



21st October 2022



### Reflection on the week:

In the Gospel last Sunday (Luke 19: 1-10), we heard the much-loved story of Zacchaeus a man who was small in stature but someone in whom Jesus could see enormous potential. Jesus chose to stay at Zacchaeus's house because he knew that this man would listen to his message and make changes to be a better person. This story is a reminder to us all that sometimes we cannot see a way through things or a way over things but that if we listen to God's message and remember how much he loves us that we can make changes to our lives and be our best selves.

Wishing our families many blessings,

Mrs Kerrell

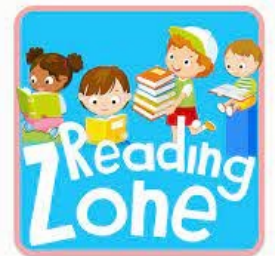
Headteacher

### Reading Meeting

Thank you to parents who were able to come along to the meeting this week. We know that our families are busy so if you couldn't make it please have a look at the presentation we are sending you today and it will be on the website.

### Reading Zone

We are also sending parents information today about our new reading initiative, Reading Zone. We would love parents to come and stay with their children to read after drop off. For more information and when your child's class slot is, please see the letter that will go out with the Reading PowerPoint.



### Parents Evenings

We are really looking forward to meeting parents and carers next week at Parents Evenings on Monday and Tuesday. Each appointment will be ten minutes long and there will be a chance to look at some of your child's work.

### Coats and Uniform

We now expect all pupils to be wearing our winter uniform only. This should not be a combination of different aspects of each uniform i.e. there should be no shorts or Polo shirts being worn. It must now be a shirt or blouse and tie. The ties are available from the school office.

Girls must have grey tights (not black) and girls and boys must have black shoes not boots or trainers please. Children must have the green Holy Cross coat and we prefer the green hat also. We do have a second-hand uniform shop which has an excellent stock of lots of uniform if you would like to contact Lynn Benson via the Holy Cross Facebook page or speak to the school office.

### Flood Plan

We experienced some bad flooding outside the front of the school yesterday morning following the heavy rain. I wrote to parents yesterday explaining what we will do if we have flooding like this in the future. A copy of the letter is available on the school website. Please follow this link: [Flood plan](#)

## Parking

Please remember that the parking inside the barrier is for staff only from 8am. We ask that parents do not park in this area or use it as a turning place. We have also had complaints from local residents about parents parking and blocking the access to their driveways and garages. Please arrive early and park in Nicholls Field which is only a 5-minute walk away. We realise that parking is challenging but this is a very good option and we thank you for your support.

## Year 6 Prefects

At our Key Stage 2 Assembly next Friday we will be awarding all our Year 6 pupils with their Prefect Badges. We hope that our Year 6 parents can join us for this special presentation at 9.00am in the church.

## Sports Tournaments

We are really enjoying the opportunity to take part in more tournaments and competitions. We have had enquiries from parents regarding going along to the events and unfortunately this is not possible due to safeguarding arrangements and our risk assessment. We will let everyone know how the teams get on with a write up in the newsletter.

Our next event that the Year 5/ 6 children can try out for on the next two Wednesdays is Basketball. We hope to see lots of our Year 5s and 6s at the club after school.



## School Council

Our new School Council have been working hard on projects since September, when the School Council and Friends of Holy Cross raised £465 at our MacMillan charity coffee morning.

In October the children co-ordinated a Wear it Yellow non- uniform day for a donation, KS2 had an assembly and the Council supported activities on the playground to promote good mental health

Also, in October we had our Harvest Collection, Some of our school Council had the opportunity to deliver our food items we collected to Streets 2 Home and the children were given a tour of the facility. Currently Streets 2 Homes have 11 homeless people in Harlow they are helping. Streets 2 Home is at Wych Elm in the town centre. They are always grateful of any donations of food items, clothing, coats, tents, sleeping bags etc. You can take these directly to Streets 2 Home. They are open Monday to Friday 10am-2pm

This month we are collecting shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child from Monday 7th - 21st November. Children can bring in their filled boxes and place them in the school hall on the table.

This year shoe boxes are going to be sent to Ukraine and neighbouring countries where there are refugees,



## Eco Council

Our new school Eco Council have been working on projects and ideas. This year the children would like to raise money for a new school greenhouse.

The children have been looking at how waste and plastic is used in school, monitoring their classrooms to ensure electrical equipment is turned off when not in use, checking children are using the right bins in class (Waste, recycling and food bin) also making sure taps are not dripping and monitoring rubbish and waste on the playground.

In October the Eco Council worked with Friends of Holy Cross to distribute bags and leaflets to all the classes from Bags 2 Schools to encourage parents and families to have a sort out at home and send in clothing items etc. Bags 2 School then collects all the bags and converts the weight of the items in to cash for our school. We are currently waiting to find out how much money this Eco project has generated for school.

November and December- this year the Eco Council are running a school calendar competition. All classes will be given an Eco theme and asked to create a picture in the style of the suggested artist. All the information for this will be sent out via class teachers on Tapestry and Seesaw.

Good luck every one!

I would just like to say thank you to all of our School and Eco Council, you are all doing an amazing job - from Mrs Gallagher and all the staff.

## Firework and Bonfire Safety

On Tuesday morning we welcomed Kirsty from the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service. She led an assembly for children in both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 on how to stay safe this weekend during Bonfire Night. Kirsty advised that it is better to attend an organised event, however if you are planning a home event, fireworks should be bought from a reputable source and the advice below, followed. Please discuss firework safety and the importance of behaving sensibly around bonfires with your children by reminding your children of the messages shared by Kirsty below, which also applies to us, as adults.



Essex County  
Fire & Rescue Service

Further, age-appropriate information may be found on the Children's Education Hub section of their website. This can be accessed through the following link: [https://www.essex-fire.gov.uk/Home\\_Fire\\_Safety/Education\\_Hub/](https://www.essex-fire.gov.uk/Home_Fire_Safety/Education_Hub/)

The Fireworks Code	Bonfire Safety
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only buy fireworks marked UKCA (Or CE until 21<sup>st</sup> December 2022)</li><li>• Keep fireworks in a closed non-flammable box</li><li>• Follow the instructions on each firework</li><li>• Light them at arm's length, using a taper</li><li>• Stand well back</li><li>• Never go near a firework that has been lit. Even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode</li><li>• Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them</li><li>• Children should always be supervised around fireworks</li><li>• Light sparklers one at a time and always wear gloves</li><li>• Never give sparklers to a child under five</li><li>• Keep pets indoors</li><li>• Don't set off noisy fireworks late at night and never after 11pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Site the bonfire well away from houses, garages, sheds, fences, overhead cables, trees and shrubs</li><li>• Never leave the bonfire burning unattended</li><li>• Build the stack so that it is stable and will not collapse outwards or to one side</li><li>• NEVER use flammable liquids - paraffin or petrol - to light the fire</li><li>• Don't burn foam-filled furniture, aerosols, tins of paint and bottles</li><li>• Keep everyone away from the fire - especially children, who must be supervised at all times</li><li>• Pour water on the embers before leaving</li></ul>

## Gospel Values Awards

The Gospel Value this week is...

# Humility

## - Trust in God

"God be merciful to me a sinner." (18:13)

"I am among you as one who serves." (22:27)



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

Dragonflies:	Raysa Oprea	Grasshoppers:	Lyla Quinn
Hedgehogs:	Mayah Rupasinghe	Squirrels:	Tawana Agyare
Badgers:	Lucas Patasius	Foxes:	Sid Cundins
Hares:	Catherine Kazakov	Rabbits:	Leah Stoppolecamp
Kingfishers:	Rhea Matunge	Robins:	Isaac Adisa
Eagles:	Victor Budnyak	Owls:	Shauden Sesay





# BONFIRE NIGHT SAFETY TIPS

● WHEN MAKING A BONFIRE, MAKE SURE YOU BUILD IT WELL AWAY FROM HOUSES, GARAGES, SHEDS, FENCES, OVERHEAD CABLES, TREES AND SHRUBS AND ALWAYS AWAY FROM FIREWORKS.

● WHEN YOU BUILD A BONFIRE ENSURE IT IS STABLE AND REMEMBER NEVER TO LIGHT IT WITH A FLAMMABLE LIQUID.

● KEEP EVERYONE WELL BACK FROM OPEN FIRES AND ENSURE CHILDREN ARE SUPERVISED AT ALL TIMES.

● WHEN BUILDING A BONFIRE, ALWAYS ENSURE YOU HAVE A BUCKET OF WATER OR FIRE EXTINGUISHER HANDY IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES.

● AT THE END OF YOUR BONFIRE PARTY, POUR WATER ON THE EMBERS BEFORE LEAVING.

● ALWAYS KEEP YOUR FIREWORKS IN A CLOSED METAL BOX AND TAKE THEM OUT ONE AT A TIME. REMEMBER CHILDREN SHOULD NOT HAVE ACCESS TO OR BE NEAR FIREWORKS.

● WHEN USING FIREWORKS, ALWAYS FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS. AND IF IT IS DARK ALWAYS READ THEM BY TORCHLIGHT AND NEVER BY A NAKED FLAME. ENSURE YOU ONLY BUY FIREWORKS FROM REPUTABLE RETAILERS.

● ALWAYS LIGHT FIREWORKS AT ARM'S LENGTH WITH A TAPER. YOU MUST NEVER RETURN TO A LIT FIREWORK AND NEVER THROW A SPENT FIREWORK ON A BONFIRE.

● ALWAYS HOLD SPARKLERS AT ARM'S LENGTH AND WEAR GLOVES WHEN HANDLING THEM. ONCE THE SPARKLERS ARE OUT MAKE SURE YOU PUT THEM IN A BUCKET OF WATER.

● NEVER GIVE SPARKLERS TO CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OLD AND REMEMBER, NEVER RUN WITH SPARKLERS.







Holy Cross School Council will be collecting shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child from

**7<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022.**

All Boxes will be sent on 21/11/22

A leaflet will be sent home with your child via class which will provide all instructions of what you can put in a shoe box, including labels for the age and gender of the child.



# Holy Cross Catholic Primary Academy Calendar Competition 2022

Our Eco Council are running a Calendar Competition. Each class will have an Eco theme and we are asking the children to do a piece of art work in the style of the Artist given to each year group.

All winning art work will feature in this year's school calendar, a winner will be selected from each class.

Year Group	Topic	In the style of (Artist)
Rainbows and Butterflies	Sea/ under the sea	Kerry Darlington
Dragonflies and Grasshoppers	Water is precious	Katsushika Hokusai
Squirrels and Hedgehogs	Antarctica	Vincent Van Gogh
Badgers and Foxes	Local environment and community	Laurence Stephen Lowry
Hares and Rabbits	The Rain Forest	Andy Warhol
Robins and Kingfishers	The Ozone and Space	Wassilly Kandinsky
Eagle and Owls	Rivers	Claude Monet

Art work needs to be sent in to school by Tuesday 8th November.

Calendars can be ordered on Pupil Asset from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November to Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November at a cost of 4.00 each or 2 for £7.50

The calendars will be available to collect from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December.



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 Grasshoppers achieving 97% attendance. Well done! The winners of the KS2 Attendance Award are Rabbits, 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	96%
Ladybirds	94%
Dragonflies	96%
Grasshoppers	97%
Hedgehogs	95%
Squirrels	96%
Badgers	93%
Foxes	93%
Hares	95%
Rabbits	99%
Kingfishers	95%
Robins	95%
Eagles	96%
Owls	94%



## Times Tables Rockstars

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

Hedgehogs: Jaden Ondiege

Badgers: Dominik Gadomski

Hares: Ollie Kluza

Kingfishers: Filip Skowron

Eagles: Kayden Messer

Squirrels: Medeina Kucinskaite

Foxes: Erin Florido

Rabbits: Hector Onwurah

Robins: Aimee Kuttin

Owls: Shauden Sesay



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# FIFA 23

FIFA 23, like its many predecessors, is a massively popular football simulator featuring lifelike recreations of thousands of real-world players, drawn from teams around the globe. While the gameplay is subtly improved year on year, the publisher EA Sports' tweaks tend to focus on FIFA Ultimate Team mode, which can tempt gamers of all ages to spend real money recruiting better players for their side. With each new release of FIFA comes a host of new players to unlock – meaning that youngsters can feel pressured to keep buying to compete with their friends.

AGE RATING  
**PEGI 3**

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### RELEASE RAZZAMATAZZ

FIFA 23 will be the last in the blockbuster series, before EA goes solo with its own football title next season. This 'end of an era' vibe – coupled with a huge advertising budget making the new release almost impossible to miss – will elevate FIFA 23 into even more of a 'must have' for football-mad young gamers, no matter how minor the updates are on last year's version.

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CHAT

Based on a popular sport which appeals to people of all ages, the FIFA franchise draws a huge audience of both children and adults. Communication is a key element, with many players enjoying in-game audio chat via headsets. With the mixed age range of players and a lack of regulation, however, chats can often turn offensive or toxic – especially in the heat of competitive matches.

### IN-GAME PROMOTIONS

Unless precautions are taken, dedicated FIFA fans can spend significant sums when attempting to improve their Ultimate Team. Most top-level players can be unlocked by simply participating in matches, but some sought-after stars can be obtained more quickly in limited-time promotions which cost a large amount of FIFA points (the in-game currency, often paid for with real money).

### CIRCLING SCAMMERS

The popularity of FIFA Ultimate Team (FUT) mode has led to online scammers convincing many impressionable gamers to pay real money for non-existent FUT coins and player cards, or directing unwary FIFA fans to phishing sites. If your child gives these individuals their login details, the scammers can access not only their carefully built team but potentially your payment information.

### ADDICTIVE NATURE

One match on FIFA (usually around 15 minutes, but often lengthened by extra time and penalties) almost invariably leads to another. It can be a powerful temptation for young players, regardless of unfinished homework or an approaching bedtime. If the 'just one more game' mindset starts to impact a child's daily routine, it could be a sign of gaming disorder: a recognised mental health issue.

### GAMBLING-ADJACENT BEHAVIOUR

Ultimate Team has become a major feature in FIFA due to the revenues it generates. It can also be addictive, with children striving to earn coins and level up while swapping, selling and buying players. Spending FUT coins to open a player pack (which many experts have likened to gambling) is designed to be an exciting act – with bright lights, fanfare and attention-grabbing prizes.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### BE SELECTIVE WITH CHATS

It's enormous fun for FIFA players to chat online with friends, even as their teams do battle in the game. It's probably the safest idea, though, to restrict contact with strangers. By turning off voice chat in FIFA and allowing cross-party chat in their device's settings, your child can speak to people who are already on their friends list but won't be able to talk to (or hear) strangers online.

### STAY ALERT FOR SCAMS

There are some key things to remember about potential FIFA scams. Firstly, EA never contacts users via any method other than emails to the account holder (which may well be you). Neither will they ever ask for a player's username or password outside the game itself. EA's terms and conditions outlaw the buying of FUT coins, so anyone selling them should be treated as suspicious.

### CONTROL SPENDING

If your child plays Ultimate Team mode on FIFA, ensure their account isn't linked to your payment methods – so they'll need your permission to make in-game purchases. Alternatively, you could use parental controls to limit spending – or set up a pre-paid 'allowance'. When excitedly clicking options on screen, it's easy for a young person to forget the real-world repercussions of online purchases.

### AVOID 'EXTRA TIME'

If your child's spending a lot of time on FIFA 23 and seems less enthusiastic about other activities in their life, you could consider restricting how long they can play for each day with the parental controls in their device's settings. Even if they're not playing on their console or computer, there's a FIFA companion app for smartphones – but that can be limited through parental controls, too.

## Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor of technology and entertainment website Dexerto and has been working in the gaming media for three years. A long-time fan of the FIFA franchise, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have also been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar, among others.



10



**National Online Safety**

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.windowscentral.com/youngster-spends-over-9000-ft-for-bat-highlighting-predatory-gaming-designer> | <https://www.ea.com/newsroom/questions-and-answers/ultimate-team-behaviour-gaming-disorder> | <https://www.eurogamer.net/euro-sports-court-appeal-for-better-regulation-of-bat-base-following-new-report>



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



@natonlinesafety



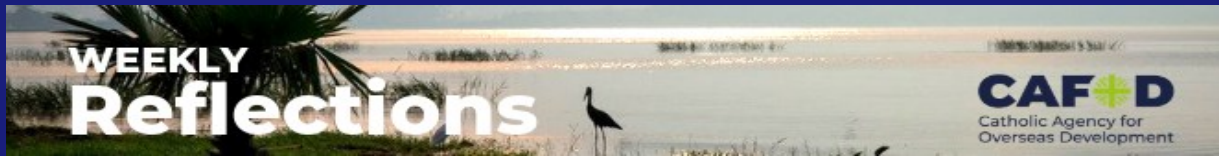
/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 12.10.2022





Based on the gospel for Sunday 6 November, Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time: Luke 20:27-38

**"God is God, not of the dead, but of the living."**

In this reading the Sadducees ask Jesus a question about what life will be like in heaven. What is going on here? A little background may help.

The Sadducees were the priestly class, based in the Temple, coming from David's kingly line. Think of them as the political elite with all the required security - wealth, education, and Roman backing - to maintain their status. Believing only in the here and now, and in their own preservation, they were fundamentally short-sighted and had little to offer.

Jesus, in this Gospel, calls us to be long-sighted and to forget the questions and worries that are so outside this long view as to be totally irrelevant. What matters is that God is alive and active. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob continue to live in God who is ever faithful even when the immediate future might appear to look very bleak. God accompanies us into that bleakness.

How am I to be a child of the resurrection for those facing uncertain futures?

How am I to be an angel of light for those grappling with the darkness of war and conflict, with oppression, the cost-of-living crisis, fuel poverty, illness, and bereavement?

Do I truly feel alive to God, and can I show, by my words and actions, that the God of the living is alive to me and, through me, to others?

Lord, open my mind to the long view of your Kingdom; open my eyes to needs demanding a present response; open my heart to the promise of your life. Amen.



### **The Words of Pope Francis**

Prayer is that quiet source of strength which brings peace and disarms hate filled hearts.



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,

In this Sunday's Gospel, the Sadducees (who thought themselves rather superior) did not believe in the resurrection or heaven, but they came to ask Jesus what marriage would be like in heaven.

Jesus knew that they didn't really want an answer to their question; they were just trying to trap and embarrass him. So he gave a two-fold response to their question.

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022

Firstly, marriage is for this life: in heaven love is unlimited and embraces everyone equally. Secondly, in God, we all remain alive, safe and treasured. We were created for heaven: to live in complete harmony and happiness with God and each other – forever!

Enjoy a very special *Family Time* together this evening, exploring this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **HEAVEN**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



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

"How beautiful Heaven  
must be! Take heart!"

St John Bosco

### THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2022



Some of the Sadducees – those who say that there is no resurrection – approached Jesus and they asked him what he thought marriage would be like in heaven. Jesus knew that they didn't really want an answer to their question; they were just trying to trap him. So Jesus showed them that they didn't understand the resurrection by saying: "In heaven, people do not get married or die; they are like the angels; they are the children of God and will live with God forever. Moses himself implies that people will live again in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is God, not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all people are in fact alive."

Adapted from  
Luke 20:27-38 (the 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C)

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

"We believe that there is another  
life because we have already begun  
to feel it here." Pope Francis



HAVING FAITH  
IN YOUR FAMILY

The Gospel above or the **FAMILY TIME** section overleaf can be read independently by adults or children alike. However, reading the Gospel as a family really does help the family to grow in faith, wisdom and love.



For almost 2000 years, people have been joyfully celebrating Jesus' resurrection (his life beyond death) and his return to heaven. Jesus' resurrection assures us that he is close to us now, that heaven exists, and that everlasting happiness in the life to come with God and each other can be our hope too.



# 1 Our Special Time Together

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

There were a group of people called Sadducees who did not believe in the resurrection (that people would live with God forever in heaven). One day, some of them came to Jesus and asked him what he thought marriage would be like in heaven. Jesus knew that they didn't really want an answer to their question; they were just trying to trap him. So Jesus showed them that they didn't understand the resurrection by saying: "In heaven, people do not get married or die; they are like the angels; they are the children of God and will live with him forever."

**What didn't the Sadducees believe?** 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 ...

## HEAVEN



# 3 Loving God & Each Other

"In your work or troubles, never forget that we have a great reward stored up for us in heaven. God does not forget our good works." *St John Bosco*

Throughout the gospels, Jesus reminds us that heaven is real. In the Bible, heaven is described in many ways. It is likened to a city, a beautiful garden, a kingdom and a place of great beauty and happiness. Ask your child what the word 'heaven' means to them. Ask them what they think heaven is like. It may help your child to tell them some of your own thoughts about heaven.

"We are all of the same stock and members of the one human family; we have the same Father in heaven and we are all his children." *Pope Francis*

We were created for heaven! Jesus' resurrection is the promise of eternal life - to live in complete harmony and happiness with God and each other - forever! Until that time, we can pray for all our loved ones who have left this world, that they may share in all the joys of heaven. Why not end tonight's Family Time by offering the prayer below for those loved ones? Then come along to church this Sunday to light a candle.

Our Father who art in **heaven**, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in **heaven**. Give us this day our daily bread...

## Gospel Gallery

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

## WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

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

- ☒ JESUS
- ☐ SADDUCEES
- ☐ PEOPLE
- ☐ RESURRECT
- ☐ GOD'S
- ☐ CHILDREN
- ☐ FOREVER
- ☐ HEAVEN

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



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

**duliket ulidvte fotreverdu hetadvuen**

"In \_\_\_\_\_, people are \_\_\_\_\_ the angels;  
and will \_\_\_\_\_ with God \_\_\_\_\_."

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

Through living in God's loving ways while on earth (being kind, forgiving, faithful, peaceful and caring) we can help each other to feel something of the joy that God has in store for us. Jesus shows us and helps us to live our lives in this way.

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 6<sup>th</sup> November 2022 - The Thirty Second 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 6<sup>th</sup> November 2022 (Luke 20:27-38): The Sadducees' Riddle

Some Sadducees - those who say that there is no resurrection - approached Jesus and they put this question to him, "Master, we have it from Moses in writing, that if a man's married brother dies childless, the man must marry the widow to raise up children for his brother. Well, then, there were seven brothers. The first, having married a wife, died childless. The second and then the third married the widow. And the same with all seven, they died leaving no children. Finally the woman herself died. Now, at the resurrection, to which of them will she be wife since she had been married to all seven?" Jesus replied, "The children of this world take wives and husbands, but those who are judged worthy of a place in the other world and in the resurrection from the dead do not marry because they can no longer die, for they are the same as the angels, and being children of the resurrection they are sons of God. And Moses himself implies that the dead rise again, in the passage about the bush where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is God, not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all men are in fact alive."



## 3 Reflect

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

*Since they did not believe in the resurrection or any sort of life after death, the Sadducees are trying to make fun of Jesus. By the Levirate Law of Judaism, if I marry and die without begetting a son, my nearest male relative is bound to marry my widow and raise up a son in my name to carry on my line. The Sadducees' neat mockery is to ask what happens if this is repeated seven times (and worse than that, for the perfect number 'seven' means 'ad infinitum'). Jesus, again with typical neatness, turns their argument back upon them by returning to that key text of scripture when God replies to Moses at the Burning Bush. Not only is this reply in the present tense, 'I am (still) the God of patriarchs long dead', but it is the fundamental text which guarantees God's rescue and protection of, and his presence with, his people through thick and thin. This is one more instance of Jesus' deep knowledge and mastery of scripture, of the way that he can transcend the flippant and superficial arguments of his opponents and make plain the deep and true sense of these holy texts. To God no one is 'dead and gone'; we all remain safe in his hands.*

**What does it mean to you to be a 'child' of the resurrection?**

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 6<sup>th</sup> November 2022



## First Reading: *Rising to New Life*

### 2 Maccabees 7:1-2. 9-14

There were seven brothers who were arrested with their mother. The king tried to force them to taste pig's flesh, which the Law forbids, by torturing them with whips and scourges. One of them, acting as spokesman for the others, said, "What are you trying to find out from us? We are prepared to die rather than break the Law of our ancestors." With his last breath the second brother exclaimed, "Inhuman fiend, you may discharge us from this present life, but the King of the world will raise us up, since it is for his laws that we die, to live again for ever." After him, they amused themselves with the third, who on being asked for his tongue promptly thrust it out and boldly held out his hands, with these honourable words, "It was heaven that gave me these limbs; for the sake of his laws I disdain them; from him I hope to receive them again." The king and his attendants were astounded at the young man's courage and his utter indifference to suffering. When this one was dead they subjected the fourth to the same savage torture. When he neared his end he cried, "Ours is the better choice, to meet death at men's hands, yet relying on God's promise that we shall be raised up by him; whereas for you there can be no resurrection, no new life."

*This is the only reading from the Books of Maccabees in the Sunday cycle of readings. In the year 167 BC the Syrian Empire dominated Palestine, and King Antiochus IV decided to make an important step towards unifying his empire by wiping out the singular worship and religious customs of the Jews. He met stronger resistance than expected, and a great persecution was necessary. The resistance was led by three brothers who were given the name 'Maccabee' or 'Hammer'; they give their name to these two biblical books (and also to an excellent beer in Israel). Our reading narrates one incident from that persecution. The lasting importance of such a heroic stance by the brothers was the development of the doctrine of resurrection to new life. Until that time a popular opinion among the Israelites was that the dead were confined to Sheol, to a wretched half-life, where the dead had no strength and could not even praise God. This reading shows us that they had now begun to recognise that God would raise up to new life those who had died for their faith in persecution. By the time of Jesus this belief in the resurrection of the dead to new life was standard in Israel. Only the traditionalist Sadducees did not accept it.*

**How different would your life be if Jesus had not risen and extended to us the hope of resurrection?**

## Second Reading: *The Lord is Faithful*

### 2 Thessalonians 2:16 - 3:5

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father who has given us his love and, through his grace, such inexhaustible comfort and such sure hope, comfort you and strengthen you in everything good that you do or say. Finally, brothers, pray for us; pray that the Lord's message may spread quickly, and be received with honour as it was among you; and pray that we may be preserved from the interference of bigoted and evil people, for faith is not given to everyone. But the Lord is faithful, and he will give you strength and guard you from the evil one, and we, in the Lord, have every confidence that you are doing and will go on doing all that we tell you. May the Lord turn your hearts towards the love of God and the fortitude of Christ.

“The Christian cannot opt out of the world.”

*A reading from Thessalonians heralds the end of the liturgical year (Year A ends with readings from 1 Thessalonians and Year C with this second letter). Both letters are concerned with the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time. The little community at Thessalonika was worried. Paul had taught them that Christ had conquered death: for those baptised into Christ, death was no more. But then Christians had died! So Paul wrote to them that Christ would soon come in a triumphal procession, bringing with him his followers who had already died. This must have thrown the Thessalonians into a frenzy of excitement at such an imminent Coming of the Lord, for Paul writes to them this second letter to calm them down, explaining that the Coming is not so utterly imminent. They must continue to live life in the world, for there must first be a period in which evil is still at work, a period in which the Word of the Lord is still spreading, as it is among them, and in which they need protection from evil (or the Evil One). The Christian cannot opt out of the world, and so needs the strength of the Lord to live the ways of the Lord in a world which fundamentally fails to recognise such ways.*

**Reflecting on St Paul's teaching to the Thessalonians, what is our calling as Christians in today's world?**

**The Wednesday Word: Connecting Home, School & Parish through the Word of God**  
w: [www.wednesdayword.org](http://www.wednesdayword.org) e: [info@wednesdayword.org](mailto:info@wednesdayword.org)



## Happy Birthday this week to...

Enoch Goodfellow, Christopher Annobil, Naomi Ayobamidele, Shauden Sesay, Oliwier Slawikowski & Morayo Bolaji.



### Headteacher Awards:

Amara Nwoye, for excellent effort and behaviour

Darrelle Koranteng-Appleton, Joey Uzuegbuna, Logan Coombe, Kassidy Anderson, Jermaine Ondiege & Miles Agyei-Frimpong, for writing an excellent story

### Golden Awards:

Dragonflies: Gerald Larbi, for working really hard in maths

Grasshoppers: Neave Clennell, for trying really hard in literacy

Hedgehogs: Elsie Bethell, for excellent work in literacy

Squirrels: Blousey McQuillan-Clark, for trying her best

Badgers: Zachary Timbrell, for always trying his best and being so helpful

Foxes: Freya Hyde, for fantastic effort in phonics and maths

Hares: Rohan Clennell, for his excellent addition and subtraction

Rabbits: Justin Nguyen, for confidently sharing his ideas with the class in literacy

Kingfishers: Harry Hollingworth, for always working hard in maths

Robins: Kiera Hodgkinson, for always being very supportive and helping her peers with their work

Eagles: Conor O'Rourke, for excellent ideas during our class debate

Owls: Bree Onwurah, for fantastic work in numeracy

Learning Mentor: Aidan Opia, for always trying his best

### New Menu Week 2

## Diary Dates

#### Monday 31st October

Operation Christmas Child

Rabbits Swimming Lesson

Parent/Teacher Consultation

2:30 - 5:00

#### Tuesday 1st November

Y3 & Y4 Football 3.15 - 4.15

Y5 & Y6 Football 3:15 - 4:15

Parent/Teacher Consultation

4:00 - 7:00

#### Wednesday 2nd November

Y6 Eucharist Service 9:00

KS1 Karate 3:10 - 4:10

Y5 & 6 Basketball Competition  
Trials 3:15 - 4:15

#### Thursday 3rd November

KS2 Karate 3:15 - 4:15

Y1 & Y2 Football 3:10 - 4:10

#### Friday 4th November

KS2 Assembly 9:00 - 9:30

KS1 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](http://www.holycross-pri.essex.sch.uk)

Mrs A Kerrell

Mr S Kelliher

### House Points

**Congratulations to the winning house St George**