



8th July 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are all called to use the gifts bestowed upon us to be of service to our neighbour. Miss McGuigan, our dedicated Headteacher, provided a long and successful service in her mission, never losing sight of the significant impact that a good education could have on the lives of the children and families that she served.

We celebrated a Thanksgiving Mass for Miss McGuigan this morning for her twenty years of dedication to everyone at Holy Cross. Whilst she is sadly missed, what Miss McGuigan built in Harlow and in other schools across our diocese remains a real and tangible legacy. She led "an extraordinary, ordinary life" and we prayed today that, we too, may live our lives in a way that pleases God.

Beating the Retreat

Children from Holy Cross, as part of the Commonwealth Choir, performed at Horse Guards Parade on Wednesday and Thursday evening. Described as a "Military Musical Spectacular", these concerts are performed in front of the backdrop of St. James's Park each year. Congratulations to: Ena, Mmasi, Morayo, Lucia, Lilly, Aidan, Marian, Isla and Maame for being such wonderful ambassadors for our school. Thank you to the ever-present Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Cater who accompanied the children for rehearsal on Monday, the performances on Wednesday and Thursday evening and Mr. Pintelli who also provided support.



Meet the Teacher

The children were excited as they met their new teachers on Tuesday morning. All the new teachers are extremely enthusiastic and excited about joining us at Holy Cross. After spending time with their class, our new teachers spent the rest of the day working with Miss Clark, Mrs. Noonan and Mrs. Peters, learning about the practices and procedures at Holy Cross. They have been in at different points throughout the last few weeks and will be spending more time with us in school in the coming days in preparation for their start in the new academic year.



Exhibition and Awards Evening

We welcomed many parents with their children to our Exhibition Evening on Tuesday. Success was also celebrated through our awards ceremony for Student, Citizen, Sports Personality of the Year and a Key Stage 2 Special Achievement Award. Many congratulations to all these children below for their well-deserved recognition.

Student of the Year	Citizen of the Year	Sports Personality
<p>These children were recognised for making good progress through their sheer hard work and determination.</p> <p>Butterflies: Emilia Janczewska Ladybirds: Jan Ostrowski 1S: Blake Leagas 1A: Rufus Cook 2PT: Kojo Kwakye 2HD: Kenne-Kah Ajong 3N: Cristiana Sirghe 3R: Giuseppe Portaro 4E: Darcie Bethell 4C: Ethan Smith 5A: Beatrice Fagg 5G: Jake Doyle 6CN: Kailani Loughran-Ricketts 6E: Zach Gauci</p>	<p>The recipients of this award have demonstrated the attributes of kindness, helpfulness and being children of JOY.</p> <p>Butterflies: Obaloluwa Akibola Ladybirds: Amara Nwoye 1S: Tawana Agyare 1A: Thea Dixon 2PT: Feodora Benghea 2HD: Harry Tupper 3N: Nayt Mashumba 3R: Julia Czarny 4E: Thomas Hyde 4C: Heather Owusu- Kumi 5A: Taylor Leagas 5G: Lilly Bergamini & Christopher Annobil 6CN: Oliver Wuzik 6E: Isabella Bethell</p>	<p>These children have shown tremendous effort in P.E.</p> <p>EYFS: Dennis Jegorovs Key Stage 1: Axel Brooks Lower KS2: Jemie Kuttin Upper KS2: Sebastian Darlea</p>

Special Achievement Award

Lucy Richardson: Lucy was chosen for this award as she has worked so diligently this year to overcome any barriers to learning. She has grown in confidence and we have seen her develop in maturity as a young lady. Lucy is a kind and considerate member of our school community who is an excellent role model for her peers.

Ronel Sofuwa: This young gentleman has worked incredibly hard this year. With his fantastic attitude to learning, he has served as a wonderful role model. He always tries his best, putting great effort into everything he does. Ronel has developed in confidence this year and all of us are incredibly proud of him.



Year 1 Paradise Wildlife Park



Year 4 Kentwell Hall

Last Friday year 4 travelled back to 1549 and visited Kentwell Hall in Suffolk. This was the time of Kett's rebellion, as many poor Tudors rebelled against the King! We had a very practical and enjoyable day visiting areas including combat school, archery, the school house, pottery and the impressive Tudor manor, where a meal was being prepared.

Well done to all the children for behaving superbly and thanks very much to the parents who supported.



Year 1 & 2 Mini-Olympics

Children from Years 1 and 2 travelled to Church Langley Primary on Thursday afternoon to compete in a 'Mini-Olympics' against other schools within Harlow. The spirit of competition from our children was very much in evidence and they did us incredibly proud.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

For the third consecutive week the winners of the KS1 Attendance Award are Ladybirds 99% attendance. Well done! The winners of the KS2 Attendance Award are 3R attaining 96% 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.

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.

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

RB	89%
RL	99%
1A	90%
1S	95%
2HD	98%
2PT	92%
3N	94%
3R	96%
4C	90%
4E	94%
5G	94%
5S	91%
6CN	87%
6E	95%

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about STEAM

Steam is a computer gaming digital distribution platform and storefront. It is the biggest platform for desktop- or laptop-based gaming, with a range of more than 30,000 games available. The platform has become a lively social environment for many gamers, and allows people to trade, sell and buy gaming items for real money. Valve, the developers behind Steam, have also released different hardware that works with the platform, including the Steam Deck – a hand-held console that lets users play their favourite games while away from their computer.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNSUITABLE GAMES

Among the 30,000+ games on the platform, there are many that aren't appropriate for children. Individuals can view and download games featuring adult content if they verify their age – but, of course, it's easy to enter a false date of birth online. This can lead to children and young people finding games that they shouldn't have access to: featuring violence or profanity, for example.

SPENDING SPREES

Steam hosts regular sales – including some where game prices are reduced by up to 90%. Some sales promotions also include a mini-game or event which encourages users to spend more money. The sales can be an excellent time for young gamers to purchase the titles they've been wanting, but the attractive discounts can also promote impulse buys driven by the fear of missing out.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Steam isn't a social media site, but it certainly shares some of their elements. Users can add other people as 'friends', for example (whether they know them in real life or not), and then communicate privately with them using text or voice chat. The platform also hosts public discussions and groups for socialising. Steam users can also leave comments on the profiles of other players.

POTENTIAL SCAMS

Sadly, Steam's immense popularity has made it a lucrative destination for internet scammers. The most common ruse is phishing: scammers send links to other users, aiming to trick them into entering their login details – which are then stolen. Once in control of the account, the scammer sends messages to everyone on the victim's friend's list, in an attempt to hijack their accounts too.

SHADY TRADERS

The Steam Community Market is a built-in trading area where players can trade resources for their games on the platform. Gamers can exchange items, or buy and sell them using real-world currency. It's possible for unwary users to be scammed through bad trade deals, and Steam doesn't usually get involved when this happens. There are also third-party trading websites, which can be risky to use.

SPARSE AGE RATINGS

Steam is a digital distribution platform for games of all kinds, including ones not rated by regulatory bodies. Getting a game rated takes a long time, and can be expensive, so developers only tend to follow that process when releasing a title that will be physically sold in shops. Most games on Steam, therefore, don't have an advisory age rating on the store page.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Steam does have some limited parental controls that can restrict exactly what games someone's account can view and access. This can be set up by navigating to the 'Family' tab in 'Settings', then selecting 'Manage Family View'. The platform then allows parents and carers to share a Steam account with their child and limit them to age-appropriate games.

USE GIFT CARDS

Having payment methods (like card details or PayPal) linked to a Steam account makes it very easy for a child to purchase new games or spend money on items in the marketplace. An excellent and safe alternative would be to buy a Steam gift card and let your child make their purchases with that instead – putting a manageable cap on how much they can spend on the platform.

APPLY STEAM GUARD

Steam Guard is an optional additional layer of security that protects accounts. Enabling it ensures that anyone attempting to log in to that account also needs to provide authorisation via their phone or email. The computer that your child uses Steam on can be authorised to prevent having to provide separate authentication for each login.

SHARE A LIBRARY

Using Family Library Sharing lets everyone at home share games across accounts (while still keeping their accounts separate). The entire game library from each account is shared with the other account holders – a great way to avoid having to purchase a different copy of the game for each of your children. However, if two users want to play the same game separately, you would need to buy it twice.

SAFE MODDING

Modifying a game to customise it or to introduce new content – known as 'modding' – is common on Steam. There's nothing inherently bad about modding, but installing the wrong mods can be disastrous: they can stop games from working properly, or at all. Steam's mods are unlikely to contain viruses or malware, but it's still possible – so ensure your child reads the mod's reviews first to avoid anything dangerous.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



Sources: <https://help.steamowered.com/en/faq/view/7033-9581-2339-A376>
<https://help.steamowered.com/en/faq/view/5710-5393-266F-1B48>

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Holy Cross Catholic Primary Academy



TICKETS TO
SEALIFE
CENTRE
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA

£8 per ticket (per person)

Pre order your Tickets* from School or
scan the QR code
and save £4.50 per ticket
*valid until Dec/22



Scan the QR code to buy tickets

Please note, if you scan the QR code to purchase tickets you will need to notify the school office of your purchase.

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

DAY BAND* TO

*Valid until Dec/22

ADVENTURE ISLAND

Southend-on-Sea

£15 per day (per person)

Unlimited rides

**PRE ORDER YOUR TICKETS
AT SCHOOL OR SCAN THE QR CODE
AND SAVE £10 PER TICKET**

Scan the QR code
to buy your tickets



Please note, if you scan the QR code to purchase tickets you will need to notify the school office of your purchase.



Times Tables Rockstars

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

2HD: Luke Kimmins

2PT: Axel Osijo

3N: Emilie Patasuite

3R: Aniyah Adenuga

4C: Phoebe McNamara

4E: Mara Ciotoi

5A: Teri Olabode

5G: Athena Harrison

Gospel Values Awards

The Gospel Value this week is...

Hope

- resilience, perseverance

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh." (24:52)



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

Butterflies: Georgie White

Ladybirds: Curvis Agyemang

1A: Jaxon Bender

1S: Kiera Noonan

2HD: Livia Mazurek

2PT: Lucas Patasius

3N: Sophie Philpot

3R: Marshall Pavelin

4C: Kassidy Andersen

4E: Emilia Mardyla

5A: Bree Onwurah

5G: Morayo Bolaji

6CN: Erin Downing

6E: Mitchell To



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



Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 10th July 2022 - The Fifteenth 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 10th July 2022 (Luke 10:25-37): The Good Samaritan

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, "Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself." "You have answered right," said Jesus. "Do this and life is yours." But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?" Jesus replied, "A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have.' Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands' hands?" "The one, who took pity on him," he replied. Jesus said to him, "Go, and do the same yourself."



3

Reflect

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

To many a Jew at the time of Jesus the hatred of the Samaritans was such that a Good Samaritan was a contradiction in terms. It is striking that Luke changes the dialogue about the two commandments. In Mark's and Matthew's accounts Jesus answers the question about the commandments, while in Luke Jesus challenges the questioner, who then himself gives the right answer. It is also striking that, in his reply at the very end, the lawyer, despite Jesus' praise of him, cannot bring himself to pronounce the hated name, 'Samaritan', and says 'the one who...'. The conscientious dilemma of the priest and the Levite reveals a dry humour within this story: if the huddled traveller turns out to be dead, they will incur corpse-defilement and be unable to perform their sacred duties! This legal difficulty makes the Samaritan's attentive generosity all the more poignant, for a Samaritan is free of any such hang-ups. Love shown to the unfortunate and the down-trodden is a major theme in Luke's Gospel. But note also the Samaritan's careful administration of his funds: he gives not a blank cheque but two days' wages, which he will supplement on his return if necessary!

What is the main point of Jesus' story? Is it to be generous or not to be judgmental?

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 10th July 2022



First Reading: *Moses' Final Counsel*

Deuteronomy 30:10-14

Moses said to the people: "Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul. For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, 'Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?' Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, 'Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?' No, the Word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance."

The Book of Deuteronomy consists of four great discourses on the Law. This lovely passage concludes the last discourse, after which the death of Moses is recounted. It encourages the people to observe the Law. The Law, it teaches, is not obscure, or difficult, or far away; the people do not need to travel far or search deeply. The author is saying that the Law is Israel's natural inheritance, and so it is natural for them to observe it; it is almost – as we would say – second nature. The Law was God's most precious gift to Israel, a revelation of the divine nature and the divine ways to the world, and so a source of light and life. It revealed how Israel had to behave in order to be God's faithful people. Therefore, observance of the Law was not to be thought of as a tiresome obligation but a response in love to this gift made in love. For Christians the Law is brought to perfection in the incarnate Word of God, who is the perfect revelation of the Father, and is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Israel saw the revelation of God's will, and so of his nature, in the Law; Christians similarly see the full revelation of the glory of God in Christ Jesus.

How can I come to know God's ways? Why not (as a starting point) read John's Gospel (where we discover Jesus as the Way, the Truth and the Life)?

Second Reading: *Christ the First-born*

Colossians 1:15-20

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God and the firstborn of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers - all things were created through him and for him. Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head. As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

This is the first of the readings we will hear from Colossians over the coming week; it is a hymn to the pre-eminence of Christ. It falls into two stanzas: the first proclaims Christ's pre-eminence as firstborn in creation, the second his pre-eminence as first-born from the dead. As first-born in creation he is the image of the invisible God, in whom all is created, just as, in the Book of Wisdom, Wisdom is called the image of God, the reflection of the eternal light and the mirror of God's active power. In Wisdom, in Christ, God can be seen. In the second stanza, as first-born from the dead, Christ brings all things to perfection and completion. The hymn is a sort of parabola, starting with God in creation, descending to Christ as Lord of the Church, and returning with Christ to completion in God.

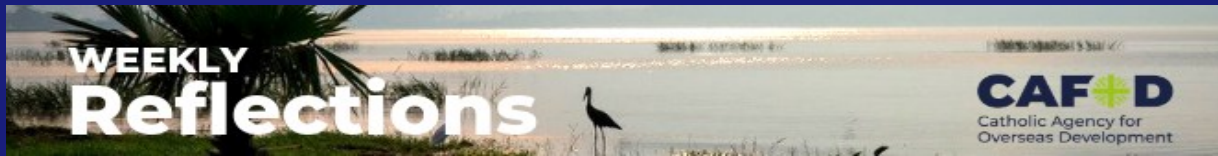
What does this passage teach us about Jesus Christ?

“Christ brings all things to perfection and completion.”

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

w: www.wednesdayword.org

e: info@wednesdayword.org



Based on the gospel for Sunday 10 July, Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Luke 10:25-37

"But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?'"

A friend recently told me that he became "apoplectic with rage" for several days after hearing the actions of a certain world leader. Practically incapacitated by the third day, he chose to do a novena for this world leader. My friend was stunned to find the change within himself and in the ways which he related to others even at the midway point of this novena.

Ours is a religion of love. And, as we see in this passage, we have to live by very few rules: to love God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind, and our neighbour as ourselves. Yet, how often it is that each of us stumble and fall short of this commandment, and how quick we can be to point out how others are not living up to this Law. But how often do we see ourselves in the lawyer, who is so anxious to justify himself to Jesus?

St John of the Cross writes that "where there is no love, put love, and you will draw love out." Where today do you see a lack of love (or the presence of evil) and what can you do to put love there?

God of love and Father to all,
you made humankind in your image and likeness.
Grant that I may love all as my neighbour,
especially those who I most struggle to see goodness in,
and the poor, who are so often forgotten.
Amen.



The Words of Pope Francis

Every day God passes by and sows a seed in the soil of our lives. Making that seed grow depends on us, on our prayer, on the open heart with which we approach the Scriptures so that it might become for us the Living Word of God.

Happy Birthday this week to...

Thea Dixon, James Harten, Darrelle Koranteng-Appleton, Zofia Rutkowska,
Francesca Griffiths, Gabriel Sereda, Mason Thompson, Amanda Nwobodo
& Mayah Rupasinghe



Merit Certificates:

Butterflies:	Declan Benett, for a great attitude to learning, trying his best in all activities
Ladybirds:	Gerald Larbi, for trying hard in phonics
1A:	Elsie Bethell, for trying extra hard in all her lessons
1S:	Tilly Lentz, for working really hard with her writing
2HD:	Liliana Smaglo, for super literacy work on Katie Morag
2PT:	Sid Cundins, for excellent effort in maths
3N:	Evie Underdown, for her great comprehension skills
3R:	Layla Still, for her attitude and concentration in class this week
4C:	Mason Thompson, for being an amazing leader at Kentwell Hall
4E:	Isaac Adisa, for excellent progress in maths
5A:	Casey Okpanachi, for her excellent attitude to learning
5G:	Mischa Hyde, for her fantastic effort in writing this week
6CN:	Amanda Nwobodo, for trying hard in our Year 6 production
6E:	Florian Byram, for working hard in class this week.
Middy:	Kiera Noonan, for setting a fantastic example in the lunch hall

International Week Diary Dates

Special International Menu

Monday 11th July

5S Swimming Lesson

Tuesday 12th July

Dance Fit Lunchtime Club -
no need to book

Year 6 Production 6pm
(ticket only)

Wednesday 13th July

Passport Day

Parents Forum Meeting 2pm

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

Football Club Years 1 & 2 3:10 - 4:10

Football Club Years 3 & 4 3:15 - 4:15

Year 6 Production 6pm (ticket only)

Thursday 14th July

Year 5 Enterprise Day at St Marks

Dance Fit Lunchtime Club - no need to
book

Reception Graduation 12:00 - 3:00

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

Football Club Years 5 & 6 3:15 - 4:15

Bootcamp Club Years 5 & 6 3:15 - 4:15

Friday 15th July

Non Uniform Day, national dress
or colours

International Food Festival 3:15

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