



The Friday Message
Volume 30 – Friday 9th May 2025
4th Sunday of Easter
The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.



<p>Reception</p> <p>This week in Reception class, we continued learning about why Pentecost is often named as the ‘Birthday of the Church’. The feast celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples. We discussed that The Holy Spirit is a new friend that Jesus had promised to send them, with this new arrival the disciples felt full of joy and happiness. They were no longer frightened, and they were able to go out and share the Good News with others.</p> <p>We designed a headband with a tongue of fire to represent the blowing of the wind which came from heaven and how the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages. We have also practice how to say “hello” in different languages and created artwork based on this too.</p>	<p>Year 1</p> <p>This week in RE, we explored how Pentecost is celebrated across different countries and expressed our creativity by crafting beautiful pinwheels and painting stunning watercolour artwork. We loved discovering the many unique traditions around the world, with our favourite being the breathtaking Roman custom of letting rose petals fall from the Vatican dome to bless those gathered with the Holy Spirit. We were also fascinated by the Greek tradition of eating bread decorated with flowers as part of their celebrations.</p>
<p>Year 2</p> <p>In RE this week, we have learnt about the conversion of Saul to Paul (Acts 9: 1-19). The children showed great understanding of the story by retelling it in a ‘5 finger retell’, summarising the story into 5 brief sentences from the stoning of Stephen to Paul becoming a follower and preacher of God. We discussed what sort of a person Saul/Paul was before and after he was filled with the Holy Spirit and saw the light. The children thought carefully about his transformation and discussed his actions, beliefs and character traits before recording their ideas in 2 body outlines of ‘Saul’ and ‘Paul’.</p>	<p>Year 3</p> <p>We looked at scriptures again this week after showing such interest in the recounts of Jesus rising after His crucifixion. We read passages from the Bible about the early church and then made connections to things that happen in Mass. We focused on the Eucharist, the fellowship of people, the regular gathering of us to pray, the common good within all of us and how we go out to share Jesus’ love and compassion. We then went on to focus on the Concluding Rites in Mass and how that helps us our responsibility to share God’s grace when we leave Mass or collective worship each week. In Year 3, we’re really excited to hear that Pope Leo XIV has now been elected.</p>
<p>Year 4</p> <p>In RE this week, we have been reflecting on the role of the Pope and what this means for the Catholic Church. We linked his role to Mark 10:45; “the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve,” discussing the meaning of this, and considering how the Pope teaches and leads us, but also serves the people with his actions. In the second lesson, we read the Apostles’ Creed and reflected on the meaning of each line. We linked this to our previous learning of the Nicene Creed, and reflected on why the Apostles’ Creed is still so important to Catholics today, with particular reference to the line “The Communion of Saints”. Some brilliant, thoughtful reflection from everyone this week – well done, Year 4!</p>	<p>Year 5</p> <p>Year 5 have shown thought and maturity again this week as they explored what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. They began by learning about discipleship, faith, and obedience, using Mary’s example in the Annunciation as a powerful starting point. Through writing and discussion, pupils compared how Mary and other saints—like St. Oscar Romero and St. Peter —lived lives of trust, courage, and love for others. In their second lesson, they looked closely at the life of St. John Henry Newman, reflecting on how his service and deep conversion showed true discipleship. The children then used their learning to design thoughtful and symbolic new school logos, beautifully capturing the spirit of following Jesus in daily life. Excellent work, Year 5—you’re truly growing as young disciples!</p>
<p>Year 6</p> <p>This week in RE, Year 6 explored the meaning of a Saint and how Saints live as witnesses to Jesus Christ. We began by discussing what it means to be a Saint and the qualities that make someone worthy of this title. The children learned that Saints are individuals who devoted their lives to following Jesus’ teachings and spreading the message of God’s love through their words and actions. Working in pairs, the children researched a chosen Saint, focusing on their life story, commitment to God, and the ways they shared the Good News. Some of the Saints studied included Saint Mother Teresa and Saint Oscar Romero. The class discovered how Saint Mother Teresa dedicated her life to caring for the poor and sick, showing great compassion and humility. Saint Oscar Romero was admired for his courage in speaking out against injustice and defending the rights of the oppressed in El Salvador.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monthly Gospel Value Our Gospel Value we are exploring is ... Wisdom Draw what it means to be wise?</p>

**Cardinal Robert Prevost has been elected as the new
pope, taking the name Pope Leo XIV**

Prayer for Pope Leo XIV

Faithful God,
You guide us on the path of life
and your goodness is our constant companion.
Be with our new Shepherd, Pope Leo XIV,
in his service of the Church.
Fill him with the power of your Spirit,
the peace of your presence
and the compassion of Christ.
May he walk with you,
in wisdom and humility,
and lead us, together with all God's people,
to embody your love for the world.
Amen.