

14th October 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we reflected on the Gospel Luke (Luke 17:11-19) where Jesus healed 10 people who were ill yet only one came back to thank him. Like the man who returned to Jesus, we should thank God for the good things that we have been given. When we see all that we have as a gift from God, it makes us want to make it a fairer place for all people to live, a place where all people have enough food to eat. Our Harvest Collection, which started on Monday, is one way in which we can say thank you. We will continue to collect items for the Harvest Collection next week. We welcome donations of non-perishable food items which will be taken to Streets 2 Homes by our school council.

We wish you a peaceful and restful weekend.

Secondary School Applications—Important Reminder

The closing date for applications from parents of Year 6 children, for a secondary school place in Year 7 from September 2023, is 31 October 2022.

Applications can be made via the following website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.



Harvest Collection and Assembly

On Friday 21st October our Friday Assemblies will both have a Harvest theme. The children will be singing Harvest hymns, sharing some of their work and giving thanks for all of the food that we eat and good things that we have from God. Our Reception pupils will be bringing in some Harvest foods to put on the altar. Parents are welcome to join us.

Sustainability

Please look out for the letter which Mrs Kerrell will be sending next week in line with Pope Francis' message about how we can all care for our planet.

Football

Well done to our super Year 5/6 football team who played 4 matches today after qualifying last week.

They beat Freshwaters 1-0, drew 0-0 with Church Langley and Hatfield Heath and were narrowly defeated 1-0 by Pear Tree Mead.

We finished joint runners up in our group but unfortunately did not progress to the semi-finals.



Reading Meeting

Parents are invited to a meeting about reading on 1st November at 3:30. Further details to follow, via Pupil Asset.

Half Term

We break up for the Half Term holiday on Friday 21st October at normal time. School reopens on Monday 31st October.

Bag 2 Schools Collection

We have sent out bags, for the Bags 2 School collection today.

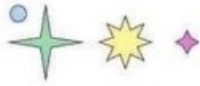
The Bags 2 School collection is organised by the Friends of Holy Cross School and the school Eco Council. Please see further information on what can be collected below:

BAGS 2 SCHOOL COLLECTION 3RD NOVEMBER

What can go in the bag?

Man's, ladies' and children's clothing
Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
Handbags
Hats
Bags
Scarves and ties
Jewellery
Lingerie
Socks
Belts
Soft toys
Household linen
Household curtains
Household towels
Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases, and duvet covers)





Disco Party

Friday

4th November

**Games, snacks and
unlimited drinks**

KS 1* - from 3.15 to 4.30pm

*Reception children must be accompanied by an adult

KS 2 - from 5 to 6.30pm

TICKET £3.50

PRE BOOK AT THE OFFICE NOW!!

Payment by cash or card

The PTA need volunteers to help organise and run this event. Please get in touch with the office to know how you can help.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS





Congratulations to the winners of the KS1 Attendance Award, for the fourth consecutive week, are Squirrels achieving 96% attendance. Well done! The winners of the KS2 Attendance Award are Eagles, attaining 99% 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 | 94% |
| Ladybirds | 93% |
| Dragonflies | 91% |
| Grasshoppers | 86% |
| Hedgehogs | 88% |
|  Squirrels 96%  | |
| Badgers | 92% |
| Foxes | 96% |
| Hares | 98% |
| Rabbits | 97% |
| Kingfishers | 95% |
| Robins | 97% |
|  Eagles 99%  | |
| Owls | 96% |

Gospel Values Awards

The Gospel Value this week is...

Integrity

- honesty, truth-telling

"You will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify." (21: 12-13)



"Now you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup" (11:39)

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

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Dragonflies: | Olivia Colussi | Grasshoppers: | Kaci McCann-Coombs |
| Hedgehogs: | Isla McNamara | Squirrels: | Enoch Goodfellow |
| Badgers: | Anayah Arbuah | Foxes: | Barry Tanu |
| Hares: | Ella Tanu | Rabbits: | Teodora Fedeles |
| Kingfishers: | Nikoleta Hristova | Robins: | Aurora Milciute Blynovas |
| Eagles: | Adjoa Kwakye | Owls: | Taylor Leagas |

10 tips for parents and carers

HOW TO BE GREEN WITH YOUR TECH

Right now, humans aren't living sustainably: we're taking too many resources and not leaving the world in a fit state for future generations. Old tech products are a clear example: if we throw them away, the poisonous lead and mercury inside can get into the food chain through the soil. Recycling tech, though, has its own issues: it's often exported to countries where the law doesn't protect people from hazards. Whole villages (including children) sort through discarded devices to remove useful parts and substances like gold, silver and copper – often putting their health at risk. Finding ways to re-use tech is the greenest option.

So what can we do with those cupboards and drawers full of old phones and unwanted computers?
Reuse, recycle, donate or sell them!

1 DONATE THEM TO CHARITY

There are lots of charities that redistribute unwanted tech to worthy causes, either in the UK or in developing nations. If your old products are still working, this is a great option – as it means that new products don't have to be made. Search online for your nearest place that does this.

2 REMEMBER THE BATTERIES

Almost all batteries can be recycled – even the little 'button' ones from smaller gadgets. You could choose a box at home or school to keep used batteries in, and then take them to a designated place that collects them. Be very careful, though – button cells can be deadly if eaten by small children or pets.

3 USE YOUR ONLINE SAFETY KNOWLEDGE

If you're recycling, selling or repurposing any of your devices, make sure that all your personal data, private photos and so on have been deleted before the tech leaves your hands or is connected online.

4 REUSE THEM

Old smartphones can be used as webcams, security cameras, baby monitors or pet cams: there are apps that will configure them to do this. You can also turn an outdated phone into a TV remote control, an alarm clock that wakes you up with your favourite track, or a media centre you can take to places where you wouldn't risk your new phone.

5 TURN IT INTO SOMETHING NEW

Smartphones are more powerful than most older computers. If you have an unwanted android phone, it's quite easy to create a new computer – you could use an old TV as a monitor, meaning you just need a mouse and keyboard. There are also small devices you can buy which let you do the same with iPhones.

6 RETURN THEM

Return devices to the manufacturer or retailer you bought them from. Some manufacturers take responsibility for their products and accept them back to refurbish and redistribute. If they don't, you could contact them and ask why: the more consumer pressure there is on shops and manufacturers, the more likely they are to act in a greener way.

7 SUPPORT SCIENCE

Let your old devices help modern research. Scientists currently investigating topics like far-off star systems, cancer treatment and earthquakes need enormous computing power. If your unwanted device is WiFi enabled, for example, you can connect it to a network so that it can boost scientists' research.

8 SELL THEM

This is also a green option as it means that fewer devices have to be produced. On top of that, you could also donate some of the money you make to an environmental charity.

9 RESEARCH DISPOSAL METHODS

If your device is beyond repair and no one wants it, get rid of it safely through a specialist tech disposal company. Check that your device won't be shipped off to another country for processing.

10 KEEP THINKING

There's no such thing as 'too many' ways to help our planet! If you come up with a better idea than ours, contact National Online Safety and tell us.

Meet Our Expert

Neil Atkin teaches scientific literacy through his non-profit organisation, Rubbish Science, which engages people in working together to live more sustainably and creatively uses waste to help address real-life problems. There are a range of environmental activities you may like to try on their website: www.rubbishscience.com.



USEFUL LINKS: Places to donate old electrical items: www.recycleyourrecycling.co.uk/donate-electrical-goods/ | How to turn an old smartphone into a computer: www.makuseed.com/blog/ways-to-turn-smartphone-into-pc
The rules about shop responsibilities on tech: www.gov.uk/about-electrical-waste-producer-supplier-responsibilities/ | Two scientific research schemes which old devices can support: www.zoo-worke.org/get-involved/ and www.vodafone.co.uk/microbleedlab/ | Find your local tech recycling centre: www.recycleyourrecycling.co.uk/



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 28.09.2022



Based on the gospel for Sunday 16 October, Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Luke 18:1-8

"Pray continually and never lose heart."

In this weekend's parable we meet a judge who had no fear of God or respect for humanity. The judge sees himself as a god-type figure with limitless power. This is demonstrated in the way he acts toward the widow.

We hear many stories similar to this parable. The work of CAFOD highlights some of the most pressing issues of injustice in our world: poverty, food and hunger, climate change. The widow's persistence, which after a time forces the judge to relent to her demands, shows us that persistence is vital in all what we do.

The widow is an example for us to pray with resolve, and to keep on pestering God who is the eternal just Judge. Even if we get tired of asking the same thing over and over again, persistence is key.

I often hear it said that to work is to pray and to pray is to work. Both go hand in hand.

Prayer helps us to find the right balance in life and informs us how to be just, how we can respond and help those who are in poverty, those who lack food and how we can address climate change in our own life.

Lord God and Just Judge, today I knock on your door. May I never cease to bring before you the needs of the world in prayer. Help me to be more just and to open my eyes and my heart to others. Amen.



The Words of Pope Francis

Evangelization is never a mere repetition of the past. The joy of the Gospel is always Christ, but the routes this good news can travel on through time and history are different. #OctoberMissionary

Wednesday
12th October

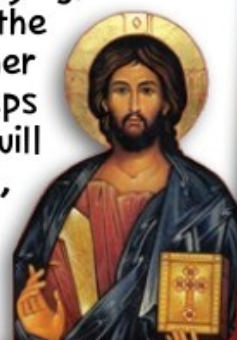


**Good News
for Families**

1

Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

Jesus wanted to teach his disciples that they should always pray and never give up. So he told them a story. Jesus said, "There was a judge in a certain town who had neither fear of God nor respect for any other person. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, 'I want justice from you against my enemy!' For a long time the judge refused, but at last he said to himself, 'Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for any other person, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will continue coming and worry me to death.'" Then Jesus said, "If even the unjust judge eventually helped this woman who didn't give up, then how much more will God, who is good, help those who pray to him every day."



Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 16th October 2022. Luke 18: 1-8 (29th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

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 **PRAYER**.



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





"Dear Parents, teach your children to pray. Pray with them.

Prayer strengthens family life." Pope Francis

What was Jesus teaching his disciples? In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells us that God is not like the unjust judge who is irritated by the woman pestering him. No matter how much we pray to God, he doesn't think we are pestering him - he is our loving Father. There are many kinds of prayer. This Gospel reminds us about the value of 'Asking Prayer' and not giving up in our prayer requests. Ask your child what the word 'prayer' means to them. Does your child like to pray aloud or quietly, alone or with others? What is their favourite prayer?

"Prayer brings us not only nearer to God but also nearer to one another."

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Prayer, at its simplest, is spending time with God - talking, listening, being together - telling God all about our lives. We can trust that God always hears our prayers and will always do what is best for us and those we pray for. We can pray anywhere, anytime. Each of you say when and where you like to pray (e.g. at home, in bed, at church, at school, outside, elsewhere). What would you like to pray and ask God for this week? Who can you pray for throughout the coming week (e.g. a family member, a friend, your teacher, your priest, a poorly, hungry or lonely person)? How else can you help that person?



For tonight's closing prayer, ask your child if they know
'The Lord's Prayer': Our Father, who art in heaven...



WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH



Cross out the letters
i m b
in the 4 jumbled
words to find
4 real words.

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

☒
☐
☐
☐
☐
☐
☐

**POOR
WIDOW**

**CONSTANT
REQUESTS**

**JUDGE
HELPED**

**PRAY
ALWAYS**

☒
☐
☐
☐
☐
☐
☐

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS
BACKWARDS OR **DIAGONALLY**

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| J | W | Y | I | W | A | L | W | A | Y | S |
| U | H | I | P | R | A | Y | A | S | A | W |
| D | E | P | L | E | H | J | Y | T | O | A |
| G | L | E | E | Q | U | E | N | D | C | Y |
| E | P | G | J | U | C | A | I | G | E | W |
| P | E | D | L | E | T | W | L | E | Y | I |
| L | D | S | T | S | E | U | Q | E | R | D |
| E | R | J | N | T | U | Q | Y | H | P | O |
| D | C | O | N | S | T | A | N | T | Q | W |
| U | C | P | O | O | R | E | G | D | U | J |
| S | O | C | P | P | S | Y | A | W | L | A |

pirbamy wabnitemd tebamchi simhoubld
Jesus _____ to _____ his disciples
that they _____ always _____.

Write a promise and then **draw** a big smile on Smiley

God wants us to spend time with him through prayer. Just as we need to put oil in a car to make it work properly, so prayer helps us to work properly - keeping us in good order.

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 16th October 2022 - The Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 16th October 2022 (Luke 18:1-8): The Answer to Prayer

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. "There was a judge in a certain town," he said, "who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, 'I want justice from you against my enemy!' For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, 'Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death.'" And the Lord said, "You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?"



3 Reflect

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

We often think of prayer as mere asking, and this parable encourages us to pester God as the wronged widow pestered the Unjust Judge. But that is only one aspect of Luke's teaching on prayer. He also shows us what our attitude in prayer should be in the parable which immediately follows today's passage from the gospel: the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax-Collector. The tax-collector wins approval because he just stands there, admitting his sins. Most instructive, however, is Luke's teaching on Jesus at prayer: he reminds us that Jesus is always quietly at prayer to his Father. He needs to slip away to spend the night in prayer. Especially he prays at the most important moments of his life: at his Baptism, when he chooses his team of disciples, before he teaches them to pray, at the approach of his Passion, finally forgiving and comforting others at his death. Paul tells us we should pray continually. The prayer of asking must be built on a relationship of love and dependence, just as the request of child to parents is built on their loving relationship. It does not matter if the child is at times naughty; the deep relationship between parent and child is one of love. So too we do not need to be perfect to make our requests to our Father.

When and how do you find it best to pray?

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 16th October 2022



First Reading: *Perseverance in Prayer*

Exodus 17:8-13

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, "Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand." Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses' arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

The battle scene in this passage seems to us nowadays a bit of odd to choose to reinforce the gospel lesson of perseverance in prayer. Can we still pray for the slaughter of our enemies? An important lesson of these bloodthirsty passages of the Old Testament is to remind us that revelation is gradual: we cannot take in everything at once. Look how long it took us to realise that the logical consequence of Paul's little letter to Philemon is the total abolition of slavery! Paul didn't realise it, and nor did most Christians for 1,700 years. Future generations may think our morality primitive too, as we or our successors come to understand Christ ever more fully. Moreover, although prayer can be exciting and uplifting, this reading reminds us that it can also be boring and wearying: we too may experience that sinking feeling of exhaustion, 'I can't hold my hands up any longer'. That is when we really need to get on and hang on in there, thus expressing our belief that God is not just one Mr Fix-it among many others, but he is our only hope, the one on whom we can always depend. Cupboard-love alone will not do, nor a last-minute turn to someone about whose existence we had practically forgotten.

When is it important to turn to prayer?

Second Reading: *The Uses of Scripture*

2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:2

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures - from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work. Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience - but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

“We receive the message, and take it into our own hearts.”

The inspired writer of the letter seems to be devoting much of his space to the use of scripture in preaching and in discussion and argument with others, but most of all he stresses that the scriptures instruct us for salvation. We have to receive the message and take it into our own hearts before we can pass it on to others. This we do by recognising the multiplicity of ways in which the scriptures shows us that God cares for us, revealing his ever-present forgiveness even in all those times when we mistrust him and shy away from him and search for happiness by ourselves. Only by immersing ourselves regularly in the scriptures and by growing to love the varied glimpses of God contained within them can we then come to appreciate the richness and fascination of these writings. But there are also plenty of difficulties to be overcome when reading them: the strangeness of language and ancient ways of thought, the sometimes barbaric primitiveness of the God's Chosen People, the seemingly tedious instructions on sacrifice and purity. Don't rush your reading. Go at your own pace, and remember that it began as God's Word to Abraham, Moses, David and many others, or with Jesus helping his contemporaries to understand what God's Kingdom is all about, or with Paul responding to the queries of his half-instructed converts. But now it is God's Word to you.

What is your favourite passage of scripture, and why?

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...

Luca Jones, Aria McGinty, Indila Goodfellow, Gray Grieveson, Gilda Bosompem, Freya Bown, Jacob Bown, Kiera Hodgkinson, Victor Budnyak, Autumn Harris-Lyons, Nick Rzecholka, Elsie Bethell.



Golden Awards:

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Dragonflies: | Diona Sulaj, for working really hard in all subjects |
| Grasshoppers: | Jonny Shiel, for always trying hard and working on his handwriting |
| Hedgehogs: | Eddie Cox, for improved concentration and handwriting |
| Squirrels: | Keziah Adisa, for always going above and beyond in her work and challenging herself |
| Badgers: | Dominik Godamski, for having a fantastic attitude to learning |
| Foxes: | Nathaniel Obinna, for fantastic effort in the science experiment |
| Hares: | Albert Edwards, for his amazing enthusiasm in all lessons |
| Rabbits: | Frankie Cripps, for working hard and producing great work |
| Kingfishers: | Mason Thompson, for a great attitude to learning |
| Robins: | Eloise De Souza, for her fantastic effort in all areas of learning |
| Eagles: | Marissa Fraser, for demonstrating an excellent growth mindset |
| Owls: | Beatrice Fagg, for great maths work |

Menu Week 1

Diary Dates

Monday 17th October

Harvest Collection
Bags 2 School Collection
Hares Swimming Lesson
Y6 Mass 2:00
Y1 & Y2 Dodgeball
3:10 - 4:10

Tuesday 18th October

Foxes Library Visit 9:00
Badgers Library Visit 11:00
Y3 & Y4 Football 3:15 - 4:15
Y5 & Y6 Football 3:15 - 4:15

Wednesday 20th October

Year 3 Eucharist Service 9:00
KS1 Karate 3:10 - 4:10
Year 1, 2, 3 & 4 Sports
Competition Training
Invitation Only 3:15 - 4:15

Thursday 21st October

Owls Library Visit 9:00
Eagles Library Visit 10:00
KS2 Karate 3:15 - 4:15
Y1 & Y2 Football 3:10 - 4:10

Friday 22nd October

KS1 Harvest Assembly
9:00 - 9:30
KS2 Harvest Assembly
2:30 - 3:00
KS2 Dodgeball 3:15 - 4:15

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

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

Mrs A Kerrell

Mr S Kelliher

House Points

Congratulations to the winning house St Patrick