _____ you, _____
you will be with me in _____."

Throughout the gospels, Jesus reminds us that God wants us to forgive and show mercy - just like he did. Merciful people do things out of their love and care for others and this helps make the world a better place.

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

.....
.....





Encountering Christ
Prayerfully preparing for the
Sunday Mass and praying in
particular for our school families



Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 20th November 2022 - Christ the King

1 Relax & Remember

Set aside 10 -15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross † and remain still for a minute of settling silence. **Call to mind the love that God has for you. Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present.** Then read the Gospel, preferably aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.



2 Read

Taken from the Gospel for 20th November 2022 The King of Forgiveness (Luke 23:35-43)

The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said, 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said, 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied, 'today you will be with me in paradise.'



3 Reflect

After spending a few minutes considering this Gospel, continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

The crucifixion scene in Luke, as in all the gospels, is the climax of the story of Jesus. Emphasis is placed on the role of Jesus as King. The soldiers mock him as such, but the Gospel's use of irony ensures that we understand that they are saying more than they realise. Jesus is also ridiculed as Saviour ('Save yourself and us as well!'): especially in Luke (from the Infancy Stories onwards) Jesus is presented as the true Saviour – who is God. In Luke the crucifixion scene is primarily a scene of forgiveness, where Jesus carries on to the very end his work of forgiveness, which Luke has underlined throughout his Gospel. The scene begins with the women of Jerusalem mourning for Jesus, and ends with all the spectators departing, beating their breasts, recognizing their universal guilt. Jesus spontaneously forgives his executioners, asking God's forgiveness for them before they even ask it for themselves. He welcomes into his kingdom of Paradise the bandit who spontaneously acknowledges his wrongdoing. Here we see the culmination of all those scenes throughout Luke's Gospel where values are reversed: the King presented as a wretched figure dying on the Cross, to whom homage is paid not by dignified courtiers, but by another wretched figure dying by his side.

What sort of person should a citizen of the kingdom of forgiveness be?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

4 Respond & Request

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Then thank God for any insight you may have received. Conclude by asking God to bless you with one of the following spiritual gifts to help you act on any resolution you have made: love, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, self control, patience, or joy. Please remember to pray for the Church and particularly our school families. **Then conclude by requesting the prayers of Our Lady & St Joseph.**



**The Wednesday Word is under the patronage of St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church
Within the tradition of the Catholic Church, each Wednesday is dedicated to St Joseph**

WEDNESDAY WORD PLUS †

Fr Henry's reflections on the first and second readings of Sunday 20th November 2022



First Reading: *David Anointed King*

2 Samuel 5:1-3

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron. 'Look', they said, 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel."' So all the elders of Israel came to the king of Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord, and they anointed David king of Israel.

David is a fascinating character. As a leader he had a charm and charisma which were irresistible. There is no doubt that he was ambitious. When the women sang, 'Saul has killed his thousands and David his tens of thousands,' it was music to his ears. The king's son fell in love with him and gave him his own prince's gear. The king's daughter fell in love with him, and he accepted her as a good dynastic marriage; but he never had children by her, though he was not lacking in sexual drive (Bathsheba was to come later). He set up a protection racket in Judah and so, having won the loyalty of the tribal leaders there, they first anointed him king of Judah at Hebron, the southern tribal capital. Finally, after Saul's death, the elders of the northern tribes (known collectively as Israel) came to anoint him king as well, to reign over the whole country. Nevertheless, David also took the first steps to setting up the Temple cult, and was ever after remembered for that. It was to David that the promises of God's eternal monarchy were given which were to be fulfilled in Jesus. These promises echo down and down the scriptures; they were the basis of all Israel's hope.

What do you consider leadership-qualities before God?

Second Reading: *The Kingdom of Forgiveness*

Colossians 1:12-20

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light. Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins. He is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers - all things were created through him and for him. Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head. As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

Way back in July, on the fourteenth Ordinary Sunday of the Year, we heard all but the first part of this reading which celebrates the unrivalled position of Jesus as first-born not only in the order of creation, but also in the resurrection. In the order of creation, Christ is the image of the unseen God, the model or template on which God created the world, the Wisdom of God, so he is the first-born and yet himself uncreated. In the order of the resurrection also he is the first-born, bringing all things to perfection, and so he is the crown of creation. In today's reading, before we hear about Jesus as the first-born, we have a significant preface. Paul is writing, with a slight air of surprise, to the gentiles: the gentiles too are enabled to enter into the inheritance, to join Christ in the kingdom promised to David and fulfilled in Jesus. As this year's gospel readings have taught us again and again, it is not a kingdom that we can earn. What we need to do is to submit ourselves for forgiveness. Not all that easy, perhaps! Put it the other way round: what we need to do is stop pretending to others and ourselves that we are perfect.

What attitude in myself is the most frequent cause of my falling?

“ Jesus is the Crown of Creation. ”

The Wednesday Word: *Connecting Home, School & Parish through the Word of God*
w: www.wednesdayword.org e: info@wednesdayword.org

Happy Birthday this week to...

Kiera Noonan, Reg Ruxton, Olivia Jarczewska, Rose Dunn, Hayley Ranathunga & Dennis Jegorovs



Golden Awards:

Dragonflies:	Maria Cristina Ghira, for always trying hard with her writing
Grasshoppers:	Zara Brooks, for working really hard in maths
Hedgehogs:	Viktor Svoboda, for excellent problem solving in maths
Squirrels:	Aoife Boland, for great work in maths
Badgers:	Skyla Hand, for showing great improvement in maths
Foxes:	Andriya Ebin, for fantastic effort in all subjects, especially when using her phonics when writing
Hares:	Amy Dawodu, for her awesome answers in history
Rabbits:	Marshall Pavelin for always trying his best!
Kingfishers:	Sophia-Jai Henry, for great enthusiasm in all subjects
Robins:	Dovydas Mekinis, for fantastic contributions to our class discussions
Eagles:	Jeremiah Marriott, for having an excellent attitude to his learning this week and working so hard in all lessons. Well done!
Owls:	Ella Hayley, for great work in history
Learning Mentor:	Logan Coombs, for setting up a geography lunch club

Menu Week 2

Diary Dates

Monday 21st November

Rabbits Swimming Lesson
Y1 & Y2 Multisports 3:10 - 4:10

Tuesday 22nd November

Y3 & Y4 Reading Zone 8:50
Squirrels Library Visit 11:00
Y3 & Y4 Football 3.15 - 4.15
Y5 & Y6 Football 3:15 - 4:15

Wednesday 23rd November

Y5 Eucharist Service 9:00
KS1 Karate 3:10 - 4:10
Y5 & 6 Basketball Competition
Team Training 3:15 - 4:15

Thursday 24th November

Y3 & Y4 Reading Zone 8:50
Hares Library Visit 9:00
Rabbits Library Visit 11:00
Parent Forum 2:00
KS2 Karate 3:15 - 4:15
Y1 & Y2 Football 3:10 - 4:10

Friday 25th November

KS2 Assembly 9:00 - 9:30
KS1 Assembly 2:30 - 3:00
KS2 Dodgeball 3:15 - 4.15

Please download our News & Events App for dates for the year. Details are available on the schools website under News & Events at www.holycross-pri.essex.sch.uk

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Mrs A Kerrell

Mr S Kelliher

House Points

Congratulations to the winning house St Andrew