



St. Anthony's Religious Education Newsletter
Including Mark Ten Mission and Wellbeing Challenge
Friday 18th September 2026

CATHOLIC LIFE

Below is an extract from Westminster Diocese's Welcome Handbook for 2026-27 for those staff and governors new to Catholic education. We thought it would be useful to highlight this section on Catholic Social Teaching to show how the 6 principles listed are cemented into every aspect of school life. You will notice the first principle: *Care of Creation*. Our current branch of the RE curriculum, *Creation and Covenant*, aims to celebrate all aspects of the world as being God's creation. Please note that Caritas is the Westminster hub for Catholic Social Teaching and their website can be accessed here:

<https://www.caritas.org/>

The task of all teachers in our schools is to encourage those we teach to work for positive change in our world. Catholic schools are very actively involved in social justice issues, which appeal so much to young people's idealism, enthusiasm and innate sense of justice. Catholic Social Teaching (CST), include these principles:

- Care of Creation
- Preferential Option for the Poor
- Solidarity and Peace
- Community and Participation
- Dignity of Workers
- Human Dignity



CLICK HERE FOR LINK TO WEBSITE

CST must permeate all parts of school life, including in the curriculum and should therefore be very visible in our schools and colleges. It is a guide to our relationships with one another, and to our interactions with the wider world. It is the Common Good: working in a world in which everyone can live their lives to the full.

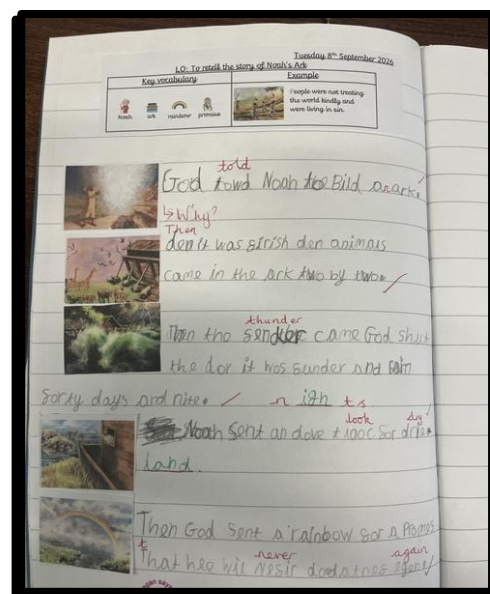
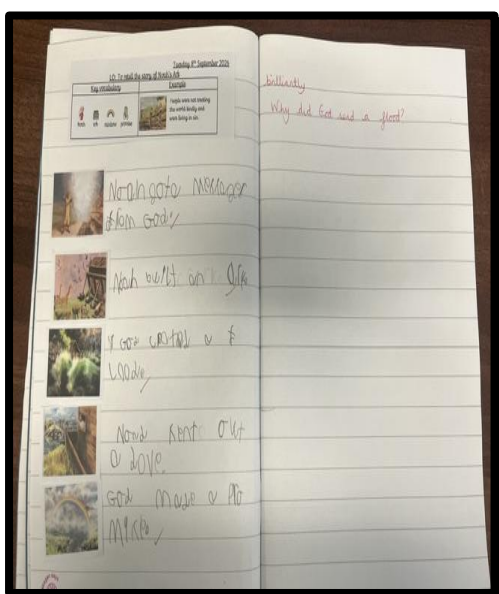
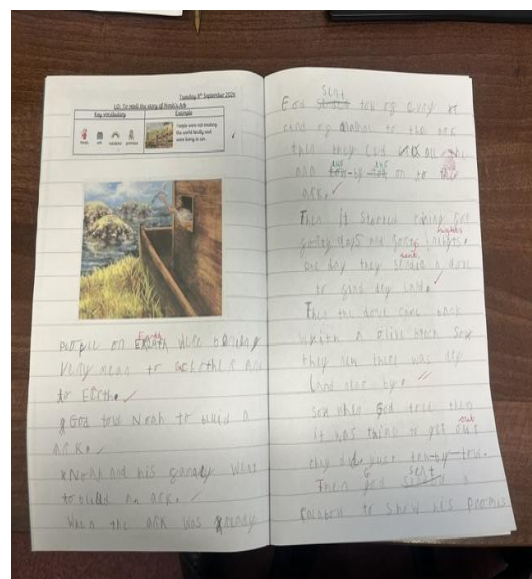
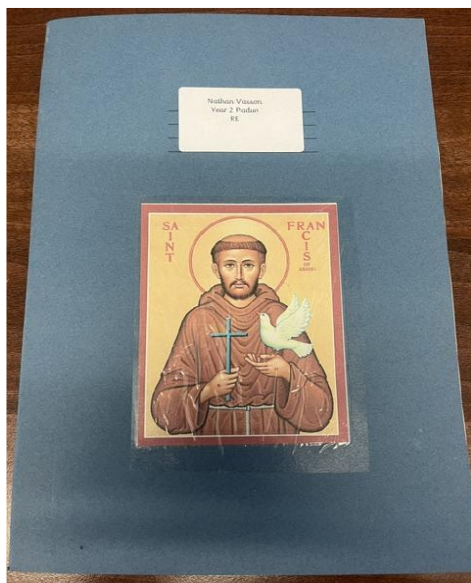


RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This week, we would like to show you examples of work from Year 2 Padua. The children have been working on Branch 1 of the RE topic: *Creation and Covenant* in which they retold the story of Noah's Ark.

We share work from some of the children's books below.

You will also notice the picture of St. Francis on the front of a child's book. St. Francis is the saint of Year 2.



Special thanks to the Year 2 Padua children for the use of their work.



PRAYER LIFE

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Sunday 20 September – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Sunday we celebrate the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time with readings that invite us to trust in God's generous love and to respond with gratitude. It is also Catechetical Sunday in many places, a day to give thanks for all who teach and support children in faith.

Monday 21 September – St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

We honour St Matthew, the tax collector who became an apostle and Gospel writer. His story reminds us that no one is too far from God's call.

Tuesday 22 September – Weekday in Ordinary Time

A day to pray for those beginning new responsibilities in school, work, and family life, asking God for wisdom and courage.

Wednesday 23 September – St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio), Priest

We remember St Padre Pio, known for his deep prayer life, care for the sick, and trust in God's mercy.

Thursday 24 September – Weekday in Ordinary Time

A day to pray for reconciliation and peace in our communities, and for all who work to bring justice and mercy to others (Please see section on Catholic Social Teaching above).

Friday 25 September – Weekday in Ordinary Time

As the week draws to a close, we pray for families, especially parents and carers, asking God to strengthen them in love and patience.

Saturday 26 September – Ss. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs

We recall Ss Cosmas and Damian, physician martyrs who served the poor without charge. They are patrons of doctors, nurses, and all who care for the sick.

Our Lady of Sorrows (15 September) – continuing devotion

Throughout September, many Catholics keep a special devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows. Families may wish to pray a short rosary or Hail Mary this week,



entrusting their worries and grief to Mary, who walks with us in sorrow and hope.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Matthew



Who was St Matthew?

Matthew was a tax collector in Jesus' time. Many people disliked tax collectors, but Jesus saw his heart and called him to follow. Matthew left everything, became one of the Twelve Apostles, and later wrote the Gospel of Matthew, telling the story of Jesus for all to read.

What can we learn from him?

Jesus calls everyone, no matter what their job or past has been.

Saying "yes" to Jesus can change our whole life.

Matthew used his gifts (writing and teaching) to share the Good News.

Community's Challenge for the Week:

Think of one talent or skill you have (writing, drawing, helping, sport, music, etc.). How could you use it this week to show God's love to someone else?

CHAPEL

A reminder that our school chapel is available for the children to use either with their classes, small groups or individually. The chapel, located in the Year 3 corridor, is a place of peace and reflection where children and adults can go for prayer and moments of stillness. During the seasons of Advent and Lent, the chapel is open before school for families to visit as the working day begins. The chapel is also open most lunchtimes between 12.30pm and 1pm.



PARISH LINKS TO HOLY ROOD CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford/wp-content/uploads/sites/103/2026/09/Newsletter-13.09.2026-1.pdf>

PARISH LINKS TO ST. BEDE'S CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/croxleygreen/newsletters/>

LITURGICAL COLOURS WORN AT MASS

Green for Ordinary Time

Prayer of the Week – In Honour of St Matthew

Heavenly Father,

You called Matthew, a tax collector, to leave everything and follow you.

Thank you for showing us that no one is too far from your love.

Lord Jesus,

When you said, "Follow me," Matthew said "yes" with his whole heart.

Help our children and families to listen for your voice too.

Give us courage to leave behind what keeps us from you,

and joy to walk with you each day.

Holy Spirit,

Teach us to use our gifts and talents to share the Good News,

just as St Matthew wrote his Gospel to tell the world about Jesus.

May our words and actions show that we belong to Christ.

St Matthew, pray for us,

that we may be faithful followers of Jesus at school, at home, and in all we do.

Amen



LOOK AFTER YOUR WELLBEING THIS WEEK



Every week we offer activities to support the wellbeing of our school community.

These activities are there for you to do if you need them and cover 5 main elements:

Connect	Be with friends and family.
Be Active	Move about every day.
Keep Learning	Try new things and ask questions.
Give	Be kind and help others.
Take Notice	Look, listen and enjoy the world around you.

Here is this week's challenge:

CONNECT

Try to visit our school chapel at least once this week. Write a prayer, read one of our books, do some prayerful colouring or simply sit quietly for a few minutes and enjoy the silence during your busy day. You can visit the chapel with your class or, if you are in Key Stage 2, on your own at lunchtime.

SIA

Mark Ten Mission

The Mark Ten Mission is a chance for us to reflect more deeply on a feast or celebration that is taking place on the liturgical calendar. This week, we focus on ways we can follow Jesus.

We also look at the life of St. Hildegard of Bingen, with a special dedication to the children in her House.



THE MARK 10 MISSION

MISSION FILE



GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

At that time, Jesus told his disciples this parable, "The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market-place, and to them he said, "You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you." So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, "Why do you stand here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You go into the vineyard too."

'And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, "Call the labourers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first." And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?" So the last will be first, and the first last.'

WORD OF THE WEEK

DIALOGUE

PRAYER

To help you complete your Mission, write a prayer asking God to help you serve him during your day. You can pray this prayer each morning.



Your Mark 10 Mission is to pray each morning asking God to help you serve him during your day. If you make your day an act of service, you will build God's kingdom on earth.





WONDER QUESTIONS

How do you think the people left waiting in the marketplace felt when they were finally hired?

How might working for a generous landowner change the way you feel about the work?

Watch this week's episodes

SAINT OF THE WEEK



DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

SAINT HILDEGARD OF BINGEN

FEAST
SEPTEMBER 17TH



WHO IS SHE?

St Hildegard of Bingen was a remarkable nun who loved God deeply and used the many gifts He had given her. She was a writer, composer, artist, scientist and theologian, and from a young age she received visions which helped her see the beauty and harmony of God's creation. Hildegard was not afraid to speak up for what was right, even when it meant challenging powerful people, because she wanted everyone to know and love God. She reminds us that God gives each of us unique gifts and He wants us to use them bravely for His glory.

PRAYER

*O God,
who filled Saint Hildegard
with wisdom, wonder and a
deep love for your creation,
grant that, inspired by her
example, we may recognise
the gifts you have given us
and use them courageously
for your glory.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

SAINT MISSION

St Hildegard had a great love for God's creation. Her writings often spoke about the life and goodness God gives to the world. Your mission is to go outside this week and spend five quiet minutes noticing God's creation. Find something beautiful like a tree, flower, bird, cloud or even a tiny insect. Thank God for creating it. Then make something beautiful inspired by what you saw: a drawing, poem, song, photograph, prayer or piece of art.