





The Friday Message

Volume 16 – Friday 9th January 2026

The Baptism of the Lord



Reception	Year 1
<p>EYFS children have been learning about Epiphany. Mrs Lopez introduced us to <i>Día de Los Reyes</i> (Three Kings' Day) and shared with us how this special day is celebrated in Spain and around the world. Using Godly Play, we retold the journey of the kings as they followed the star to Bethlehem, remembering that very important part of our nativity story. We spent time thinking about the kinds of gifts we might offer Jesus today—such as kindness, happiness and love—before we move onto learn about the traditional gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh next week. We were also introduced to our new Gospel value, perseverance, and many children are already showing this by zipping up their coats and putting on their gloves all by themselves as we get ready for the cold weather!</p>	<p>This week we have started branch 3 – Galilee to Jerusalem. We have listened to the story of The Presentation (Luke 2:22-38). We discussed questions based on this story including: What happened when Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to the temple? What did Simeon say about the child Jesus? What do we learn about Anna in this story? Why do you think Simeon praised God when he saw the child Jesus? Why do you think Anna never left the temple and worshipped night and day? We then went on to think about what Simeon and Anna saw, thought and felt during this bible reading.</p>
Year 2	Year 3
<p>This week Year 2 have been learning about the life of John the Baptist in more detail. We recalled all the things we could remember about him, the children remembered he was a prophet and was sent to prepare the way for Jesus. We then focused on the story of him baptising Jesus through Godly play. The children listened carefully and then demonstrated their understanding of the story, and the significance of water in Baptism, through individual story boards.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div>	<p>In R.E. this week, the children learned about Matthew's Gospel and how it is organised into chapters that help us understand the life and message of Jesus. They explored how Matthew presents Jesus as the Son of God and the promised King. The children also retold the story of the Magi, learning how the Wise Men followed the star to find Jesus and offered their gifts in worship. Through this learning, the children were encouraged to think about how they can recognise Jesus in their own lives and respond with faith and kindness.</p>
Year 4	Year 5
<p>In RE this week, Year 4 explored the important question Jesus asked His disciples: "Who do you say I am?" The children read the Gospel account from Matthew and retold the moment when Peter declared Jesus to be the Christ, discussing what this title means and why it was so significant. They then retold this story, describing the events, explaining Peter's response and considering how Christians today continue to answer this question through their faith. In our second lesson, we focused on the Christian belief in the Incarnation, learning that Jesus is fully God and fully human. We looked at the traits of Jesus, all recognising that the only human trait Jesus did not have is sin.</p>	<p>This week, we began our new topic by diving into the Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-12). The children did a fantastic job exploring how these teachings guide us to live a blessed life. They made insightful connections between the Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments, discovering how both help us reflect Jesus' love through virtues like hope and charity. Great work, Year 5!</p>

Year 6

This week in RE, we introduced our new unit Galilee to Jerusalem, which focuses on the life and mission of Jesus and how his teachings continue to shape the Church today. We began by exploring the Seven Sacraments, developing an understanding of what a sacrament is and why they are important in the life of Catholics. Pupils learned that sacraments are special signs of God's grace and are celebrated at key moments in a person's life. We examined each of the seven sacraments and identified the symbols associated with them, such as water, oil, bread, wine and light, discussing what these symbols represent and why they are used. Through discussion and reflection, children considered the purpose of each sacrament and how they strengthen faith, bring people closer to God and support the Catholic community. This learning has laid strong foundations for the unit ahead.

Monthly Gospel Value
Our Gospel Value we are exploring is
... PERSERVERANCE

What are you going to try hard on?