



R.E. NEWSLETTER for PARENTS and CARERS

May 2020

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you, your children and your loved ones are all keeping safe. I really miss seeing all your lovely children at St Chad's and look forward to the day that we can welcome them all back safely to school.

The focus of this term's work in Religious Education is role the Holy Spirit plays in our lives. During this time, in which you are staying safe a home, please find time to talk to your child/children about the importance of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Have a look below at the topic your child would have been focusing on in school and try to support them in their understanding in this area.

Mrs Mitchener

PENTECOST—SERVING (Insert dates)

Early Years	GOOD NEWS - Passing on the Good News of Jesus
Year 1	HOLIDAYS AND HOLYDAYS - Pentecost: feast of the Holy Spirit
Year 2	SPREAD THE WORD - Pentecost: a time to spread the Good News
Year 3	ENERGY - Gifts of the Holy Spirit
Year 4	NEW LIFE - To hear and live the Easter message
Year 5	TRANSFORMATION - Celebration of the Spirit's transforming power
Year 6	WITNESSES - The Holy Spirit enables people to become witnesses

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk about good news in your family and how you shared it.
Ask your child to tell you the story of Pentecost and the work of the Holy Spirit.



Thank You

The children at school have been thinking about and praying for all the NHS staff and carers, during this difficult time. Lots of St Chad's parents work for Croydon University Hospital, the Ambulance Service and other hospitals and care homes in Croydon. The children have made posters to thank all those working so hard .

On Tuesday (28th April) Mrs Mooney and Mrs Gallagher led a special service, including a minutes silence for all the NHS workers who have tragically lost their lives to Coronavirus.

The children continue to pray for everyone working hard to look after others .

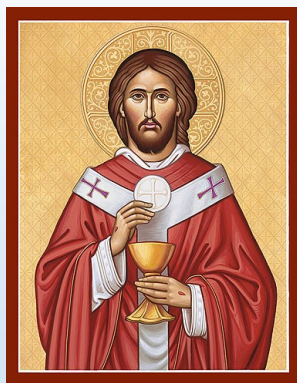
The staff would also like to thank all our families who work for the NHS or who are carers. God Bless you all.



Vocations Sunday - Good Shepherd Mass

On the 4th Sunday of Easter, the Church celebrates Good Shepherd Sunday and the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. This is a day for us to pray for good and holy priestly vocations for service in the parishes of our Diocesan family.

You might like to say this prayer.



Christ the Priest

O Lord, My God,

You renew the Church in every age by raising up priests outstanding in holiness, living witnesses of Your unchanging love.

In Your plan of salvation You provide shepherds for Your people.

Fill the hearts of young men with the spirit of courage and love that they may answer Your call generously.

Give parents, families, friends and communities the grace to encourage vocations by prayer and good example.

Raise up worthy priests for Your altars and ardent, but gentle servants of the Gospel.

Give the Church more priests and keep them faithful in their love and service.

May many men choose to serve You by devoting themselves to the service of Your people.

We ask this through our great High Priest, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Special Times This Month

May

The Month of Mary

1st May - Crowning Mary Service - at school for key worker children

3rd - Good Shepherd Mass /Vocation Sunday

13th - Our Lady of Fatima

21st - Ascension Of The Lord

31st - Pentecost

Family Prayer and Intentions Book

Once we return to school, if you would like to have your intentions prayed for during our whole school Friday Assembly, please put your message in our new Parents' and carers book. It will be kept on the prayer table in the lobby area.

*"So do not fear,
for
I am with you"*



Your intentions will not be read aloud or shared publicly with the children, instead we will simply say that we pray for all the family intentions in the book.

The Month Of Mary



May is the month of Our Lady; Mary the Mother of God, who has a special place in our hearts, because she gave us the example of saying yes to God. She is a reminder to be faithful to God and we should strive to imitate our Blessed Mother's virtue in our own lives.

Ways in which we can honour Mary this month include:

- Praying the Rosary
- Learning the Hail Holy Queen prayer, or saying it regularly.
- Colouring, drawing or painting a picture of Mary
- Making a Prayer Corner in your house

I have attached resources to help you do this, to the next few pages of the newsletter.

A Prayer Corner at Home



St John Paul
class

It would be lovely if you could take a picture of your Prayer Corner and email it to the school at: office@stchadsprimaryschool.com, so that I can put them the next newsletter and we can share our special places to feel closer to God.

Each class in St Chad's School has a prayer corner. It is a place where the children can retreat to and find Christ. The prayer corners give the children a focal area for prayer, quiet and listening, so that they may hear God's voice in their lives more clearly. It also provides a focal point for special times of the church's year.

I encourage you to make a prayer corner in your home, with your son/daughter. It doesn't need to be too elaborate. The main point is that it's a place designated for God, and more specifically, for spending time with him. Just as you need a proper atmosphere to sleep, you also need a proper atmosphere to pray. During this month of Mary, it could honour her and you could put pictures of her, a candle and some flowers on it. It could be a place where you read passages about Mary, from the Bible together, or where you could say the Rosary.

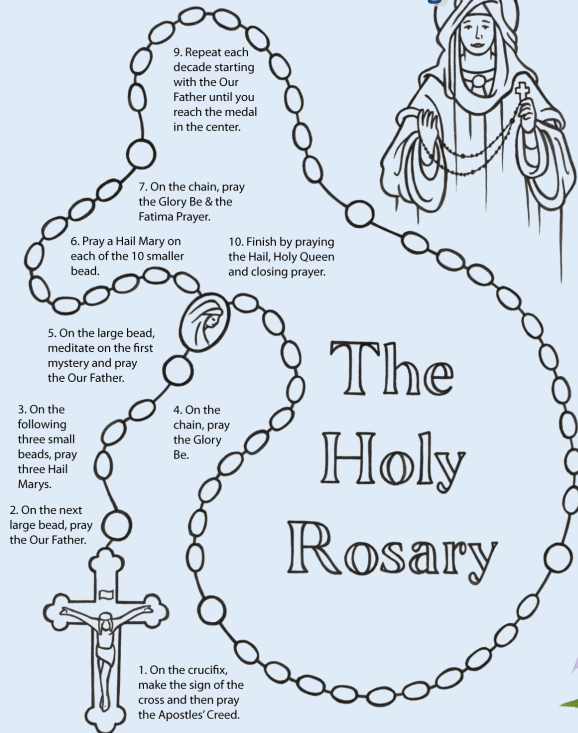


St Martin de Porres Class



St James
class

The Rosary



The Holy Rosary

Hail Holy Queen

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, Hail our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears! Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

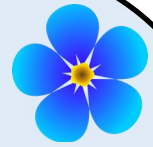
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

The Fatima Prayer

O my Jesus, forgive us, save us from the fire of hell. Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who are most in need of thy mercy. Amen

Crowning Mary Liturgy



The queen symbol was attributed to Mary, because she was a perfect follower of Christ, who is the absolute “crown” of creation.

This afternoon (1st May) we gathered together to crown Mary the Mother of Jesus. Even though it was a little different this year, with so few children, it remained a very special liturgy. We sang hymns and read aloud prayers to Mary. Tiannah, Benjamin and Matthew read beautifully and all the children remained prayerful and respectful throughout. Tiannah had the honour of crowing Mary with a crown of flowers.

Along with an array of flowers, each child produced a their own flower crown and piece of work that described the qualities of Mary.

These described Mary as:

loving
friendly
peaceful
prayerful
caring (motherly)
trusting (faithful) and
obedient (serving God)



I look forward to next May, when all of the children can share this special liturgy together again.



Please colour or paint and put on your Prayer Table or in your window.



Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.

Amen