



St. Anthony's Religious Education Newsletter
Including Mark Ten Mission and Wellbeing Challenge

Wednesday 22nd October 2025



Our update returns after 2 weeks. Please find below all the news relating to Religious Education, Prayer and Catholic Life from St. Anthony's.

WELCOME FR. DAVID KNIGHT

On Tuesday we were delighted to welcome Fr. David Knight, Parish Priest of St. Bede's, to St. Anthony's. Fr. David had a tour of the school meeting staff and children during the lunch time break. He is keen to preserve and strengthen the links between school and parish and we look forward to working with him over the course of the year.

MISSION STATEMENT REVIEW

Here are more comments from two of our families about our Mission Statement, We Grow and Learn with Jesus. They are continued reminders of how we try to live out its spirit every day.

We being firm believers of Christ, St. Anthony's has helped my son grow knowing Jesus.

We Grow and Learn with Jesus means our child is growing not only in knowledge but also in faith, kindness and love, guided by Jesus' teachings. It gives us peace knowing he's learning in a caring Christian environment.



CATHOLIC LIFE

We are delighted to tell you that we will be teaming up with South West Herts Partnership again this year as part of their Christmas Appeal to provide gifts to support the wellbeing of families in our part of Hertfordshire. Please follow future RE Updates for more information about this vital cause.

COMMUNITY AFTERNOON

Last Tuesday we had our annual community afternoon for relatives and friends from the local area spending the afternoon with us watching and listening to the children's performances.

The children have been repeating those performances for parents in morning assemblies followed by special activities in the classes afterwards.

WATFORD FOOD BANK

A reminder to you that this Thursday we will be doing our second collection of the year for Watford Foodbank. September saw lots of donations which were very gratefully received so it would be brilliant if we could match or get more than that total this month.

Please find collection boxes outside the following locations:

EARLY YEARS BUILDING

SCHOOL OFFICE

ST FRANCIS BUILDING, KEY STAGE 2 PLAYGROUND

Thank you.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

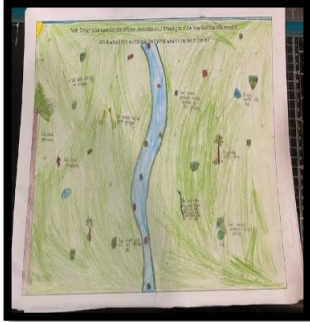
We are coming to the end of Branch 1 of our new RE Curriculum, *To Love you More Dearly*.

This first branch is called *Creation and Covenant* which is about understanding where we come from, recognising God's love in creation, and learning how to live in friendship with Him and others.

Now that we are approaching the end of the term and this branch, please see below a selection of work from the different year groups representing the previous 8 weeks.



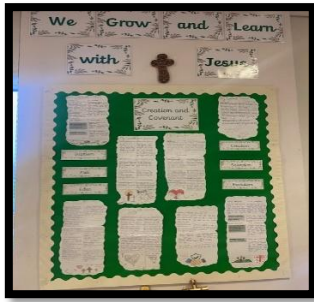
Year 4 designed a Garden of Eden



Year 5 Class Display



Year 6 Class Display



Year 2 display from special day dedicated to St. Francis



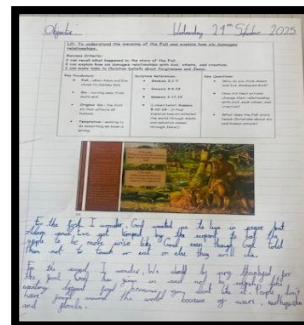
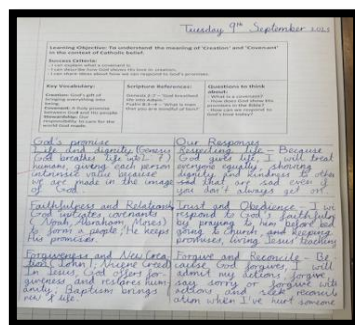
Year 1 wrote about God's Creation



Reception taking part in Prayer and Liturgy

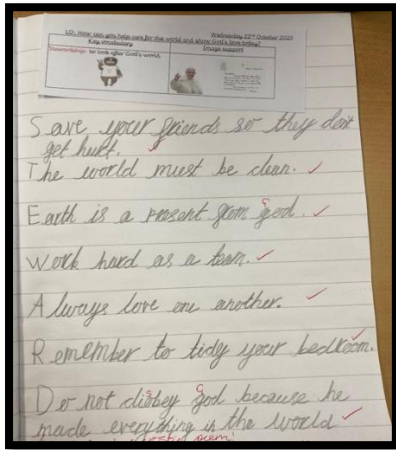


Year 6 explore Catholic belief and Creation and Covenant

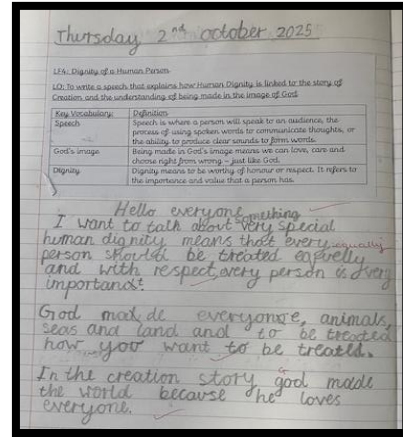




Year 2 wrote about how to show God's love



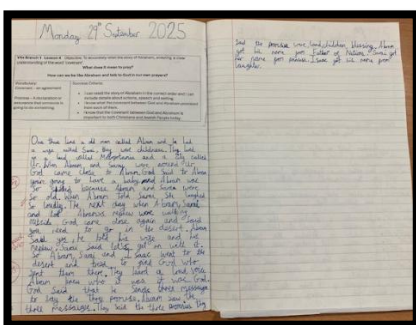
Year 3 wrote about human dignity



Reception designs to help us think about God's love



Year 4 retold the story of Abraham



Nursery's designs about God's love





PRAYER LIFE

October 20th to October 26th

This week is the feast of St. John Paul the Great, one of our House Saints.

Feast Days:

Wednesday 22 October St John Paul II, Pope

Focus for Prayer Around the School

Our Early Years children will say gratitude prayers; simple liturgies dealing with hope and peace

Years 1 and 2 will focus on Saint John Paul II prayers; pupils' reflections on hope

Years 3 to 6 will have assembly and worship reflecting social justice and peace themes.

PARISH LINKS TO HOLY ROOD CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford/wp-content/uploads/sites/103/2025/10/Newsletter-19.10.2025.pdf>

PARISH LINKS TO ST. BEDE'S CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/croxleygreen/wp-content/uploads/sites/95/2025/10/NEWSLETTER-2025-19th-October.pdf>

LITURGICAL COLOURS WORN AT MASS

Green for Ordinary Time

Lectionary Cycle

- **Sunday — Year C**
- **Weekday — Cycle I**

FROM FR.TIM

We return to school after the half term break on November 3rd so this week Fr. Tim writes about the history and significance of All Saints Day.



The earliest observance of a feast in honour of all the saints is an early fourth-century commemoration of “all the martyrs.”

In the early seventh century, after successive waves of invaders had plundered the catacombs, Pope Boniface IV gathered up many relics of bones and reinterred them beneath the Pantheon, a Roman temple dedicated to all the gods.

The Pope rededicated the shrine as a Christian church. According to the Venerable St Bede, the pope intended “that the memory of all the saints might in the future be honoured in the place which had formerly been dedicated to the worship not of gods but of demons”.

But the rededication of the Pantheon, like the earlier commemoration of all the martyrs, occurred in May. Many Eastern Churches still honour all the saints in the spring, either during the Easter season or immediately after Pentecost.

But how the Western Church came to celebrate this feast, now recognized as a solemnity, in November, is a puzzle to historians. The Anglo-Saxon theologian Alcuin observed the feast on 1 November in the year 800 A.D. The Holy See, in Rome, finally adopted this date in the ninth century.

Today’s feast honours both the obscure as well as the famous; saints we hold dear and those unbeknown to us.

Fr. Tim

ST. MICHAEL’S SCHOOL FOOTBALL AND NETBALL TOURNAMENT

After a week of mainly sunny and warm weather, Friday 3rd October, the day of the St. Michael’s Tournament, was overcast and rainy. This meant the netball was played inside and the football competition was shortened to ten minute games. This did not stop the St. Anthony’s children representing the school in the best ways. They displayed competitiveness, sportsmanship and a willingness to be involved, cheering on their classmates throughout the day. One of our football teams reached the semi final while one of our netball teams won all their matches. The poor weather prevented a trophy and medal presentation at the end. We thank St. Michael’s staff and students for their hard work in challenging conditions. We hope for better weather next year.



ST. MICHAEL'S ONE WORLD FESTIVAL

Las Friday, 17th October, Year 6 returned to St. Michael's for the annual One World Festival. This is a celebration of music and movement with other deanery schools. Year 6 sang a song called One World, which is the same song they performed at the Community Afternoon the previous Tuesday.

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



BE ACTIVE

Do your own walking jogging challenge at school. Set a goal of walking or jogging around the field or playground a certain number of times in your break or lunchtimes.



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 prayer.

THE MARK 10 MISSION

MISSION FILE

GOSPEL **LUKE 18:1-8**

At that time: Jesus told his disciples a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. He said, 'In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, "Give me justice against my adversary." For a while he refused, but afterwards he said to himself, "Though I neither fear God nor respect man, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming." And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

WORD OF THE WEEK

PIETY

PRAYER

PRAY ON EACH FINGER

FOR THE POOR & NEEDY
FOR THE SICK
FOR THE MEEK
FOR THE MEAN
FOR THE ONE CLOSE TO YOU

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 WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU GOT EVERYTHING YOU ASKED GOD FOR STRAIGHT AWAY?

WHY DO YOU THINK GOD INVITES YOU TO KEEP COMING BACK TO HIM WITH THE SAME PRAYER?

MISSION

CHOOSE ONE THING YOU PARTICULARLY WANT TO ASK GOD FOR. IT COULD BE FOR YOU OR YOUR FAMILY. MAKE IT SOMETHING BIG, SOMETHING THAT WILL CHANGE LIVES, SOMETHING THAT WILL TAKE A LOT OF TRUST. PRAY FOR IT EVERY SINGLE DAY THIS WEEK, TAKING IT TO JESUS WITH ALL THE TRUST YOU HAVE TIME AND AGAIN.

COLOUR



THE MISSION

THE PARABLE OF THE PERSISTENT WIDOW

CHOOSE ONE THING YOU PARTICULARLY WANT TO ASK GOD FOR. IT COULD BE FOR YOU OR YOUR FAMILY. MAKE IT SOMETHING BIG, SOMETHING THAT WILL CHANGE LIVES, SOMETHING THAT WILL TAKE A LOT OF TRUST. PRAY FOR IT EVERY SINGLE DAY THIS WEEK, TAKING IT TO JESUS WITH ALL THE TRUST YOU HAVE TIME AND AGAIN.



THE
MARK 10
MISSION