



'Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.'

Matthew 5:16

Dear Parents and carers

The beginning of the new school year is an opportunity to ask God's blessing on the school community in the coming year and again to remind pupils, staff and parents of the identity and mission of the school.

Our school is part of a catholic community which is guided and driven by a mission, which embraces a Catholic Identity rooted in Gospel values, centred on the Eucharist, and committed to faith formation, academic excellence and service. Throughout the year we will be providing the children with the opportunity to consider how they can be like Christ in their actions and how they can live out their baptismal mission to serve others, as Christ served us.

Mrs Mitchener

DOMESTIC CHURCH - FAMILY

(1st September – 4th October)

Early Years	MYSELF - God knows and loves each one
Year 1	FAMILIES - God's love and care for every family
Year 2	BEGINNINGS - God is present in every beginning
Year 3	HOMES - God's vision for every family
Year 4	PEOPLE - The family of God in Scripture
Year 5	OURSELVES - Created in the image and likeness of God
Year 6	LOVING - God who never stops loving

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Make a collage using family photographs of all the significant family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. who show God's love.

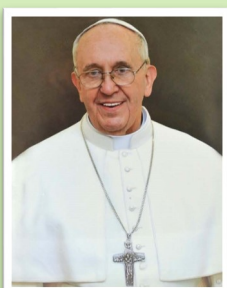
Write underneath it
"We show God's love to one another."

Include those who have died.

Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intention

An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.



Assembly Prayer

Each year we focus on one prayer to begin our collective worship with. This year we will be learning and saying a prayer, asking us all to consider how we can end injustice and racism by recognise everyone as our brothers and sisters and treating them with the same love and respect that God does. It is based on the Fratelli Tutti letter by Pope Francis. It would be lovely, if you were to say it at home too.

Brothers and Sisters All

Lord, father of our human family,
You created everyone equally.
Pour into our hearts a spirit
of fraternal love.

Move us to build a better world,
a world without hunger,
poverty, violence and war.

May our hearts be open,
to all the people and
nations of the earth.



May we see the
goodness and beauty
that you have sown in each of us,
so that we can join together
with shared dreams.

Amen

New School Year Mass

On Thursday 16th September, we celebrated the beginning of the new school year, with a whole school Mass in the school hall. The theme of the Mass was 'Sharing the Light of Christ', during the new academic year and the joy of being part of our school family. St Therese of Lisieux Class (Year 6) led the Mass beautifully, with their reading and prayers. Fr Ambrose joined us for his first whole school Mass at St Chad's and he brought much joy to the celebration; as well as receiving a big welcome from all the children. The children loved his homily and it was wonderful to see them participating so actively in the Mass. It was a wonderful way to join together as a school community in prayer and reflection. Together we prayed that God will guide us through this new academic year, helping us to grow in the love and knowledge of Christ.

We would like to thank Fr Ambrose for his support.



Faith Leaders

On Friday's assembly I had the privilege of announcing this years Faith Leaders. These children have been chosen with the intention of giving all children the opportunity to have more say about how we gather, listen and respond to the Word of God before going forth to walk in the footsteps of Christ. Congratulations to the following children chosen to represent each year group:

Year 1



Year 2



Year 3



Year 4



Year 5



Our School Faith Leaders are role model of faith in our school, sharing their love of prayer and worship with all members of our School community. They will be responsible for guiding and supporting children in their

Collective Worship planning, supporting staff in planning and leading charitable fund raising and in being ambassadors for their faith by meeting visitors and helping with organising Mass and other Religious gatherings.



Year 6

CAFOD Club

I am very excited to announce that we have set up our very first CAFOD club this year. With the help and support of Mrs Gallagher, our CAFOD club pupils can lead the way, putting their faith into action and strongly supporting the Catholic life of our school. Their mission will be to find different ways to reach people around the world who need help!

Whether they are helping another child to have enough food to eat or asking for change to build a fair world, they will be helping everyone in our global family to become the best person they can be. In the club, children will explore ways they can brighten up the world and reach people who urgently need our help.



GO GREEN FOR CAFOD

This Harvest we are supporting CAFOD and joining other schools around the country by going green!

World leaders are meeting in Glasgow this November for a crucial meeting about the climate crisis and the future of our planet and its people. We are fundraising to support communities around the world who are protecting the planet.

To raise money, we are going to dress in **Green** on **Tuesday 12th October**, and bring in a donation of **£2:00**.

How our fundraising will help

We're raising money for CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, a charity working with communities around the world to build a brighter world.

Our fundraising will support people like Luana who lives in the Brazilian Amazon. When fires destroyed the crops and trees that Luana's community rely on to survive, CAFOD's local experts helped them to replant using sustainable methods so that they would have food to eat and to sell.



The CAFOD Club and Mrs Gallagher



RSE Gospel Values - Compassion



Our school gospel values laid out by Jesus in the Beatitudes provide an authentic foundation for helping the children to live like Christ. These values inform the whole life of the school, from RE and assemblies to classroom discipline.

This month we will be focusing on the gospel value of Compassion.

We held a special assembly on Friday 10th September, which explained what the gospel value of Compassion is and how the children can live it in their lives. It focused on the parable of the Good Samaritan and it encouraged the children to have the desire to act justly, with an attitude of kindness and forgiveness, with everyone we meet. The assembly also placed importance on recognising the dignity of every human person and appreciating difference and diversity. During the months of September and October, children will be receiving recognition for living this gospel value and will be rewarded in assembly.

Living Our Mission To Love and to Serve

From this year we are encouraging the children to serve as a witness to Our Lord Jesus Christ and to the Catholic faith, by recognising that they can live a Christian Mission. We are helping the children to think about the ways they can share in the mission of bringing God's love to people close to home and far away.

Inspired by Pope Francis, and his recent Fratelli Tutti encyclical we are encouraging the children from Reception to Year 6 to think about the world as a global community and to think about putting the needs of others before themselves; be that their friends and family or those in need in our local or global community. We believe that each and every person is made in the image of Christ and should be treated with dignity, respect and love and we guide the children to enact these values. Empathy, compassion and forgiveness are promoted and offered to all in our daily lives. We will be encouraging the children to follow Jesus' example: by praying, fundraising and becoming missionaries themselves.

Every classroom has a 'Living Our Mission' display, where the children have considered how they can be like Jesus, our 'Servant King', in the classroom, in the school and in our global community.

Living Our Mission

