



St. Anthony's Religious Education Newsletter
Including Mark Ten Mission and Wellbeing Challenge
Wednesday 17th September 2025



In this week's update, we want to share some of the responses from our Mission Statement Review which took place in July.

We also want to share further information about the Religious Education Curriculum Directory, ***To Know you More Clearly***, which the whole school has now started.

We also want to update you on our new Prayer and Liturgy Directory, ***To Love you More Dearly***.

CATHOLIC LIFE

MISSION STATEMENT REVIEW

Here are some of the responses we received as part of our Mission Statement Review from July 2025.

In response to ***We would like to invite you to make comments about what our Mission Statement means to you and your family***, some of the responses were as follows:

Being kind and teaching children respect and empathy.

Children will keep Jesus in their mind whilst practising and learning. Their growth is shaped by positive belief and faith.

It is very important for our son to follow the good example and follow our Lord and Saviour.



It is the reason we chose this school.

To us, We Grow and Learn with Jesus means our child is growing and not just in knowledge but in kindness, faith and confidence. It is reassuring to know she's guided by strong values every day.

That you teach children the faith just as we were taught.

We will share more next week but thank you for those responses. They are a good reminder of why our Mission Statement has so much significance within our school.

CHAPLAINCY TEAM

In the coming weeks, we will be selecting our new Chaplaincy Team for 2025/26. We will be selecting two or three pupil ambassadors from each Key Stage 2 class to support and lead the Catholic Life of the School. This might mean reading at mass or assemblies, working with the Watford Foodbank or SVP. It might mean leading prayer and liturgy around the school or helping with practical tasks. Once the children are selected, they will be commissioned in a special assembly and soon after, we will hold the first of our regular meetings over the year.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education: Creation and Covenant

This half term, the children are exploring the theme of Creation and Covenant as part of the new Religious Education Curriculum Directory. This unit invites pupils to reflect on God as the creator of all things, and to understand the special relationship, or covenant, He made with His people.

Through scripture, stories, discussion, and prayer, the children will learn:

How the Genesis accounts of creation reveal God's power, goodness, and love.

What it means to be created in God's image and called to care for the world.

How God formed a covenant with Abraham and his descendants, and how this shows His everlasting love.



How these themes prepare us for the coming of Jesus, the New Covenant.

We will also be linking this learning with the life of faith today, encouraging pupils to recognise their own call to live responsibly, with justice and care for others and for creation.

We will begin to share examples of work and activities from around the school so you can see how the different year groups study the themes above.

PRAYER LIFE

We are now following our new Prayer and Liturgy Directory, *To Love you More Dearly*.

The new directory aims to place Christ at the centre of everyday activities in the school so that we can ensure prayer and spiritual life is at the core of everything we do.

Each update we will share with you the focus of our prayers and reflection for the week.

September 15th to 19th:

Feast Days:

16th September: Ss Cornelius & Cyprian

17th September: St. Hildegarde

20th September: Korean Martyrs

Our Early Years children will say prayers for courage and faith.

Years 1 and 2 will hear stories of courage and pray for those who suffer.

Years 3 to 6 will hear about social justice with pupil-led reflections about faith and witness.



PARISH LINKS TO HOLY ROOD CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford/wp-content/uploads/sites/103/2025/09/Newsletter-14.09.2025.pdf>

PARISH LINKS TO ST. BEDE'S CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/croxleygreen/wp-content/uploads/sites/95/2025/09/Newsletter-2025-14th-September-3.pdf>

LITURGICAL COLOURS WORN AT MASS

Green for Ordinary Time

Lectionary Cycle

- Sunday — Year C
- Weekday — Cycle I

SAINT HILDEGARDE

Today is the feast of one of our House Saints, St. Hildegard of Bingen. So best wishes to all our Key Stage 2 children from her house today.

FROM Fr. TIM

Sunday is the feast of one of the Gospel writers, St. Matthew. Fr. Tim writes about him in his weekly contribution below.

The call of St Matthew, at its heart is the mystery of vocation and discipleship. The call of Christ comes to him as one unexpected and this compels him to make a decision that will not only change what he does with his life, but who he is as a person.

This is all about the mystery and power of vocation. Vocation is not just about getting a job or choosing a career. Instead, it is about God's will and purpose for our lives.

Further, vocation is not simply about what one "does" with one's life; it is about what God's will is for a person. This is an important distinction for us, as our culture assumes that a person's identity is almost exclusively defined by what someone does or is doing rather than who they are.



It is the divine will that reveals who a person is to the depth of their being, which is why to miss one's vocation is no small thing. It means that one misses their purpose, and that, despite all kinds of accomplishments, one will remain unfulfilled.

This is also a great cultural challenge, because the prevailing understanding of a fulfilled life in our times is based not so much on the fulfilment of God's purpose for our lives but on our own decisions and the need to have "experiences."

Therefore, what Christ reveals as vocation—priesthood, marriage, religious life—these are not career options. They are illuminations of the purpose and meaning of our lives. We are chosen for these things, and like St. Matthew, we become who we are meant to be in our response to this divine call.

On this feast of St. Matthew, may all the apostles intercede for us and bring us to a deeper appreciation of the urgency of our vocation.

Fr. Tim

ST. MICHAEL'S AND ALL ANGELS PRODUCTION

On Monday our Year 6 children attended St. Michael's and All Angels Church for the production of Snow White performed by Wesley Student Theatre from Australia. Our children were treated to a brilliant performance especially given the fact that the Wesley students had only arrived in the UK from Australia at 7am that morning!

Thank you to St. Michael's Church for their invitation. We always appreciate our visits there and we look forward to working at the church with Year 5 when they do their Stations of the Cross work at Lent.



JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE



Open the doors of our heart.
Open the doors of welcome.
Open the doors of power.
Open the doors of our mind.
Open the doors to opportunity.
Amen.



LOOK AFTER YOUR WELLBEING THIS WEEK



KEEP LEARNING

Sunday 14th September was the feast of the Holy Rood. Try to visit Holy Rood especially if it is not your local church. Or, when you see Fr. Tim in school, ask some questions about the church and about what Holy Rood means.



StA

Mark Ten Mission

The Mark Ten Mission is a chance for us to reflect in a deeper way into a feast or celebration that is taking place on the liturgical calendar. This week, we look at trust.

THE MISSION

TRUSTED IN SMALL THINGS

FIND WAYS FOR PEOPLE TO PUT TRUST IN YOU. YOU CAN ASK SOMEONE AT HOME TO GIVE YOU A JOB WHICH CARRIES RESPONSIBILITY. IT MAY ONLY BE SMALL AT FIRST. MAKE SURE YOU ARE FAITHFUL AND TRUSTWORTHY. WHEN YOU SHOW YOU CAN BE FAITHFUL AND TRUSTWORTHY IN SMALL THINGS, YOU WILL SOON BE GIVEN GREATER RESPONSIBILITY.



SIA

THE
MARK10
MISSION

MISSION FILE

GOSPEL

LUKE 16:10-13

At that time: Jesus said to the disciples, 'One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful with the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.'

AS YOU SLOWLY
READ OR LISTEN TO
THE SCRIPTURE,
WHICH LINE STANDS
OUT? HIGHLIGHT IT
IN THE TEXT. PRAY
ABOUT HOW GOD
MAY BE SPEAKING TO
YOU THROUGH THIS
LINE?

WONDER QUESTIONS

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE TRUE
RICHES ARE THAT JESUS CAN
ENTRUST TO YOU?

HOW CAN SOMEONE SHOW THAT
THEY SERVE GOD ABOVE
ANYONE OR ANYTHING ELSE?

WORD OF THE WEEK

WORK

PRAYER

PRAY ABOUT THREE WAYS YOU CAN
SERVE GOD THIS WEEK.

1.

2.

3.

MISSION

FIND WAYS FOR PEOPLE TO PUT
TRUST IN YOU. YOU CAN ASK
SOMEONE AT HOME TO GIVE YOU A
JOB WHICH CARRIES
RESPONSIBILITY. IT MAY ONLY BE
SMALL AT FIRST. MAKE SURE YOU
ARE FAITHFUL AND TRUSTWORTHY.
WHEN YOU SHOW YOU CAN BE
FAITHFUL AND TRUSTWORTHY IN
SMALL THINGS, YOU WILL SOON BE
GIVEN GREATER RESPONSIBILITY.

COLOUR

