



8th October 2021



Dear Parents,

You received a message about Miss McGuiggan's deteriorating health on Wednesday. We thank you for your kind words and wishes. We ask that you continue to pray for comfort for Miss McGuiggan, her family and our school community at this difficult time.

Heavenly Father,

You lift up all those who are facing illness.

We especially ask that you comfort Miss McGuiggan and surround her with Your peace.

Amen

Burwell Residential Trip

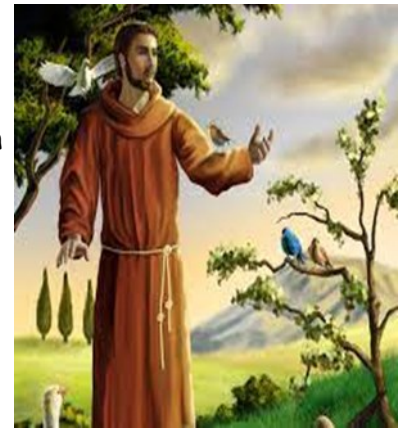
This week, both year 5 classes have enjoyed spending three days on a residential trip at Burwell House in Cambridgeshire. The house and grounds offer a fabulous opportunity to explore lots of Geography skills and fieldwork through games and activities. At the end of the three days, the children were confident in navigating using a map and compass and enjoyed the competitive orienteering games, both on site and wider afield in the village of Burwell itself. They completed traffic surveys and sound maps in Burwell, the neighbouring hamlet of Reach and walked along a stretch of the historic Devil's Dyke. The children also made clay sculptures, which were inspired by our Ancient Greece topic, and incorporated natural materials that they gathered from the gardens and grounds.

Mrs. Guna and Mrs. Smith were really proud of all of the children for their behaviour and manners and for how they fully embraced the activities and experiences. They showed great resilience in being away from their families and in trying new and delicious foods. It was wonderful to see the children playing and enjoying spending time outdoors.



St. Francis of Assisi Diocesan Environmental Initiative

From 1st September, until the Feast of St Francis of Assisi which was on Monday 4th October, we were in the "Season of Creation". This was an initiative from Pope Francis following his Encyclical Letter to the World, *Laudato Si'*, in 2015, where he urged us to "Listen to the cry of the earth, and the cry of the poor." On Monday all classes took to our grounds and dug, planted, swept and tidied as their contribution in caring for our environment. The children also had a lesson on how we could care further and completed pledge cards to help them remember their promises. Thank you to all involved with this.



"In making your personal pledges - in working to heal the planet, and in striving for justice for the poorest people in the world - you are a living witness to Jesus Christ: do not be afraid to tell people why you are doing whatever you choose to do."

Bishop Alan Williams

Luke Kimmins- Charity Fundraiser



A huge congratulations to Luke Kimmins from 2HD who completed the 'Pretty Muddy 5K' in Finsbury Park last Sunday. By running, walking, sliding and scrambling through the mud, Luke raised £500 for Cancer Research UK. Well done Luke, we at Holy Cross are very proud of you and what you have done to support this cause.

Holy Cross School Council Harvest Collection

From Monday, we will be taking donations for our Harvest Collection. Our School Council, supported by Mrs. Gallagher, are liaising with our chosen charity, Streets2Homes.

Why have Holy Cross chosen Streets2Homes?

Quite simply, we support their endeavours for social justice.

Their underlying principle is that everyone has the right to adequate income and shelter, opportunities for education and employment, quality healthcare and nutrition, and that everyone should be treated with dignity and respect.

Donations of tinned food, cereal, rice, pasta, long-life milk, tea/coffee, sugar, juice and anything in date with a long shelf-life will be gratefully received.



Visit by Rabbi Posen

Our children met with Rabbi Posen on Thursday and learned about the Jewish festival of Hanukkah. The origins of this festival were explained and the significance of the menorah. We have such close ties to our Jewish community and we value these opportunities to learn more about their religion. Thank you Mrs. Slater for arranging this.



Hello Yellow for Young Minds

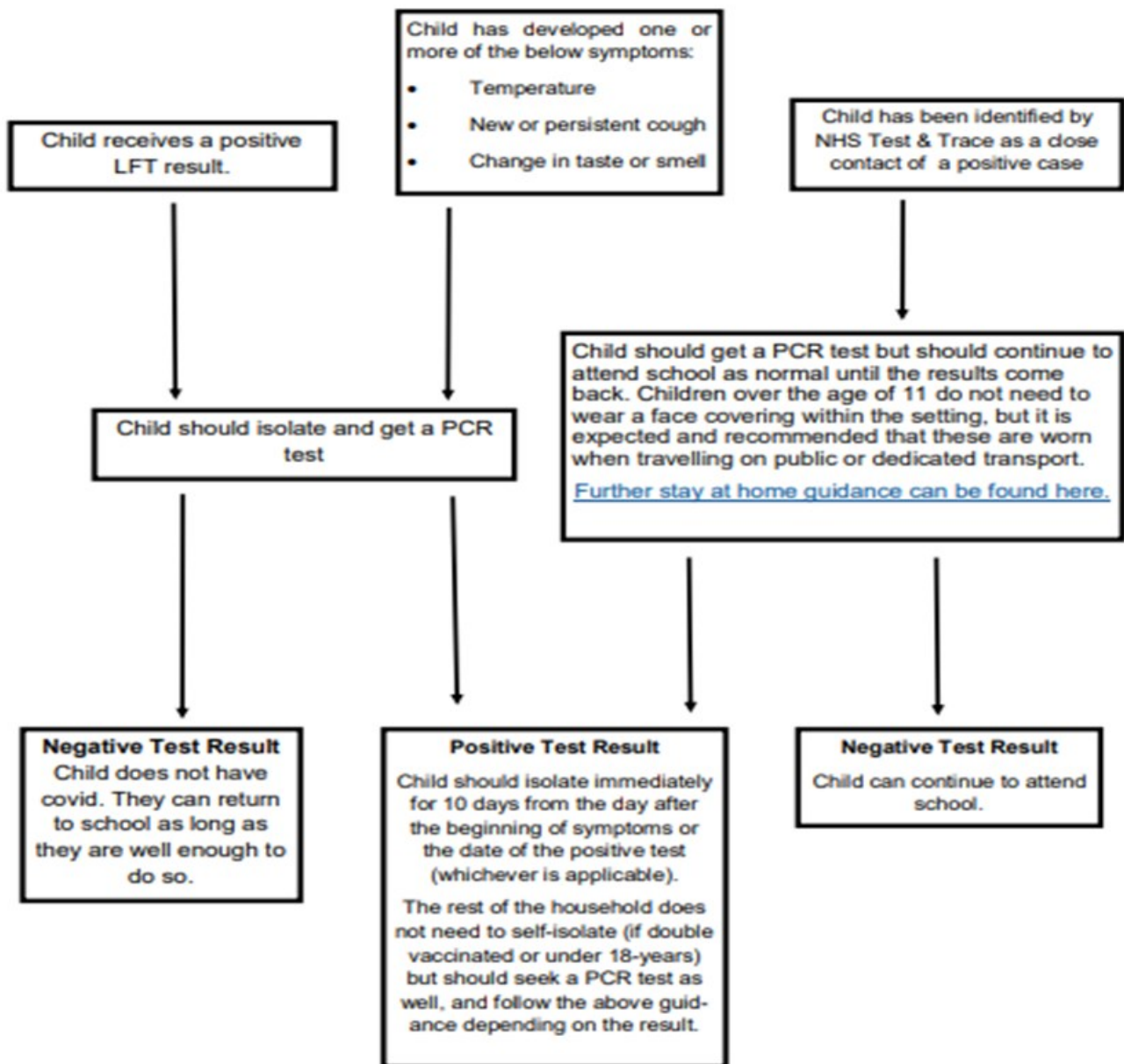
Today, as a school community, we supported Young Minds in their 'Hello Yellow' initiative to raise funding for children and young people. Our school looked even more bright and resplendent than usual with splashes of yellow from all the children's clothing. Young Minds envisages a world where no young person feels alone with their mental health. To achieve this, the wait for support must end. If all young people can get the mental health support they need, when they need it, a mental health problem can be stopped from becoming a crisis. In supporting their cause today, you have helped them move a step closer to that vision. Thank you to parents for your support and donations and to the School Council together with Mrs. Gallagher, who led on this.



COVID-19

The way that Covid is managed in schools has changed from September. Please find a flowchart below which illustrates the self-isolation and testing guidance for children.

Self-Isolation and Testing Guidance



Times Tables Rockstars

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

2PT: Kwadwo Kwakye

3N: Ollie Kluza

4C: Nikoleta Hristova

5G:

6CN: Gabriel Eposito

2HD: Kenna Kah Ajong

3R: Zara Snipes

4E: Demi Osiname

5S: Isabella Cundins

6E: Parvataa Muraleedharan



Here are some FREE sessions that may be of interest from ACL Essex Community and Family Learning - Check out their Events page on Facebook for direct links to all sessions, or visit our website:

aclessex.com/community-family-learning/



Week Commencing 11th October 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6:30-8:30pm -Sibling Rivalry (online) https://tinyurl.com/Sibling-Rivalry-Oct21 7:00-9:00pm -Relaxation for Parents (online) https://tinyurl.com/Relaxation-for-parents-Oct21	We are delivering a series of workshops: First Aid, Introduction to Mindfulness, First Aid and Cooking activities with our partner schools and organisations.	09:30-11:30am -French is Fun (online) https://tinyurl.com/French-is-fun-Oct21 -Dealing with attachment issues (online) https://tinyurl.com/Attachment-issues-Oct21 12:30-2:30pm -Anger in the family (online) https://tinyurl.com/Anger-in-the-family-Oct21	09:30-11:30am -Developing creativity (online) https://tinyurl.com/Developing-creativity-Oct-21 12:30-2:30pm -Choices and Consequences (online) https://tinyurl.com/Choices-and-Consequences-Oct21 Evening: -delivering a workshop on Fussy Eating with a partner organisation	09:30-11:30am -The A-Z of Parenting (online) – 6-week course https://tinyurl.com/A-Z-of-parenting Weekend: -delivering workshops in local libraries



Week Commencing 18th October 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
09:30-11:30am -Introduction to Understanding Teens (online) https://tinyurl.com/Understanding-Teens-Oct21 - delivering a workshop on Numbersacks in a local school	09:30-11:30am -Parenting with Empathy (online) https://tinyurl.com/Parenting-with-empathy-Oct21 - delivering workshops; Calming Art, Healthy Eating and Cooking in local schools 12:30-2:30pm -Helping children to manage change (online) https://tinyurl.com/helping-children-manage-change 7:00-9:00pm -First Aid workshop (online) https://tinyurl.com/1st-Aid-Oct21	09:30-11:30am -Why do children lie? (online) https://tinyurl.com/Why-do-children-lie-Oct21 - Building your child's motor skills (online) https://tinyurl.com/Building-motor-skills 10:00-12:00pm -Slow Cooking Autumn (online) https://tinyurl.com/slow-cooking-autumn	09:30-11:30am -Setting Boundaries (online) https://tinyurl.com/Setting-Boundaries-Oct-21 4:30-6:00pm -Fun with Science (online) https://tinyurl.com/Fun-with-science-Oct21	09:30-11:30am - delivering a workshop on Early Years activities at ACL Maldon Weekend: -delivering workshops in local libraries



tlc-essex.info



aclessex.com

FAMILY LEARNING FAIR GREAT PARNDON LIBRARY

Friday 29 October: 10am-12pm



You are invited to attend our Family Learning Fair! This is a drop-in event. You will be able to find out about:

- Fantastic methods to support your child's learning.
- Fun ways for children to develop language and communication skills.
- Free online learning resources.

STORY & RHYMETIME:

There will also be a Story & Rhymetime at **10:00am**. Please call **0345 603 7628** to book a space as places are limited.



Essex County Council

Gospel Values Awards

The Gospel Value this week is...

Simplicity

- non-attachment to wealth, live simply

"You cannot serve God and wealth." (16:13,

"Do not worry about your life." (12:22)



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

1DG: Sarah Ciotoi

1S: Eva Durchi

2HD: Godswill Adenupe

2PT: Pola Chrapek

3N: Cristiana Sirghe

3R: Justin Nguyen

4C: Araibella Morgan

4E: Indie Usedon-Duff

5G:

5S: Caitlin Masambique

6CN: Isla Kent

6E: Nina Krasa

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

The winners of the KS1 Attendance Award are Ladybirds attaining 99% attendance. Well done! The winners of the KS2 Attendance Award 5G, achieving a fantastic 99%. 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 8:40am until 8.50am. Any child not in their class by 9.00am will receive a late mark.

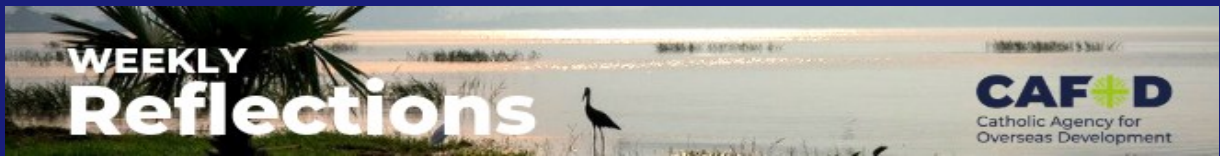
Familiarise yourself with the symptoms of COVID 19. If your child displays any COVID 19 symptoms they must have a negative PCR test before they may attend school. There is no need to keep your child off with a common cold, if they are well enough to come in.

It is essential you notify us of your child's absence by 9am either by telephone or using the Parentmail report absence option. 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.

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

R B	93%
R L	99%
1DG	92%
1S	95%
2HD	84%
2PT	88%
3N	97%
3R	98%
4C	98%
4E	97%
5G	99%
5S	96%
6CN	98%
6E	95%

RELIGIOUS LIFE AT HOLY CROSS



Based on the gospel for 10 October, Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Mark 10:17-30

"Go and sell what you own and give the money to the poor... then come follow me."

In my experience it has always been those with less who are more willing to give. Whether it's food, money, or time I have always been astounded by the generosity of those who seemingly have very little.

In this gospel Jesus breaks us down to our very core, he asks us what are our motivations? Is it faith that motivates us, or property and wealth? Is it the people around us or the home comforts?

We may find comfort in busy lives, material goods and property. We can find it hard to give this up and live a simpler life, but we don't need to do it all at once. One step at a time to a simpler life, take our Live Simply schools and parishes as an example.

So what step can I take today? Am I willing to give up the time to write a letter to my MP or to sign a petition, or am I ready to welcome the next person who appears on my doorstep for a chat?

All Jesus asks is that we give of ourselves, from our hearts, and more than we think we can, to our brothers and sisters, especially those most vulnerable.

Eternal God,

Guide us in the steps towards a more compassionate, selfless life. May we always seek to support, welcome and live in solidarity with our global brothers and sisters by giving of ourselves. Help us build your kingdom on Earth filled with generosity, love and care for each other. Amen.



The Words of Pope Francis

Today, the Church celebrates the Feast of [#OurLadyOfTheRosary](#). In the month of October, I invite you to recite this prayer, allowing yourselves to be led by Mary toward Jesus, her Son.

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,

Out of his great love for us, God created us to be happy with him forever. In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear about a wealthy young man whose love of money and possessions were stopping him finding true happiness.

So Jesus lovingly challenges him: if he wants to have the true, lasting happiness for which he is asking, then he must give God first place in his life. The young man went away sad because he was putting his trust in his wealth rather than trusting God to bring him happiness.

Wednesday 6th October 2021

Living in the way that Jesus taught us, knowing that we are loved forever by God and responding to that love by loving others leads to everlasting happiness. St Gianna Beretta Molla also reminds us, "The secret of happiness is to live moment by moment, being thankful to God, accepting all that he sends."

Enjoy hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **HAPPINESS**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



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

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 10th October 2021



A man ran up to Jesus, knelt before him and asked, "Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life - to live forever with God?" Jesus answered, "You know the ten commandments." And the man said, "Yes Master, and I have kept all these from my earliest days." Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him and said, "There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." The young man went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth. Then Jesus said to his disciples, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God." "In that case," they said, "who can be saved?" Jesus gazed at them. "For people," Jesus said, "it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God."

Adapted from Mark 10:17-30
The 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B

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

"Jesus is a teacher of truth and life who shows us the way that leads to happiness."

Pope Francis

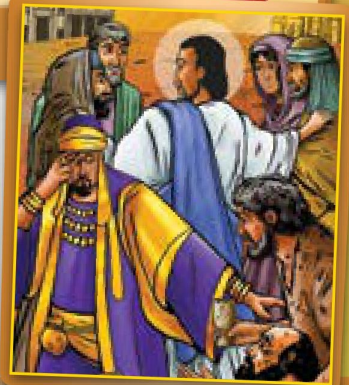


In this Sunday's Gospel, the wealthy man was looking for true happiness. We all want to be happy, to have a sense of well-being and inner joy. Jesus reminds us that, if we want to be truly happy, wealth and possessions are not as important as following him and caring for those around us.



1 Our Special Time Together

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



A man of great wealth asked Jesus, "Master, what must I do so that I will live with God forever?" Jesus looked steadily at him and was filled with love for him. Then Jesus replied, "Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come and follow me." The young man went away sad, because he was very rich.

How did the young man feel after walking away from Jesus? Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? What does the Sunday Gospel picture make you think about?

2 Wednesday's Word is ...

HAPPINESS

3 Loving God & Each Other

"The goal of our life is to experience God's own happiness - a gift to every person."

Adapted from the Catechism of the Catholic Church (nos 1718-1719)

Ask your child what they think true happiness is. When or where are they usually most happy? What is their happiest memory? When did your child last make someone truly happy? It may help your child if you can tell them when they most recently made you happy (or when you are most happy). True happiness comes from knowing and loving God. Sharing God's love is the happiest way to live.

"We will be the happiest people in the world if we belong to God."

St Teresa of Calcutta

Each of you choose some little, simple thing to do which will help to create a better atmosphere of happiness in school, the community, or at home this week. Perhaps you can: volunteer to give someone a helping hand; serve your parents and teachers by cheerfully doing what you are asked to do; forgive, make a fresh start with someone who has upset you; give someone a kind message or a gift.

Dear Lord Jesus, may our family be rich in love and filled with the **happiness** which comes from serving you and others. Amen.

Gospel Gallery

H A K S E J E S U S R K
E A H C I R E K A S I S
L D E K S A K S D E C U
V S A V L O O K E D H S
D E V O L H E V A H N E
L L E J T H J D K O R J
O O N E T R E A S U R E
O V O R D K E A S K E D
J E E V O J E A V D E S
M D K O T R E K M E A D
A A L U T R K S A D N S
P A N S T H E A N N O L

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

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

☒ **RICH MAN**
☐ **ASKED JESUS**
☐ **LOOKED LOVED**
☐ **TREASURE HEAVEN**

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



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

Cross out the letters **u w k** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

likuvew umkawn Makstuerw Gukowd

A _____ asked Jesus, " _____, what must

I do so that I will _____ with _____ forever?"

A happy heart is a sign of God's Spirit within us.

Jesus shows us how to be happy. We don't have to search around for happiness: it comes from within. When we listen to Jesus and follow his ways, we are filled with happiness!

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

.....



Wednesday 13th October 2021 - 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 17th October 2021 - 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 17th October 2021 (Mark 10:35-45): A Life of Service (shorter version)

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. "Master," they said to him, "we want you to do us a favour." He said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" They said to him, "Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory." "You do not know what you are asking," Jesus said to them. "Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?" They replied, "We can." Jesus said to them, "The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted." When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."



3 Reflect

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

Three times in Mark's gospel Jesus formally tells his disciples about his coming Passion, and each time they seem entirely deaf to it. So each time Jesus counters their misunderstanding by repeating the need for a disciple to follow him in suffering. Today's reading begins just after the third prophecy, and – true to form – the sons of Zebedee reply with a request for the best seats at the banquet of the Kingdom! Matthew in his gospel spares the two disciples by putting the request in their poor mother's mouth; only in a second exchange with Jesus do they woodenly accept to share Jesus' 'cup' and 'baptism'. Do they really know what they are accepting, or do they just blithely agree and answer 'Yes' to Jesus' question about sharing the same 'cup' as their 'Master'? The indignation of the other disciples prompts Jesus to deliver his clearest statement in words that authority in the Church should be regarded as service. His clearest statement in action about service is the smelly business of washing the travel-gnarled feet of his disciples at his last meal with them.

How does Jesus envisage leadership in the Church? How may we all live better lives of service?

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 17th October 2021



First Reading: *The Suffering Servant of the Lord*

Isaiah 53:10-11

The Lord has been pleased to crush his servant with suffering. If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life and through him what the Lord wishes will be done. His soul's anguish over, he shall see the light and be content. By his sufferings shall my servant justify many, taking their faults on himself.

The whole of this Fourth Song of the Suffering Servant is read at the liturgy of Good Friday. Today we have only a part, but enough to show that the Servant's suffering somehow fulfils God's purposes: it brings glory to the Servant and salvation to others. We do not know who the servant originally envisaged by the author was: perhaps the prophet himself or perhaps the people of Israel suffering in exile in Babylon. But in Christ we can see a further meaning in this reading. We know from Jesus' own sayings that he saw himself as the complete fulfilment of these poems: 'The Son of man came not to be served but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many'. He saw his life as one of service and of perfect obedience to the Lord, his Father. He saw his task to be the establishment of the Kingship of God on earth, which would bring salvation to all, and that opposition to this Kingship would bring him suffering and eventually death. This selfless obedience of Jesus would undo the stubborn disobedience of all humanity, symbolised by the sin of Adam. It would bring to completion the Lord's designs for the world and for all creation.

Whom did the prophet mean by the Suffering Servant? How does this Servant "fulfil" God's purposes?

Second Reading: *The Supreme High Priest*

Hebrews 4:14-16

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace when we are in need of help.

“In order to bring humanity to perfection, Jesus had to share completely in our humanity.”

The Letter to the Hebrews contrasts the supreme High Priest with the transient high priests of Judaism. In order to bring humanity to perfection, Jesus had to share completely in our humanity. He was 'tempted in every way that we are': temptations to anger, to intolerance, to regard others as inferior. He was 'capable of feeling our weaknesses': fear, frustration, laziness, boredom. In the gospels a few of these 'weaknesses' are mentioned: his exhaustion at the well in Samaria, his grief at the death of his friend Lazarus. But, as he had a very human personality, he must have suffered the fears and incomprehension of childhood, the frustrations of adolescence, as well as the more complex troubles and sorrows of adulthood, not to mention temptations arising from the unremitting opposition of those who rejected him – all under the overarching passion for his Father and his Kingship. All this would have enriched his personality still further, until he offered the whole of his humanity in obedience to his Father's designs. Just as martyrdom is the crown of a life of Christian fidelity, so Jesus' final sacrifice was the crown of a life of love, obedience and generosity.

What does it mean to say that Jesus feels our "weaknesses" with us?

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...

Amelia Tarczwska, Aoife Boland, Brielle Cox, Diale Ebhabha,
Luna Milciute Blynovas, Dominica Nguyen, Conor O'Rourke, Victoria Banjo,
Eva Durchi, Kayden Kureya, Jake Sinyakin



Merit Certificates:

- 1D: Jaxon Bender, for his fantastic effort during our history lesson
- 1S: River Harris-Lyons, for trying really hard with your handwriting
- 2HD: Kennah-Kah Ajong, for working hard on her numeracy
- 2PT: Maxon Wienzek, for excellent maths work
- 3N: Emilie Patasuite, for her great effort in phonics
- 3R: Faustyna Liszka, for always putting in a lot of effort into all of her work
- 4C: Filip Skowron, for his amazing effort at maths problem solving
- 4E: Faith Williams, for excellent effort in her writing this week
- 5S: Rhea Baker, for living out J-O-Y! For always thinking of others and being caring and selfless
Clay McQuillan-Clark, for being a supportive friend at Burwell
- 6CN: Lucy Philpot, for working so hard in maths this week. Well done!
- 6E: Isabella Bethell, for fantastic effort in all her work

Menu Week 1

Diary Date

Global Achievers Week

Monday 11th October

Harvest Collection starts

Year 6 Mass

Tuesday 12th October

Wednesday 13th October

Years 2 & 3 Karate 3:10 - 4:10

Thursday 14th October

Years 4, 5 & 6 Karate 3:15 - 4:15

KS2 Football Club 3.15 - 4.15

Friday 15th October

KS1 Football Club 3.10 - 4.10

KS2 Fitness Club 3.15 - 4.15

KS2 Art Club 3.15 - 4.30

House Points

Congratulations to the
winning house St George

Miss S McGuigan

Headteacher

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

Mr S Kelliher

Deputy Headteacher