



The Lord, my God, lights up my darkness

Psalm 18:28

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you are all still keeping well. Many thanks for all your messages of support for the staff who are working hard and supporting the COVID-19 response. These are testing times and perhaps a little overwhelming at moments as we try to balance family life, professional life and our responsibilities as members of the wider community.

The focus of this month's work in Religious Education is the role that reconciliation plays in our lives. We teach the children that Jesus wants to forgive our sins and that we come to Jesus for forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, where Jesus forgives us and comforts us. He strengthens us on our journey and we are reconciled with God, with the Church, and with the people we have hurt. Through this sacrament the Church celebrates Jesus' gift of forgiveness.



Mrs Mitchener

RECONCILIATION—INTER-RELATING

(Insert dates)

Early Years	FRIENDS - Friends of Jesus
Year 1	BEING SORRY - God helps us choose well
Year 2	RULES - Reasons for rules in the Christian family
Year 3	CHOICES - Importance of examination of conscience
Year 4	BUILDING BRIDGES - Admitting wrong, being reconciled with God and each other
Year 5	FREEDOM & RESPONSIBILITY - Commandments enable Christians to be free & responsible
Year 6	HEALING - Sacrament of the Sick

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk together about times when you have forgiven and been forgiven.

Discuss the importance of saying sorry. Look for opportunities for forgiveness and reconciliation in the day to day life of the family.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus & The Immaculate Heart of Mary

During the Month of June the Church celebrates two special Feast Days. The Feasts of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It would be lovely if you could research these wonderful feast days with your children. I have attached a heart craft activity to the newsletter, which you could make, while you share the significance with them.

The Sacred **Heart** (also known as the Sacred **Heart** of Jesus) has one of the deepest meanings in the Roman Catholic practice. The symbol represents Jesus Christ's actual **heart** as His love for all of humanity. The heart of Jesus is viewed as a symbol of "God's boundless and passionate love for mankind". His heart is surrounded by a **flame** or light, which signifies the divine light of love.



The **Immaculate Heart of Mary** is a devotional name used to refer to the interior life of the Blessed Virgin **Mary**, her joys and sorrows, her virtues and hidden perfections, and above all, her love for God the Father, her maternal love for her son Jesus, and her compassionate love for all people. Her heart is typically on fire, which emphasizes the intensity of her love for God and for humanity.

Feast day 20th June

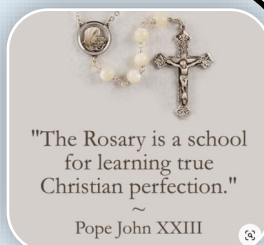
Feast Day 19th June

Grow in Love, Live in Peace

The Rosary

During the Month of May, Mrs Mooney, Mrs Gallagher and I have been saying the Rosary with the children in school several times a week. We have been so impressed with how all the children, particularly our youngest Reception children have responded so positively. In particular, well done to Olivia in St Peter's class.

"There is just something about the Rosary that settles our hearts and mind. It reaches deep down into our souls and puts us at ease, creating a peace that is rare and beautiful."



Special Times This Month

June

7th The Most Holy Trinity

14th The Most Holy Body and Blood of the Lord

19th The most Sacred Heart of Jesus

20th Immaculate Heart of Mary

24th The Nativity of John the Baptist

28th St Peter and St Paul, Apostles

Activities in school during May

In the Juniors and Infants, we made little shrines for Mary. We placed them in the hall when we said the Rosary at school, and said our prayers around them.



We made stained glass windows of Mary, that we put up in the school entrance, to remind everyone in our school that May is the month of Mary.



Mrs Gallagher



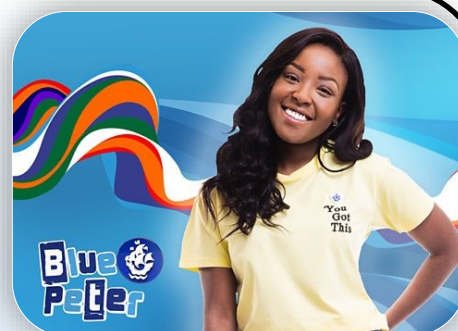
We put actions to the Hail Mary, so that it made us think of the words when we said them.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Mwaka Mudenda, a past pupil of St Chad's School, who on the 14th May became the 39th presenter of Blue Peter. Having had the pleasure to teach her in year 6, I am delighted that such a lovely, conscientious and spiritual young lady, is now a role model for all our current children, reminding them that St Chad's children can achieve anything in life, with ambition, hard work and the support of God and their families.

God gives our children so many gifts and talents and everyone in the family of St Chad's feels such happiness and pride, when they use them well, whatever their successes may be. Congratulation also to Louis Davern (Mrs Davern's son & another past pupil) who after gaining a degree from Royal Holloway University of London, is now off to Oxford University in September to complete his Masters in History.



Mrs Mitchener

Catholic Craft

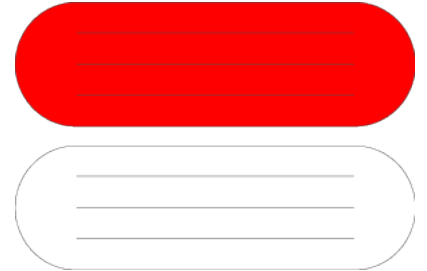
Instruction to make a Sacred Heart of Jesus or Immaculate Heart of Mary.

When completed, you could add to your heart by drawing the other symbols of the cross, fire, Crown of Thorns, flowers and sword and sticking them on to make them more like the heart symbols.



Step 1:

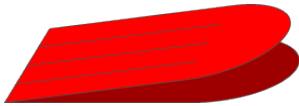
Using an A4 piece of card cut out two identical oval shapes, length ways on the card.



Step 2: Cut

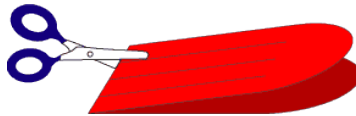
Cut out the long, oval-shaped pattern pieces. Each heart requires two pattern pieces: one red (or pink) and one white.

Step 3: Fold



Fold each pattern piece in half end-to-end. Be sure that the three centre lines are on the outside.

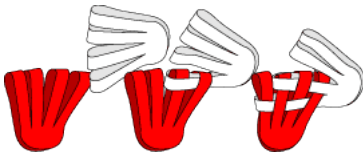
Step 4: Cut on Lines



Hold the folded pattern piece firmly and cut on each of the three lines. Repeat for each pattern piece. If you printed on coloured paper, refold the pattern piece the opposite way so that the printed lines are on the inside.

Step 5: Weave

The weaving can be tricky, so read the instructions carefully and refer to the illustration.



Hold the folded red pattern piece in your left hand and the white one in your right hand. Weave the first loop of the white piece inside the first loop of the red piece. Weave it over the second loop of the red piece, inside the third red loop, and over the fourth.

Weave the second loop of the white piece over the first loop of the red piece. Weave it inside the second red loop, over the third, and inside the fourth.

Weave the third white loop like the first and the fourth like the second. When you are done, the heart will look like the illustration and you will be able to open it up.

