



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

Friday 28th November 2025



ST ANDREW'S DAY



We want to wish all members of the St. Anthony's School community with Scottish heritage, a very happy St. Andrew's Day on November 30th.

CATHOLIC LIFE

We are delighted to announce the launch of our Christmas Appeal aimed at supporting the health and wellbeing of families in the south-west hearts area. Please see the letter below; this was emailed to all our families on Tuesday.

Already gifts are coming in and we are so grateful for your generosity.

Our Chaplaincy Team members will go around the school each morning to collect any gifts you can donate. Thank you!

WATFORD FOODBANK

Regarding your generosity, we were able to fill 5 boxes with food for the Watford Foodbank on Thursday morning. Our Chaplaincy Team had quite a task to collect and sort all your donations. These were collected on Thursday by volunteers and will be used to support families in our area. Thank you!



ANNUAL CAROL SERVICE

Representatives from our Years 5 and 6 Chaplaincy Team and Mini Vinnies will be attending a special midday mass at Holy Rood Church on Friday 5th December. Mass will be followed by a selection of carols and readings performed by the children. You are very welcome to attend.

SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

As we approach the season when it is especially important to reach out to our neighbours, the children from different classes will be busy designing Christmas cards for members of the local community, including care homes and local parishioners from Holy Rood and St. Bede's.

"Be kind and compassionate to one another..." Ephesians 4:32

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Years 1, 2 and 3 have been busy with their Advent Retreats this week. The retreats are centred around aspects of the Nativity story and Jesus' family background. Next week, we will share some pictures of the children's experiences.

PRAYER LIFE

25 November: St Catherine of Alexandria, Martyr

30 November: St Andrew, Apostle, Patron Saint of Scotland

Focus for Prayer Around the School

Our Early Years children will reflect on Jesus the Good Shepherd, king imagery

Years 1 and 2 Understanding 'Christ the King,' kingship of Jesus

Years 3 to 6 Reflections on service-leadership; preparing for Advent, mission to serve others

PARISH LINKS TO HOLY ROOD CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford/wp-content/uploads/sites/103/2025/11/Newsletter-23.11.2025.pdf>

PARISH LINKS TO ST. BEDE'S CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/croxleygreen/wp-content/uploads/sites/95/2025/11/20251116-NEWSLETTER-2025.pdf>



LITURGICAL COLOURS WORN AT MASS

Green for Ordinary Time

From Sunday, Purple, to mark the beginning of Advent

Lectionary Cycle

- Sunday — Year C
- Weekday — Cycle I

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE





Our Christmas Appeal is up and running, so we continue to think about those families in need and what actions we can take to support them.

We pray for all who suffer. Help us to hear their cries and come to their aid. Teach us to see with your eyes their tremendous dignity and to care for them as you care. Let us see in them your face, that through our solidarity with them they may experience your compassion, concern and love.

LOOK AFTER YOUR WELLBEING THIS WEEK



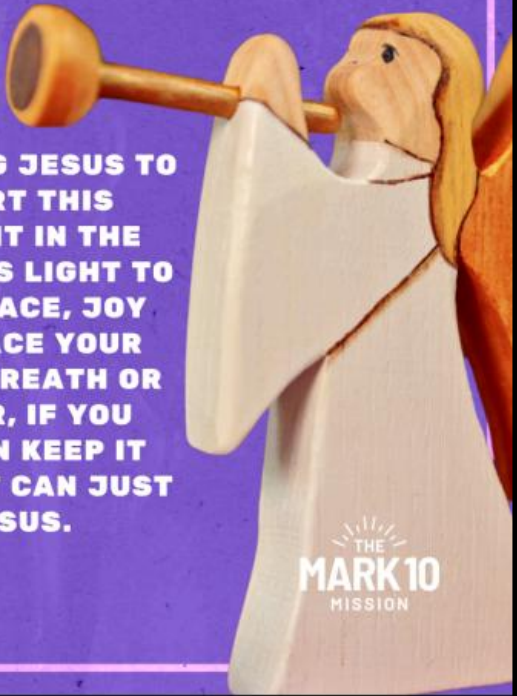
GIVE

Create your own Advent calendar. Each day leading up to Christmas, write down one positive thing that you have done or that you are going to do. It could be a kind act, say a prayer or learn something new.



Mark Ten Mission

Our Mark Ten Mission reflection invites us to think about Advent as we approach this holy season.



THE MISSION

STAY AWAKE

WRITE A PRAYER, INVITING JESUS TO COME INTO YOUR HEART THIS ADVENT. HE IS THE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS AND WANTS HIS LIGHT TO FILL YOU WITH HOPE, PEACE, JOY AND LOVE. YOU CAN PLACE YOUR PRAYER BY AN ADVENT WREATH OR ON THE WALL. HOWEVER, IF YOU WOULD PREFER, YOU CAN KEEP IT CLOSE TO YOUR HEART. IT CAN JUST BE FOR YOU AND JESUS.

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MARK 10
MISSION



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MISSION FILE

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 24:37-44

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: 'For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

WORD OF THE WEEK

HOPE

PRAYER

YOUR ADVENT PRAYER

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

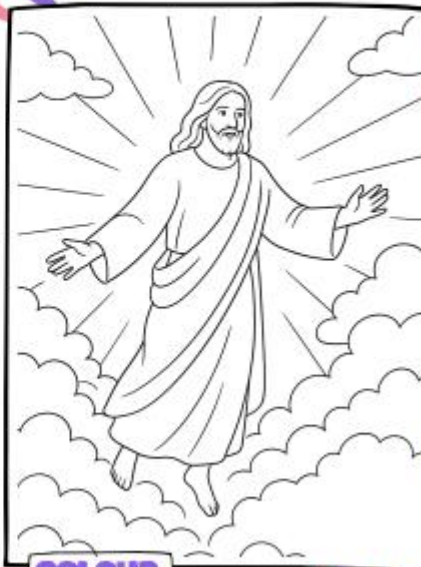
WONDER QUESTIONS

WHEN YOU MEET JESUS FACE
TO FACE, WHAT WILL BE THE
FIRST THING YOU SAY TO HIM?

AS YOU STAND BEFORE JESUS,
WHAT LOVING WORDS DO YOU
THINK HE WILL SAY TO YOU?

MISSION

WRITE A PRAYER, INVITING JESUS TO COME
INTO YOUR HEART THIS ADVENT. HE IS THE
LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS AND WANTS HIS
LIGHT TO FILL YOU WITH HOPE, PEACE, JOY
AND LOVE THIS ADVENT. ONCE YOU HAVE
WRITTEN YOUR PRAYER YOU CAN PLACE IT BY
AN ADVENT WREATH OR ON THE WALL. IF YOU
PREFER THOUGH, YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHOW
OTHERS, YOU CAN KEEP IT CLOSE TO YOUR
HEART, SO IT'S JUST FOR YOU AND JESUS.



COLOUR



Dear Families,

We are delighted to announce that our School Chaplaincy Team and Mini Vinnie group have, for the third consecutive year, teamed up with South-West Herts Partnership Family Support Service.

For the last two years, St. Anthony's School community gave with extraordinary generosity and helped to make a huge difference to families being supported by South-West Herts Partnership.

Knowing the difference we have been able to make, our Chaplaincy Team and Mini Vinnie group, want to help again.

We are asking our families for a donation to help families' health and wellbeing this Christmas.

As with previous years, we have separated donations into different categories and allocated a category to different parts of the school.

Please could we ask that all items are new.

If you would like to be involved, could children from the following Key Stages or Year Groups please bring the following:

EYFS

New books (board books, picture books, early readers)

Winter warmers (children's hats, gloves, scarves, socks)

KEY STAGE 1 Years 1 and 2

New books (picture books, early chapter books)

Sports equipment & clothing (small sizes - balls, skipping ropes, sports socks)

LOWER KEYS STAGE 2 YEARS 3 AND 4

Sports equipment & clothing (medium sizes - footballs, frisbees, sportswear)

Toiletry gift sets (children's sets - bubble bath, body wash)

UPPER KEY STAGE 2 YEARS 5 AND 6

Toiletry gift sets (for older children and adults)

Winter warmers (adult sizes - hats, gloves, scarves, thermals, socks)

Guidance from South West Herts Partnership is as follows:

All gifts are new and unopened.

All gifts remain unwrapped so that they can be wrapped by the SWHP team.

All gifts are donated by the 5th December 2025 at the latest.

If you would like to get involved, please send your gift in with your child to give to your child's teacher. A member of the Chaplaincy Team will go to each class every day to collect any donations.



We hope we can make a difference and thank you.

The children and staff of St. Anthony's School Chaplaincy Team and Mini Vinnies.