



CATHOLIC LIFE AND MISSION NEWSLETTER LENT & THE HOLY WEEK

Forgiveness

In Year 1, the children have been learning about the story of 'Jesus and the Taxman' and 'When Jesus meets the Children'. In both of these stories, people are surprised that Jesus wants to spend his time with everyone and not just a chosen few.

This has helped the children to reflect upon how we grow closer to Jesus during the season of Lent through praying, fasting and giving.

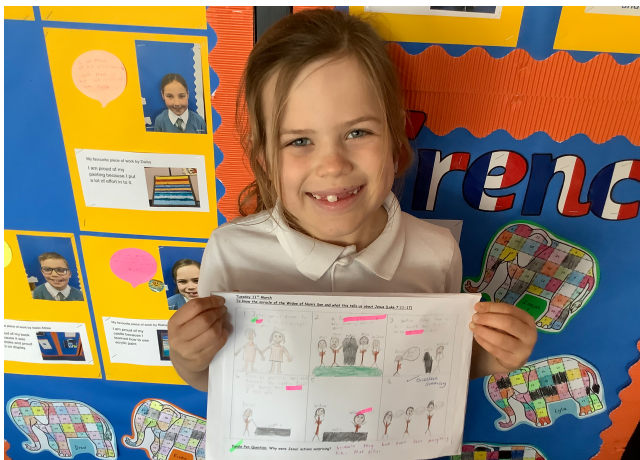


We have also been focussing on the concept of 'forgiveness' and how we can ask for forgiveness, but we also need to forgive others. We spent some time acting out the story of Zacchaeus, the Taxman and the children loved being summoned out of the tree by Jesus.

The Widow of Nain

This term, Year 3 have been learning more about the scripture 'The Widow of Nain' (Luke 7:11-17). We have been studying the emotions of Jesus, along with the widow and onlookers throughout the scripture. We considered how their emotions changed throughout the story. Afterwards, the children created their own storyboards linking to the six most important points. We looked at what compassion means to us and how we can feel pity and sorrow for others considering the actions we could follow at school and home.

During Lent, it is an important time to pray, fast and give alms. We explored what this means and why it is important at this time of year. The children made links to other stories in the Bible where this was evident.



Repent and believe in the Gospel

During a lovely sunny afternoon Year 5 took part in an experience activity in the playground that focused on repentance. The sun symbolised God's love shining down on us, feeling the warmth of his love on our faces. The parachute represented when we had sinned by providing a shield/wall that covered our faces from the sun.



We discussed examples of our trespasses and ways we can repent. As we held the parachute in the air, we thought about the ways in which we can repent, we then lowered the parachute down on the ground, symbolising that God's love is always there for us, especially when we say sorry.



Lent SVP and Grace Trust Food Donations



Thank you so much for all of your wonderful donations so far. During the final few weeks before the Easter holidays if you feel you are able to donate any of the following the SVP and Grace Trust charities would be very grateful.

Suggested Items:

Tea, coffee, sugar, biscuits

Tinned food (e.g. beans/sausages/pies)

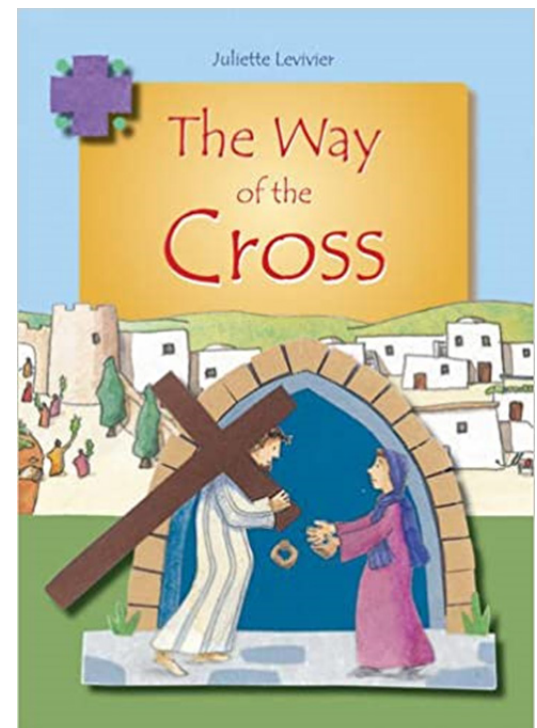
Baby food, nappies, powdered milk for babies

Toilet paper, toothpaste, shower gel, soaps

Pasta or rice

Stations of the Cross

We have been visiting the prayer room to pray the Stations of the Cross. We used the book "The Way of the Cross" by Juliette Levivier to help the children understand the different stations in a relevant and age-appropriate manner.



For more information on Parish Masses and events, please
Scan this QR Code or follow this link -
<https://catholicchurch.org.je>



Ignatian Spirituality

Ignatian spirituality is a way of envisioning the world and our place in it, in relation to God's ever active and loving presence. It helps us develop a personal relationship with Jesus which allows for the possibility of a shift in our world perspective. Through contemplation of Christ in the Gospels, we desire to know, love and serve Him more. It is a way of growing in awareness of God's action in the ordinary routine of our everyday experience, 'finding God in all things'.



A Family Examen

The Examen is a simple, yet powerful practice developed by St. Ignatius almost 500 years ago. The Examen can help us become aware of God's presence in our everyday lives. This is a simple example to try at home as a family.

1. Become aware of God's presence. Remember that God's love is in your heart and in our family and moving through our whole world. Light a candle, feel your breath fill your lungs, and feel God's tender and loving presence.
2. Review the day. Look back on the events of the day. Invite the images and memories from your day to come to your mind and heart. Just let the day's events arise—your daily routines, conversations, work or school, moments in nature.
3. Look toward tomorrow. What do I look forward to tomorrow? What do I hope for? To whom do I want to give more love? What do I need to ask God for as I start a new day? (E.g. courage, kindness, patience, etc)



As part of our Ignatian Spirituality we develop our sense of self-awareness. Can you use some of these questions at the dinner table or at bedtime?

- What do we love about our family?
- What are our strengths as a family?
- What kind of family do we want to be?
- What kinds of things do we want to do?
- What kind of feeling do we want to have in our home?
- What kind of relationships do we want to have with one another?
 - How do we want to treat one another and speak to one another?
 - What kind of relationships do we want to have with others? The earth? Our home?
- What things are truly important to us as a family?

Gratitude Conversation Starters

Can you use some of these questions at the dinner table or at bedtime to foster an 'attitude of gratitude'? This is a special part of our Ignatian Spirituality.

- What's one nice thing you did for someone today?
- What was the most delicious food you ate today?
 - What is the best thing that happened today?
 - When did you feel peaceful today?
- What did you see that was beautiful today?
 - Who made you smile today, and why?
- What new thing have you learned today?

