



The Friday Message

Volume 6 – Friday 10th October 2025

28th Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)



Reception	Year 1
This week Reception children looked at the photos of their families which you kindly emailed in from home. The children shared their photos, as well as their thoughts on what makes them feel loved and cared for. We talked about how our families are a gift from God and how God made each of us special but still in his own image. In provision, the children drew pictures of their families, showing the people who are important to them. During this activity, we realised how lucky we are to feel a sense of belonging, love, and thankfulness for the people in our lives.	This week the children thought about how our own community can show care for God’s world. They reflected on how people in St John Henry Newman School and the local area help to keep our world beautiful and safe. Later in the week, we learned about a community in El Salvador and how the children there care for creation by cleaning rivers, planting trees and working together. We talked about how, no matter where we live, we are all part of God’s family and share the same responsibility to look after His world.
Year 2	Year 3
This week Year 2 have learnt about 2 more symbols of Baptism; the white garment worn by the person being baptised and the candle. The children recalled brilliantly that the white garment represents new life and is the colour of Jesus and the candle represents the love of Jesus, God and the Holy Spirit. In our second session we watched a clip showing the baptism of a baby called Lydia Rose. The children spotted all the symbols they have learnt about, and we also discussed the role of God parents. The children then worked really hard at coming up with questions they would like to ask Father Jeffery about Baptism in preparation for his visit next week.	This week, Year 3 have been learning about the key principles of Catholic Social Teaching. The children took part in mini role plays using scenario cards to explore different problems and were highly engaged throughout. In their second lesson, they consolidated their understanding by creating colourful posters to show how Catholic Social Teaching links to the Creation Story.
Year 4	Year 5
This week Year 4 explored the story of Joseph and how his faith helped him to forgive his brothers after many years apart. As we read the passage where Joseph reveals himself to them, the children reflected on the emotions within the story and discussed how faith and love guided Joseph’s decision to forgive. Through prayer and discussion, they thought about how forgiveness can bring peace and healing in our own lives too. Later in the week, we focused on Catholic Social Teaching, learning about the virtues of faith, hope, and love through the example of Cardinal Manning, who worked tirelessly to help others during the London dockworkers’ strike. The children considered how his faith inspired real action and thought carefully about ways they can live out these same virtues in their own communities.	This week in Year 5 RE, students have been learning about St. Therese of Lisieux and her philosophy of living life ‘The Little Way,’ which emphasises kindness and humility through small, meaningful actions. The children created advice leaflets on how to live according to her teachings and took part in a reflective ‘Little Way’ walk around the school, where they stayed mindful and noticed opportunities for small acts of kindness. These activities helped them understand how simple, thoughtful gestures can make a positive difference in their everyday lives.
Year 6	<p>Monthly Gospel Value</p> <p>Our Gospel Value we are exploring is</p> <p>....</p> <p>Trust</p> <p>How can you build up TRUST with someone?</p>
This week in RE, we enjoyed spending time with our buddies as we explored the Nicene Creed together. We shared and discussed what it means to us as Catholics and how it helps us to express our shared beliefs. It was wonderful to see older and younger pupils working together, with the older children supporting their buddies to understand the meaning and importance of this special prayer. In our lesson, we also learned about St Carlo Acutis, a modern saint who devoted his short life to caring for others and sharing his deep love of Jesus. We were inspired by how he used his gifts — particularly his talent with computers — to spread faith in a positive and creative way. His example encouraged us to think about how we can use our own talents to help others and live out our faith each day.	