



10th February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Celebration of the Word – Half Term Three, Week Six

This week, our Gospel reading for the **Celebration of the Word comes from Luke 5:1-11**. In this passage, we see Jesus calling His first disciples after a miraculous catch of fish. Despite their doubts, Simon Peter and his companions respond to Jesus' invitation, leaving everything behind to follow Him. Their trust in Christ reminds us that God often calls us beyond our comfort zones, asking us to place our faith in Him even when the path ahead is uncertain. As we continue to reflect on the Jubilee Year of Hope, this passage encourages us to listen to God's call in our own lives and respond with courage.

This week, our focus is on the **Catholic Social Teaching principle of Solidarity**, which calls us to recognise that we are all part of one human family, united in dignity and responsibility for one another. In school, we reflect on this through prayer, discussion, and action, considering how we can stand alongside others in love and support. Our ongoing form charity events provide a practical way to live out this social teaching, as we unite in service to those in need, demonstrating that true solidarity is not just about words, but about action. This Friday, 8M are holding a Charity Cake Sale-which is a lovely way to end our half term and a great way for our children to put their faith into action and support those in need.

Another way that our school family are showing solidarity with others is through our **Staff Charity 10k race** which will take place in Nantwich on 16th March. We will be running in support of our colleague Mr Walker, and supporting a charity close to his heart called MENTORS. If you would like to show your support for this wonderful cause- please visit www.wearementors.net to donate.

As part of our commitment to deepening our school's prayer life, we have introduced a new approach to our end-of-day prayer. Instead of a single shared prayer across all year groups, each year group now recites a prayer that is most relevant to their age and stage in their journey of faith. This change allows our children to engage more meaningfully with prayer, helping them to reflect on themes that resonate with their experiences and spiritual development. For example, Year Ten are learning the St Richard of Chichester prayer:

Thanks be to you, our Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits which you have given us, for all the pains and insults which you have borne for us. Most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother, may we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day.

Amen

By tailoring prayers to each year group, we hope to foster a deeper understanding of faith and a stronger personal connection to God, helping our children to develop a prayer life that they can carry with them throughout their lives

We also continue with our **lunchtime prayer** each day:



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Lunchtime Prayer

*Bless us, Oh Lord,
and these thy gifts which we are about to receive from thy bounty
through Christ, Our Lord.
Amen.*

This week, we are inspired by the words of St Luigi Scrosoppi, the **Form Saint for 8E**, who said, "*Charity, charity, charity!*" St Luigi devoted his life to caring for the poor, the sick, and abandoned children, showing us that love in action is the heart of our faith. In the spirit of St Luigi, let us strive to live with kindness and compassion, always seeking to serve others in line with our CST principle of Solidarity.

As always, I welcome any feedback you may have. Please feel free to reach out to me at h.purkiss@stjamesheadle.uk.

Yours faithfully

Miss H Purkiss
Associate Assistant Headteacher

