

Thinking of Miss McGuiggan We are remembering Miss McGuiggan on the first anniversary of her death, the 8th October. This is a sad time for our school community. Miss McGuiggan is with God our Father in heaven and is watching over us all every day. In memory of her, each day, we must live out our Gospel Values and be the best person that we can be. I know that she would be very proud of our school. We are thinking of all of her family and friends at this time.

The 5:30 Mass tomorrow, Saturday 8th at Holy Cross will be dedicated to Miss McGuiggan.

Football Tournament

Well done to all of the children who took part in our Football Tournament today. You were proud to represent our school and we were very pleased with how hard you tried. Results will be in next week's newsletter.

Mental Health Week

It was lovely to see everyone dressed in yellow today for Mental Health Awareness week. A big thank you to Amy and Ben from Calm84 who came in to deliver a special assembly this morning to our Year 5 and 6 pupils about how they can protect their mental health and wellbeing. Amy and Ben also spent time on the playground with our younger pupils, at break, encouraging them to get thinking about positive steps that they can take to have good mental health.

Thank you to everyone who contributed today for our non-uniform day in aid of Young Minds. We raised a fantastic £436.

Parent Volunteers

We are always grateful to parents for their help and we are especially thankful for any parents who can come in for an afternoon or morning to hear children read. If you could spare a couple of hours a week to support us with this please contact the school office for more information.

Harvest 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.

Friends of Holy Cross School-FOHCS (PTA)

Thank you to parents and carers who were able to come along to our AGM this week. We have appointed Kate Cater and Bernie Cundins as co-Chairs of the PTA (FOHCS), Sibele Colussi, as secretary and Karen Slater, as treasurer. They will be letting everyone know about forthcoming events, meetings and ways that everyone can help to raise funds for the school.

Our first event of the year will be a School Disco, after school in two separate sessions for Reception/ Key Stage One and Key Stage Two. This will be on Friday 4th November after school. More information will follow.

2 Schoor

Bag 2 Schools Collection

We will be sending out bags, for the Bags 2 School collection this week.

Please fill them with good quality men's, ladies' and children's clothing, paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around), handbags, hats, bags, scarves and ties, jewellery, socks, belts, soft toys, household linen, curtains, towels and bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers) that you no longer need.

The Bags 2 School collection is organised by the Friends of Holy Cross School and money raised goes to benefit our pupils.





Fighting for young people's mental health



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Congratulations to the winners of the KS1 Attendance Award are Squirrels achieving 99% attendance for an amazing the third consecutive week. Well done! The winners of the KS2 Attendance Award are Foxes and Hares, both also 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.

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	Butterflies	93%	
	Ladybirds	94%	
	Dragonflies	97%	
	Grasshoppers	90%	
	Hedgehogs	92%	
	Squirrels	99% 🍸	2
Ĩ	Badgers	95%	
	Foxes	99%	P
	Hares	99%	
	Rabbits	<mark>95%</mark>	
	Kingfishers	93%	
	Robins	84%	
	Eagles	96%	
	Owls	91%	

Gospel Values Awards

The Gospel Value this week is...

Justice

fairness and equality

"And will not God grant justice..." (18: 7) The Parable of the Ten Pounds (19: 11-26)

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

Dragonflies:	Ava Skinner	Grasshoppers:	Georgie White
Hedgehogs:	Sarah Ciotoi	Squirrels:	Evan Smith
Badgers:	Aimee Fennelly	Foxes:	Feodora Benghea
Hares:	Nayt Mashumba	Rabbits:	Tehilah Sambo
Kingfishers:	Naomi Oregbhemhe	Robins:	Josie Ogbonze
Eagles:	Lottie Askew	Owls:	Rhea Baker



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

R/FUNNY

Reddit describes itself as a social news website where users connect and share stories, opinions and support; debate issues; ask questions; and chat to people with similar interests. Discussion topics are organised into communities (known as subreddits) that are created, run and populated by users, who remain anonymous throughout. Free speech is encouraged, and users – or 'redditors' – can vote posts 'up' or 'down' so they get more (or less) attention. Reddit is free to join, although signing up to Reddit Premium unlocks an advert-free version of the platform.

MINIMAL MODERATION

WHAT ARE

THE RISKS?

As sharing opinions on Reddit is easy (and anonymous), offensiv or age-inappropriate content is frequently posted. Moderation b admins and bots does occur, bu 00 oderating these spaces. Subredo arked NSFW ('not safe for work') ontain anything from profanity to ornography, so are not suitable fo

HARASSMENT AND TROLLING

omeone on Reddit doesn't agree h your child's opinion, they may il compelled to say so – in no certain terms. This could lead to ubilic bombardment of hurtful ssages. Likewise, Reddit users are hily likely to encounter troiling here someone posts a deilberately lammatory comment to provoke a stion) on the haldram, which can b De ich can be

FAKE NEWS

GIFTING AND SPENDING

rs can gift awards to the hors of posts that they li ng) by virtual c

GERATING

MEMI

SUPPORTIVE' STRANGERS

NEVER-ENDING NOTIFICATIONS

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National

Safetv

#WakeUpWednesday

Advice for Parents & Carers

SORT THE SETTINGS

Reddit's user settings can help ensure that minors don't view adult material. Under the 'Feed Settings' tab, switch the Adult Content toggle to 'off', and enable Safe Browsing Mode (this blurs out any explicit images). Also in settings, you can turn off all unnecessary notifications, to prevent your child being distracted by every post or comment on Reddit, allowing them some tech-free time.

ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

It can often be difficult to tell if something online is real or fake – particularly for young people. It's important to encourage your child to double-check with reputable sources if what they've read is genuine. Remind them to consider what motives might be in the message – and to watch out for scams. Chatting about this regularly helps to develop critical thinking skills and good online habits.

ment-september-12-2021#EEA | https://www

Meet Our Expert

Sources https://www.redditinc.com/p.m.

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





R/NEWS

If a person says something critical or offensive to your child on Reddit, it's natural that they'll want to respond. Explain to them, however, that is exact the reaction that troils look for. Don't give them the satisfaction: instead, report the comment to Reddit Support for investigation. Blocking a user stops them from messaging or following your child on the platform.

AVOID PRIVATE MESSAGING

Through their Reddit profile, young people can control who's able to message them privately – with options including 'no-one' and 'accounts older than 30 days'. These controls help ensure potential groomers can't talk to your child in private, and that Reddit's admins and other users will be able to moderate and report anything they spot which causes them concern.

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Based on the gospel for Sunday 9 October, Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Luke 17:11-19

"One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice."

Whilst travelling through Samaria and Galilee, Jesus encounters ten people suffering from leprosy who plead to be healed. He sends them to the priests, and all ten are made well. However, only one of the ten, falls at the feet of Jesus in thankfulness. It is the 'outsider', a Samaritan, who returns and shows us how to live a life of gratitude.

Genuine gratitude is transformative. It builds relationships and communities. It opens us to the needs of others and moves us to compassion and care. As many scientific studies have shown it even helps keep us well!

As we learn to see the world and all we have as a gift, we are inspired and energised to care for the earth and work together to create a more just world, where all people can share the abundance of creation.

Today on Family Fast Day, let's strive to live gratefully, with hearts open to all our sisters and brothers in need. Like the Samaritan in this gospel, let's return to the source of our gifts with thankful hearts, ready to allow our gratitude to stretch and change us.

Abundant God, We thank you for your many blessings. Give us grateful and generous hearts, as we share your gifts with joy. Amen.



The Words of Pope Francis Prayer and self-knowledge enable us to grow in freedom

SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL NORD IN CONTRACTOR WITH PARENTS & FAMILIES

Dear Parents and Carers.

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us how we can live happier lives by giving God what is due to him. But what is due to God in our own lives? Surely our thankfulness would be a good answer to this question.

In this Sunday's Gospel, we read about the Samaritan who thanked Jesus. For us too, there are many blessings in life for which we can be thankful and it's always worth giving thanks to God.

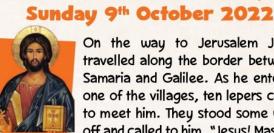
Wednesday 5th October 2022

Being thankful to God puts us in the right frame of mind. It is good for our well-being and helps us to be happy in life.

Enjoy a special Family Time together, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is THANKFULNESS.



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



On the way to Jerusalem Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, "Jesus! Master!

Gospel in Church

Take pity on us." When he saw them he said, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." Now, as they were going away, they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, "Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner." And he said to the man, "Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you."

Adapted from

Luke 17:11-19 (the 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C)

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

"The heart that knows how to say 'thank you' is a good heart. May we always say 'thank you' to God and to one another." Pope Francis

ORD CONNECTING HOME, SCHOOL AND PARISH THROUGH SUNDAY'S GOSPEL



Thankfulness strengthens our relationship with God and with each other. This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that making the right response to God's kindness, with praise and thankfulness, brings great joy into our lives.



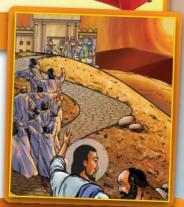
Our Special Time Together

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

On his way to Jerusalem, Jesus went into a village. Ten men with leprosy, a terrible skin disease, stood a long way off. They shouted, "Jesus! Master! Take pity on us." Jesus said, "Go and show yourselves to the priests as the Law teaches us." As they went on their way they were all healed. But only one of the ten, a Samaritan, turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. Jesus said to the man, "Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you."

How many lepers returned to say thank you? 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?

THANKFULNES



"In all things recognise the care and wisdom of God, and give God thanks." St Teresa of Avila

Wednesday's

Word is

Ask your child what the word 'thankfulness' means to them. You may want to help your child understand what the word 'thankfulness' means to you. Can your child remember a time when they felt really thankful to someone? How did they show their thanks to that person? Each of you name one or two things that (as well as your family) you are most thankful to God for.

"Be thankful for the smallest blessings, and you will deserve to receive greater blessings." Thomas à Kempis

Loving God & Each Other

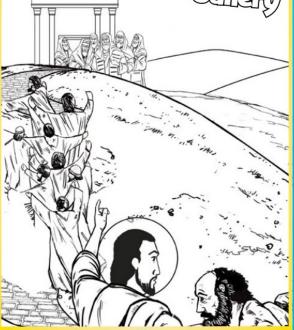
Remembering to say 'thank you' to God regularly throughout the day helps love to grow. Who else will you remember to thank this week? Perhaps a parent or carer, a family member, a teacher or a friend. How will you do this (e.g. with a hug, kind words, a thank-you note, a prayer, a gift, or by offering them your help)?

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for blessing us in so many ways. Help us to be always thankful to you and to show our thankfulness by loving those around us. Amen.

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Т	D	Е	к	Ν	Α	н	Т	L	D	Ε	SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

Cross out the letters **U b m** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

bamtu	tuhrebmw	thumankbed	febemtu
"The Sal	maritan	himself	the
	_ of Jesus a	nd	him,"



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

Nrite a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to.



It is good for us to be thankful to God for the blessings of his love, for our lives, our talents, our families, our school and for the love of those around us.

ore at: wednesdayword.org & catholicchurch.org.uk

Wednesday 5th October 2022 - A WEEKLY PRAYER CUSTOM



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



Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 9th October 2022 - The Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

_ 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.



Read

Taken from the Gospel for 9th October 2022 (Luke 17:11-19): The Samaritan Leper

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, "Jesus! Master! Take pity on us." When he saw them he said, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." Now as they were going away they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, "Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner." And he said to the man, "Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you."

3 Reflect

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

We see why the story of the cure of Naaman the leper has been chosen as our first reading today: in the Gospel reading we find another cure of a foreigner, and not an ordinary foreigner, but a hated foreigner. There was a cordial hatred between Jews and Samaritans: for the Jews, the Samaritans were a wretched hybrid race, who accepted only part of the Jewish Bible, and had their own ideas about the coming Messiah. Yet Luke has already recounted the story of the Good Samaritan, who succours the wounded traveller who had been neglected by Jewish priest and Levite. Now only a Samaritan comes back to thank Jesus for the cure from leprosy. Samaritans are the foreigners. In his initial proclamation Jesus promises salvation to the gentiles, and Luke misses no opportunity to show us gentiles ripe for salvation: the centurion of Capernaum who built the synagogue and whose son is cured, the guests for the banquet called in from highways and byways. Luke is preparing for his second volume, the Acts of the Apostles, where the Good News will spread to the ends of the earth, even to Rome itself.

Christians believe that no race is superior to another. Why?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

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 9th October 2022

First Reading: Naaman the Syrian

2 Kings 5:14-17

Naaman the leper went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, as Elisha had told him to do. And his flesh became clean once more like the flesh of a little child. Returning to Elisha with his whole escort, he went in and stood before him. "Now I know," he said, "that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Now, please, accept a present from your servant." But Elisha replied, "As the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing." Naaman pressed him to accept, but he refused. Then Naaman said, "Since your answer is 'No', allow your servant to be given as much earth as two mules may carry, because your servant will no longer offer holocaust or sacrifice to any god except the Lord."

This little excerpt is the stub-end of one of the most delightful stories in the Bible (read it!). It pairs with the Gospel reading. In his opening proclamation in the synagogue at Nazareth Jesus declares that he has come to save the gentiles too, just as Elisha did, citing Naaman as an example. Today we read about the cure (the saving of Naaman) itself. The odd bit about two 'muleloads' of earth is the result of the belief, still persistent at that time, that the God of Israel could be worshipped only on the soil of Israel - so take some soil with you! Naaman wants to express his gratitude to the Lord at his home too. At the time attributed to Elisha and Naaman (mid 9th century BC) the Lord was accepted as God of Israel, the Sovereign and Protector of Israel, but this implied nothing about other nations. It was not until the Babylonian exile, when Israel was confronted with the multiple gods of Babylon, that Israel came to believe that the Lord was the God of the whole earth, the whole universe. and that all the other deities, such as those of sun and moon and stars. were simply timing-devices plugged into the vault of heaven by the Lord himself. God reveals himself to Israel, and to us, gradually.

How has your faith deepened or developed over the years?

Second Reading: The Grounds for Hope

2 Timothy 2:8-13

Remember the Good News that I carry, 'Jesus Christ risen from the dead, sprung from the race of David'; it is on account of this that I have my own hardships to bear, even to being chained like a criminal - but they cannot chain up God's news. So I bear it all for the sake of those who are chosen, so that in the end they may have the salvation that is in Christ Jesus and the eternal glory that comes with it. Here is a saying that you can rely on: if we have died with him, then we shall live with him; if we hold firm, then we shall reign with him; if we disown him, then he will disown us; we may be unfaithful, but he is always faithful, for he cannot disown his own self.

The kernel of the Good News is the Resurrection.

If Paul is chained as a criminal, at least he gives the grounds for his hope and his security: 'the saying is sure'. The kernel of the Good News is the Resurrection, and that is enough for Paul. If Christ is risen from the dead, nothing more is required; this in itself is the fulfilment of the promises to David. Paul quotes a little symmetrical hymn ('if we have died with him...') which was no doubt sung by the early Christian congregations. The earliest external evidence to the Christian liturgy is a letter from Pliny, governor of a province in what is now northern Turkey, in the early second century, written only a few decades after the Second Letter to Timothy. He has examined Christians under torture and sends his findings to the Emperor. Christians, he says, meet on a set day (presumably Sunday), make oaths of loyalty to one other, sing a hymn 'to Christ as to a god', and then have a meal (presumably the Eucharist). The hymnic phrases in today's reading could be part of just such a hymn mentioned by Pliny, sung under the pressures of persecution, celebrating the union of Christ with his followers, and Christ's fidelity to his own people, whatever they do to him: if we are faithless, he remains faithful.

What does the hymn in this letter to Timothy teach us about life in Christ?

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

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Happy Birthday this week to...

Oba Akibola, Ini Oyelami, Elissa Okyere, Amelia Tarczwska, Aoife Boland, Brielle Cox, Diale Ebhabha, Luna Milciute Blynovas, Zoe Mugadza, Dominica Nguyen, Conor O'Rourke, Victoria Banjo, Eva Durchi, Jake Sinyakin.



Head Teachers Award:

Luca Cushway, Stephanie Naydenova, Hanley Matthew, Brielle Cox, Aurora Boyce-Grace & Jeremy Cox, for raising money for the school library, in the Usborne Reading Challenge

Golden Awards:

Dragonflies:	Lottie Peters, for working hard in her writing
Grasshoppers:	Olivia O'Sullivan, for working really hard in all her lessons
Hedgehogs:	William Powell, for working hard in maths
Squirrels:	Medeina Kucinskaite, for working fantastically hard this week in all areas
Badgers:	Archie Vetori, for showing massive improvement in all areas of learning
Foxes:	Vivienne Padfield, for fantastic effort in maths when adding and subtracting
Hares:	Evie Underdown, for a super effort at place value
Rabbits:	Hayley Ranathunga, for her fantastic progression in her Place Value assessment
Kingfishers:	Kayla Umaru, for giving 100% effort in all lessons
Robins:	Aimee Kuttin, for always working hard and trying her best
Eagles:	Ena Bulmuo, for fantastic work in maths
Owls:	Teri Olabode, for great use of figurative language in literacy

Menu Week 2

Diary Dates

Monday 10th October Flu Immunisations Harvest Collection starts Hares Swimming Lesson Y1 & Y2 Dodgeball 3:10 -

4:10

Tuesday 11th October Y3 & Y4 Football 3.15 - 4.15 Y5 & Y6 Football 3:15 - 4:15

Wednesday 12th October Year 4 Eucharist Service 9:00 KS2 Karate 3:15 - 4:15 KS1 Karate 3:10 - 4:10

Year 1, 2, 3 & 4 Sports Competition Training Invitation Only 3:15 - 4:15 Thursday 13th October Y1 & Y2 Football 3:10 - 4:10 KS2 Assembly 2:30 - 3:00

Friday 14th October KS1 Assembly 9:00 - 9:30 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.

Alsonterette Seen VELL

Mrs A Kerrell

Mr S Kelliher

House Points

Congratulations to the winning house St Andrew