



17th March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Celebration of the Word – Half Term Four, Week Four

This week, our Gospel reading for the **Celebration of the Word** comes from **Luke 9:28-36**. In this passage, we see Jesus transfigured before His disciples on the mountain, His appearance changing as He speaks with Moses and Elijah. A cloud gathers around them, and a voice from the cloud declares, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to Him." The Transfiguration is a powerful revelation of Jesus' divine nature, offering the disciples a glimpse of His glory and giving them an insight into the true nature of Jesus as the incarnation-solidifying their faith. As we journey through this season of reflection, this passage invites us to listen to Jesus, to seek His presence in our day to day encounters with others, and to trust in His divine plan for our lives.

I am pleased to share that several of our staff participated in the **charity 10k race in Nantwich** on Sunday, March 16th. All staff ran in support of MENTORS, a charity that played a vital role in assisting Mr Walker throughout his illness. It was a beautiful morning, and the event was a wonderful opportunity for staff to come together and put the **Catholic Social Teaching of solidarity** into action. We are thrilled to report that, thanks to the generosity of everyone who donated, we raised over £2,550 for this worthy cause. Thank you for your continued support for school events such as this. Pictures are available to view on our St James' app and our new Blue Sky account.

Our children continue to collect pennies for our **St Joseph's Penny appeal**, embracing the spirit of giving during this season of reflection and charity. They will be gathering any spare pennies they have over the coming weeks, culminating in an exciting penny race within each year group! If you would like to support our Lenten efforts for St Joseph's Penny, donations can be made through Parent Pay. Any contributions to this worthy cause would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you to everyone who has donated chocolate for our **Easter fundraiser** so far. The Chocolate Raffle will take place here in school towards the Easter break. We would be grateful for any donations of chocolate (chocolate bars, Easter eggs, boxes of chocolate). These donations can be handed in to your child's Form Tutor or they are welcome to bring them to myself in room CS8. If you wish to make a monetary donation, you may do so via ParentPay. As always, we are grateful for any support you can offer to the Catholic Life of our school.

This week, we are reflecting on the **Catholic Social Teaching principle of the Common Good**, which calls us to work for the benefit of all people, especially the most vulnerable in society. In school, we explore this teaching by discussing how we can contribute to the well-being of our community and society as a whole, whether through acts of kindness, supporting those in need, or advocating for social justice. Our children will reflect on this in form time and during the Celebration of the Word, looking at the example of **Oscar Romero**, whose dedication to the poor and oppressed inspires us to live out the principles of the Common Good in our own lives.

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 March, Year 7 children are learning a version of our Jubilee prayer:



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope. Holy Spirit, our inspiration, in this Jubilee Year, you remind us of our call to grow in faith and love.

Help us to hear you in scripture, to see Jesus in others, and to be united as God's global family. Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope.

Amen

This week, **St Jude, is our Saint of the Week from 7S**. Known for his unwavering faith and dedication to spreading the message of Christ, St. Jude is a source of hope for those facing difficult circumstances. He reminds us that no situation is beyond God's reach and that we can always turn to Him for help. St Jude once said, *"I am a servant of Jesus Christ,"* which encourages us to live humbly and faithfully, trusting in God's guidance and compassion, especially in times of uncertainty. I hope this can offer some comfort to anyone needing this in our school family this week.

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

Yours faithfully

Miss H Purkiss
Associate Assistant Headteacher