



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

Friday 16th January

SPRING TERM

As we move through the second week of January, there is much to share about activities last week and what is to come in the spring term.

YEAR OF JUBILEE



We have reached the end of the Year of Jubilee and we give thanks for the many blessings and moments of grace we have shared as a school community. This special year has invited us to pause, forgive, and rejoice in God's mercy, reminding us that every act of kindness and compassion opens the door to renewal. As we move forward, may the spirit of Jubilee continue to inspire us—to be people of hope, joy and faith, always ready to bring God's love to others in our daily lives.

OUR SCHOOL CHAPEL

We have replaced purple with green cloth in our School Chapel to reflect Ordinary Time in the church year. January is the month of the Holy Name of Jesus and those visiting the chapel will have opportunities to do activities and say prayers around this theme.



CATHOLIC LIFE

As you will read in St. Bede's weekly newsletter in the link below, last Thursday, 8th January, a group of our children from the Mini Vinnies, attended mass at St. Bede's Church in Croxley. Here they sang carols with parishioners as well as family members and friends of Joseph Gallagher whose 50th anniversary mass it was.

It was a very special occasion and once again, we thank our governors, Pauline Wilson and Juliette O'Beirne, for their support with the music at mass. We look forward to visiting St. Bede's again soon, as well as maintaining our close links with Holy Rood Church in 2026.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This half term in RE, our topic is Galilee to Jerusalem. The children are learning about the life of Jesus as he travels, teaches and heals, helping people to know how much God loves them. They will hear some of Jesus' parables and miracles and discover what they show us about God's Kingdom of love, fairness and forgiveness. As they learn, the children will also be thinking about how they can be disciples today by being kind, including others and trying to make loving choices at school and at home.

PRAYER LIFE

Focus for Prayer Around the School

Our Early Years children will be introduced to simple water symbolism; sign of the cross; Jesus' baptism picture story; "Thank you God that you love me."

Years 1 and 2 will hear Story of Jesus' baptism; talk about belonging to God's family; class liturgy using water, candle and white cloth; practise Sign of the Cross and simple responses.

Years 3 to 6: Celebration of the Word on Baptism of the Lord; renewal of baptismal promises in child-friendly language; prayers for deeper discipleship and new beginnings; introduction or revision of responses from the Directory.



PARISH LINKS TO HOLY ROOD CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford/wp-content/uploads/sites/103/2026/01/Newsletter-11.01.26.pdf>

PARISH LINKS TO ST. BEDE'S CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/croxleygreen/wp-content/uploads/sites/95/2026/01/20260111-NEWSLETTER-2026.pdf>

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

11 January – Baptism of the Lord (usually celebrated on the Sunday around this date, marking the end of the Christmas season and the beginning of Ordinary Time).

12 January – Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys

13 January – Saint Hilary of Poitiers, bishop and Doctor of the Church

16 January – Saint Joseph Vaz, priest and missionary

17 January – Saint Anthony, Abbot, also called Anthony of the Desert or Anthony the Great

LITURGICAL COLOURS WORN AT MASS

Green for Ordinary Time

Lectionary Cycle

Sunday Cycle A



A Prayer for the Middle of January

Loving Father,

In this long month of January, shine your gentle light upon our children and their families.

When days feel cold and heavy, warm our hearts with the fire of your love.

When we are tired, worried or low, strengthen us with your Holy Spirit and remind us that Jesus walks beside us.

Help our homes to be places of kindness, patience and laughter, even on the hard days.

Give hope to those who are struggling, comfort to those who are sad, and rest to those who are worn out.

May Mary, our Mother, show her gentle protection to our school community and keep us safe in her care.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen



LOOK AFTER YOUR WELLBEING THIS WEEK



CONNECT

Make some 'compliment slips' for people in your family or your class or both. Using a small slip of paper, write something positive about that person which will make them happy in this long month of January.



Mark Ten Mission

This week we think about Jesus in the Eucharist and being disciples.

THE MISSION

BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD

YOUR MISSION IS TO BEHOLD JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST. THE BEST WAY IS IN A SACRED PRAYER TIME CALLED ADORATION. YOU COULD MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO GO TO CHURCH FOR ADORATION OR YOU COULD ASK THE PRIEST IF HE COULD VISIT SCHOOL AND ORGANISE ADORATION FOR YOU. MAKE SURE TO SPEND TIME WITH JESUS THERE, LOOKING AT HIM, LETTING HIM LOOK AT YOU AND SHARING YOUR LOVE WITH THE ONE WHO LOVES YOU PERFECTLY.

THE
MARK 10
MISSION



SIA

THE
MARK 10
MISSION

MISSION FILE

GOSPEL

JOHN 1:29-34

At that time: John saw Jesus coming towards him, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me." I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptising with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John bore witness: 'I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptise with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptises with the Holy Spirit." And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.'

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

JESUS WALKED TOWARDS JOHN IN THE GOSPEL. WHAT DID JOHN SEE IN HIS FACE?

WHEN JOHN SAW THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCEND AND RECOGNISED THAT JESUS, THE SON OF GOD, WAS WITH HIM, HOW DO YOU THINK IT MADE HIM FEEL?

MISSION

YOUR MISSION IS TO BEHOLD JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST. THE BEST WAY TO DO THIS IS IN A SACRED PRAYER TIME CALLED ADORATION. THIS HAPPENS IN MOST CHURCHES AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK, SO YOU COULD MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO GO THERE. IT MAY BE THAT YOU HAVE A TABERNACLE IN SCHOOL WHICH COULD BE OPENED AT LUNCHTIME FOR ADORATION OR THE PRIEST COULD VISIT SCHOOL AND ORGANISE ADORATION FOR YOU. MAKE SURE TO SPEND TIME WITH JESUS THERE, LOOKING AT HIM, LETTING HIM LOOK AT YOU AND SHARING YOUR LOVE WITH THE ONE WHO LOVES YOU PERFECTLY.

WORD OF THE WEEK

DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYER

IN YOUR TIME OF ADORATION, WHAT DID YOU SENSE JESUS SAYING TO YOUR HEART?

COLOUR



