



5th June 2026



Newsletter

GOSPEL VALUE: Our Gospel Value for this week is Forgiveness. Please reflect on this at home with your child.

Weekly Reflection

This Sunday, is the Feast Day of Corpus Christi, The Body and Blood of Christ. This is a special reminder of the love that Jesus has for us as we remember The Last Supper. Jesus has given us this special way to remember him every time we go to Mass and take Holy Communion. This Feast reminds us of the importance of togetherness in family and community.

'I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live forever.' John 6:51

We are looking forward to celebrating our First Holy Communion children at our Going Forth Mass this Friday at 9.15am. Parents and families are welcome to attend the Mass.



Wishing everyone a peaceful and happy half term break

Mrs Kerrell
Headteacher

Sports Week and Sports Day Picnic

We are really looking forward to this exciting week of sport which will take place week beginning 15th June. There are lots of activities taking place and we would like to invite parents and families to come and watch the 'traditional' races on Wednesday 17th June in the morning.

Reception and Key Stage One will be from 9.00am-10.30am and the Key Stage 2 will be 10.30am-12 noon. We would like to invite families to stay after the races and have a picnic lunch with your child from 12noon to 1.30pm.

At 1.30pm the children will then come back into school for afternoon lessons and parents can then return to pick up at normal time.

On Thursday 18th June we will have our famous **COLOUR RUN**. This year we don't have sponsorship so we are charging everyone £1.00 please to take part. If you would like your child to take part please contact the office for a payment link. If you have not already done so, please complete the Colour Run Disclaimer form, sent by email on 19th May.

IOW-22nd June (only 2 weeks away!)

We are fast approaching the departure date for our Year 6 visit to the Isle of Wight. Please remember that we need forms and pocket money in to the office by Friday 12th June. Year 6 parents, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Kerrell via the school office.

YEAR 5 Parents: we will be having an initial Isle of Wight information meeting for Year 5 children on Monday 6th June at 3.30pm.

Uniform

Please remember that we are now in our summer uniform. I am noticing that some of our older girls are coming to school with extremely short skirts and shorts. This is completely inappropriate and not the image that we wish to have of our school. I understand that many of the girls have grown taller but school skirts are very affordable and I kindly request that parents ensure that their child wears our school uniform correctly.

We would also like to remind parents that if they are having their child's hair braided or beaded that the braids and beads must be Holy Cross colours please.

New Reception pupils

It has been such a pleasure to meet so many of our new children who will be starting with us in September in Reception. We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Holy Cross family.

Save the Date

We have some important events coming up that I would like to highlight in case you need to ask for some time off work.

Leavers Mass: This will be in the church this year and will take place on Monday 21st July at 9:30am. This will be limited to our Year 6 parents or parents of children who are leaving our school.

All the other important dates for the summer term can be found by following this link to our website:

<https://www.holycross-pri.essex.sch.uk/calendar/?calid=3&pid=133&viewid=41>

CAFOD Sale



50p



Ice lolly Sale

After School. Every Thursday from 11th June



The Words of Pope Leo XIV

In the liturgy, we are invited to participate - body, mind and heart - and enter into a dimension inhabited by the Holy Spirit. In order to enter into this dimension, the liturgy is woven with signs and symbols that have a performative and transforming dimension.



Times Tables Rockstars

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

Hedgehogs:	Temidayo	Squirrels:	Lilah
Badgers:	Grace	Foxes:	Allison
Hares:	Lottie	Rabbits:	Amelia
Kingfishers:	Athea	Robins:	Medeina
Eagles:	Amelia	Owls:	Filip

HAPPY
FATHER'S
Day

GIFT SALE!

GIFTS ARE

£3

EACH



YEARS 2, 3 AND 4 – MONDAY 15TH JUNE



YEARS 5 AND 6 – TUESDAY 16TH JUNE



RECEPTION AND YEAR 1 – WEDNESDAY 17TH JUNE



Cash, card or payment link





SPORTS DAY

AND

FAMILY PICNIC



17TH JUNE



RECEPTION AND KS1 FROM 9AM



KS2 FROM 10.30



PICNIC 12PM TO 1.30PM



COLOUR RUN



18TH JUNE



£1 PER CHILD



SPONSORED

BOUNCE



19TH JUNE



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Congratulations to this week's winners of the KS1 Attendance Award, Dragonflies achieving 99% attendance. The winners of this week's KS2 Attendance Award are Hares, 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 8.55am.

It is essential you notify us of your child's absence by 9am either by telephone or using the Arbor 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. If you do not notify us of the reason for your child's absence it may not be authorised.

Absences over 3 days require supporting medical evidence, for the additional absence to be authorised. Medical evidence can take the form of prescriptions, antibiotics and medical appointments.

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

Butterflies	97%
Ladybirds	98%
Dragonflies	99%
Grasshoppers	98%
Hedgehogs	96%
Squirrels	92%
Badgers	97%
Foxes	95%
Hares	99%
Rabbits	95%
Kingfishers	97%
Robins	94%
Eagles	98%
Owls	93%

Gospel Value Awards

Love

joy, commitment, dedication, sacrifice

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. Matthew 23: 10-12



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

Butterflies:	Leo	Ladybirds:	Aquila
Dragonflies:	Sean	Grasshoppers:	Hartley
Hedgehogs:	Mara	Squirrels:	Riley
Badgers:	Arthur	Foxes:	Allison
Hares:	Amara	Rabbits:	Millie
Kingfishers:	Elsie	Robins:	Dominic
Eagles:	Margaret	Owls:	Vivienne

Wednesday
3rd June 2026

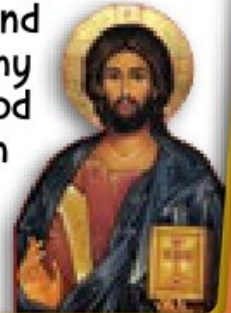
Good News for Families
TOGETHER TIME



1

Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

Jesus said, "I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Those who eat this bread will live forever. Now the bread which I will give is my flesh, and I will give my flesh for the life of the world. Those who eat the bread which is my flesh have eternal life now, and I will raise them up on the last day. My flesh is true food; my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood live in me and I live in them. So my flesh is the bread which comes down from heaven. It is not like the bread which our ancestors once ate in the desert - they died, but those who eat this bread will live forever."



Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 7th June 2026. John 6:51-58 (The Feast of Corpus Christi, Year A)

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 **NOURISH**.



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





"Prayer nourishes the friendship of the soul with God."

St Teresa of Ávila

What did Jesus call himself? To nourish means to feed and help grow. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus is offering to nourish us. Jesus continues to nourish us through the Church today. He offers us eternal life through the gift of himself which we receive in Holy Communion. Ask your child what the word 'nourish' means to them. Then, each of you talk about something, other than food, that nourishes you and helps you grow. Perhaps it is: a special friendship, being praised, praying, your faith, the love and care you receive, a hobby or sport, the Church and the sacraments. Who gives you these things?

"Jesus is the Bread of Life for our families. Let us be united to Jesus, nourished by daily prayer, by listening to the Word of God"

Pope Francis (Pope from 2013-2025)

With Jesus' love we will always be nourished. Just as we eat bread to nourish our bodies, Jesus (in Holy Communion) nourishes our souls - to help us to keep growing in goodness and love. Who else should we remember to thank for nourishing us? Perhaps parents, carers, teachers, priests, grandparents or friends. Which people can we nourish in this coming week and how can we nourish them? Perhaps we can: encourage someone; give hugs to parents or carers; give something to a food bank; help and offer hope to others.

3

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...



WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH



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

-
-
-
-
-
-
-

JESUS CHRIST
LIVING BREAD
FROM HEAVEN
LIVE FOREVER

-
-
-
-
-
-
-

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

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

Cross out the letters

C S U

in the 4 jumbled words to find 4 real words.

cugisve swocruld bruesacd slicfue

Jesus said, "The _____ I give is my _____, which I _____ to be the life of the _____."

Jesus wants to nourish and strengthen us.

He wants us to be closer to him and closer to each other - he is the Bread of Life.

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

This week I will try my best to...

.....





Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 7th June 2026
 The Body and Blood of Christ — John 6:51-58

Relax

Make the Sign of the Cross † and remain still for a minute of settling silence. Then read the Gospel — preferably aloud and slowly — paying attention to any words that stand out to you.



Read

This Sunday's Gospel : THE TRUE BREAD OF LIFE



Jesus said to the Jews: 'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.' Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied: 'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

Did any words or phrases stand out to you in the Gospel? If so, take a few moments to meditate on them.

Reflect

Now read the Gospel again and consider what the Lord might be saying to you, or asking of you, through it. Then continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection...



This is the final section of Jesus' great discourse in the gospel of John on the Eucharist, delivered in the synagogue at Capernaum. It is in the form of a synagogue-sermon, commenting in turn on the phrases of Psalm 78, 'He gave them bread – from heaven – to eat'. Jesus explains that these words are truly fulfilled not by Moses' historic gift of manna in the desert, but by the Father's continuous and repeated gift of Eucharistic bread. The discourse has the same pattern as the Mass, instruction followed by eating. The first two sections of the discourse were about God's gift of revelation in Christ, which is accepted and assimilated by belief in the teaching of Jesus. Now we come to the final section on God's gift of Christ as food. Particularly striking are two points. Firstly, the stress on eating: the word used for 'eat my flesh' is full of the reality of eating; it really means 'chew', and designates the sacramental eating as a real assimilation of the nourishing food. The second point is that 'my flesh for the life of the world' links firmly to the Last Supper: the Christ that we receive is the Christ at the very moment of his redemptive act of self-offering, an act which continues throughout time and into eternity.

What is the best way to prepare for Holy Communion?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

Rest

Now call to mind the Lord's love for you, remembering that through this scripture the Lord is truly present. Then silently and prayerfully listen for God's voice and rest in God's love.



**Respond
&
Request**

Thank God for any insight you may have received, and respond by asking the Holy Spirit to bless you with a spiritual gift or help you to grow in a particular fruit of the Spirit. You might pray for wisdom, courage, faithfulness, self-control, patience, generosity, joy, kindness, love, peace, faith, chastity - or another grace - to help you live out your faith this week.



Remember

This Wednesday's word for our families is **NOURISH**
 (To see the Family Version, please visit: wednesdayword.org)



As you pray for your loved ones, please remember to pray for the Church and for the families connected to our schools.

St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church, pray for us. Mary, Star of Evangelisation, pray for us. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.



First Reading: *Manna from Heaven*



Deuteronomy 8:2-3. 14-16

Moses said to the people: 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and know your inmost heart - whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord. Do not then forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.'

Here the Church sets before us the model for the Eucharist, that is, God's care in feeding his people during the forty-year

desert trek of the Exodus from Egypt. During this time the Israelites were fed with manna; they called this 'bread from heaven', so that it has become the model for the Eucharistic bread. As in all folk-tales, the story has gradually grown in the telling, but originally manna seems to have been the wholly unexpected and seemingly-miraculous provision of a sweet substance exuded from a tamarisk bush. The Hebrews did not know what it was, and, with a word-play typical of the Bible, etymologized it as 'man-hu', the Hebrew for 'What is it?' The reading also stresses that this heavenly gift was a symbol of divine Wisdom, God's revelation of himself given from heaven. Hence the saying, quoted by Jesus to Satan during his Testing in the Desert, 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The manna became the symbol and reminder of God's unfailing care for his people throughout their journey, just as the Eucharist is the expression of God's care for his people today.

How does the Eucharist reveal God's love?



Second Reading: *The One Body of Christ*



1 Corinthians 10:16-17

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

Paul, in writing to that difficult and divided community at Corinth, chides them for their disunity and selfishness. There were some rich members of the community, who got to the Eucharist early, took all the best places, and proceeded to unpack their hampers and feast, while the later comers – presumably the workers and slaves – justifiably felt excluded and remained hungry. In the strongest terms Paul insists that

*the Eucharist must be the symbol and expression of unity, and that those who prevent it being so are making themselves 'answerable for the body and blood of the Lord'. Paul seems to use 'the body of Christ' interchangeably of both the Eucharistic bread and the Eucharistic body which is the community, united in the celebration of the Lord's Supper. It is difficult to see when he means one, and when the other. He obviously regards them both as equally important and equally sacred. Later in the letter he will explain that the community is an organism, in which everyone has their own, individually special part to play, all living with the Spirit of Christ as the life-giving principle. Unless this life is truly shared, it is distorted and fails in its purpose. **How is it possible to make the Eucharist an expression of unity?***

“ ...the Eucharist must be the symbol
and expression of unity.”

The Wednesday Word: Connecting Home, School and Parish through the Word of God

Happy Birthday this week to...

Noah, Leroy, Camron, Mia,
Summer, Indiana, Eliora,
Lucas & Maisie



Golden Awards

- Butterflies: Ronnie, for an impressive recall of number bonds to 5 and 10.
- Ladybirds: Willow, for remembering the events of Pentecost.
- Dragonflies: Samuel, for working so hard with his phonics.
- Grasshoppers: Rebecca, for showing great improvements in her handwriting.
- Hedgehogs: Charles, for having a great understanding of why we collect for CAFOD, understanding world gifts.
- Squirrels: Olivia, for an excellent effort using her joined handwriting.
- Badgers: Yuvein, for making a great start in Year 3.
- Foxes: Gwenda, for her fantastic effort in all subjects.
- Hares: Filip, for writing a lovely portal story using fronted adverbials and similes.
- Rabbits: Amia-Rae, for her fantastic contribution in resolving money word problems.
- Kingfishers: Mariella, for her fantastic writing in R.E. this week - Well done Mariella.
- Robins: Tawana, for her excellent R.E. work about the Glorious Mysteries.
- Eagles: Joshua, for an amazing character description about the Hydra.
- Owls: Jayden, for fantastic sculpture of a mythical creature.

House Points

Congratulations to the winning
house this week, St George's

Menu week 2

Diary Dates

* External club, fees apply

Monday 8th June

Year 1 booster
Mini Musicals club
Years 1 & 2
Forest school
Years 1, 2, 3 & 4
* Cheerleading club
Football team training
Year 5 booster

Tuesday 9th June

Year 2 reading zone 09:00
Year 6 swimming (invited
pupils only)

Wednesday 10th June

Year 2 reading zone 14:45
* Football club
* Karate - Years 2 & 3

Thursday 11th June

Year 2 reading zone 09:00
Cafod club
Year 2 booster
* Football club
* Karate - Years 4, 5 & 6

Friday 12th June

First Communion Going Forth
Mass 09:15
Year 1 trip
Year 5 trip
* Musical Theatre club

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Mrs A Kerrell

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs A Kerrell'.

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