

St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

RE Newsletter

SPRING TERM 2016

Monday 20th February 2017

The Easter Season is the Greatest Feast!

Dear Parents,

Spring here and the cycle of life, by the grace of God, is being renewed once more. There are so many things around us during this season to be thankful for. Even the birds seem to be singing more! Trees are beginning to flourish with pretty blossoms and daffodils are beginning to grow. These are all signs of new life and brings us to the most celebrated season in our liturgical year—Easter and the Resurrection of our Lord.



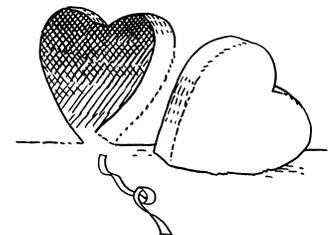
defeated. Jesus beat death by dying, and by showing us that death couldn't keep him. When Jesus rose on the first Easter morning, it was to a brand new kind of life. He promises this same resurrection life to all who hope in him. No wonder that Easter is the greatest feast!

We hope you find this newsletter interesting and as always, please keep us in your prayers as we try to support your children in the growth of their faith, as well as all members of our school community.

Mrs M Ainger
RE Subject Leader

We tend to think that Christmas is the most important, but the Resurrection is by far the most important for all Christians.

When we as Christians say our hope is in the risen Jesus, we mean it is our greatest hope. St Paul says that death entered the world because of sin. Death is the 'last enemy' to be



TRUST GOD

Learning to trust God can
transform your life...
Keep Calm and
trust God, He has
the power to help you
and make all things new...
Be transformed by the renewing
of your mind...Romans 12:2

0's Art Gallery 2015

DATES TO REMEMBER

1st March- St David's Day
17th March- St Patrick's Day
19th- March St Joseph's Day
Annunciation of Our Lord-
25th March
Palm Sunday 9th April
Holy Thursday 13th April
Good Friday 14th April
Easter Sunday 16th April
Please check Newsletter for
dates of Prayer Services,
Class Masses and Key Stage
assemblies.

Nursery and Reception— Sorrow and Joy

There is no limit to God's grace, nor to God's mercy when we fail

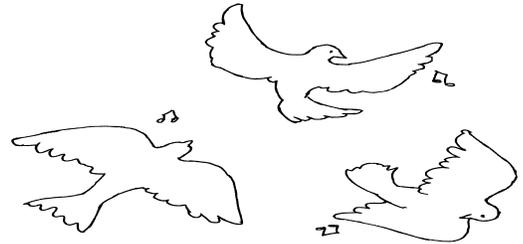
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This half term, the children in the Nursery and the Reception classes will be learning about sorrow and joy.

They will begin to understand that we are capable of hurting others and that we should always try to be kind to each other.

They will learn that we can say sorry when we hurt someone but we need to ask Jesus to help us to do this.

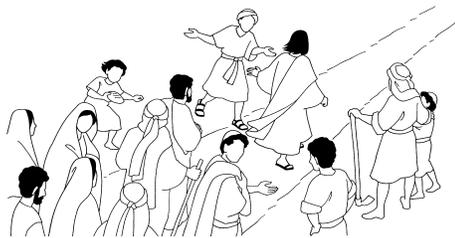
They will also begin to learn that we need to ask Jesus to help us to do good and learn that Jesus forgave those who hurt him and know that we can forgive other people when they hurt us.



Year 1—Following Jesus

"From the beginning, Jesus associated his disciples with his own life, revealed the mystery of the Kingdom to them and gave them a share in his mission, joy and sufferings."

Catechism of the Catholic Church



Year 1 will hear how Jesus chose some of the first disciples (Luke 3. 5: 1- 11) and reflect on how we choose our friends.

They will hear how Martha and Mary were friends of Jesus and think about how we can be his friends.

They will listen to the story of Jesus and his followers going into Jerusalem and think of how we can praise Jesus.

They will learn that Jesus died on Good Friday and know that God raised Jesus

from the dead three days later and we celebrate this at Easter.

At Home

You could help your children by :
Visit www.tere.org/interactive

Year 2—The Mass

"In the Eucharist we participate in the Lord's sacrifice. We are joined to the eternal praise and thanksgiving he offers as Son of the Father, and to his sacrifice on the cross. We receive him as our life and food, a promise of the eternal banquet of heaven. At the heart of the Eucharistic celebration are the bread and wine that becomes in reality Christ's Body and Blood. Catholic faith adores this enduring presence of Christ not only within the celebration of the Mass but also outside it.

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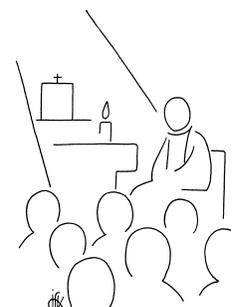
Year 2 will learn and reflect on the importance of the celebration of the Mass.

They will learn about the readings at Mass and why we should listen to them, and learn that at the Offertory we offer gifts to God.

They will also and appreciate that at the Consecration the bread and wine are changed into Jesus.

At Home

You could help your children by:
Visit www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS1link.htm and complete activities.
Or
Visit www.rcdow.org.uk



Year 3 – Eucharist

"We express our love of God by acknowledging God as the Lord of our lives and giving God our thanks and praise. The regular Sunday participation in the celebration of Mass is a primary duty."

"In the Eucharist we participate in the Lord's sacrifice. We are joined to the eternal praise and thanksgiving he offers as Son of the Father, and to his sacrifice on the cross. We receive him as our life and food, a promise of the eternal banquet of heaven. At the heart of the Eucharistic celebration are the bread and wine that become in reality Christ's Body and Blood. Catholic faith adores this enduring presence of Christ not only within the celebration of the Mass but also outside it."

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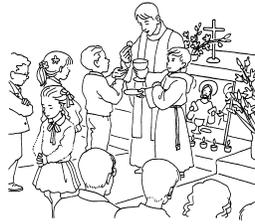
Learning ABOUT our Catholic Faith

Year 3 know why Sunday is special for Christians and know that we come to Mass to hear the teaching of Jesus and pray to him.

They will learn that in the Mass we offer thanks to God the Father for the gift of his Son and learn that during Mass the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus.

They will learn that when we receive Holy Communion we receive Jesus and learn that Jesus is present in the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle.

They will also learn some of the responses in the Mass and understand that Jesus died on the cross, and rose



again, to save us from sin.

Learning FROM our Catholic Faith

The children will have the chance to:

- be aware of the most sacred parts of the Mass.
- identify ways we can make Sunday a special day;
- appreciate all that we have to be thankful for;
- understand how we should behave at Mass;

At Home

You could help your children by:

- Visit www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS2link
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Year 4 – Jesus the Saviour

Jesus "is truly God and, as a man, truly human. His life, death and resurrection are the central event of all human history and at the heart of faith. His cross is the sign of his unique offering of himself for each and every human being."

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Learning ABOUT our Catholic Faith

Year 4 will learn that Jesus is truly God and, as man truly human and learn that Jesus came to share our life so that we can share his life.

They will learn that when Jesus died on the cross he took away our sins, learn what happened in Holy week and learn what happened on Easter Sunday.

Learning FROM our Catholic Faith

The children will have the chance to:

- reflect on how we can share in the life of Jesus;
- appreciate that Jesus is truly God and, as a man truly human;
- take part in some of the Holy Week services;
- reflect on the importance of the Resurrection for us.

At Home:

- Visit www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS2link
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Year 5 – Reconciliation

"There is no limit to God's grace, nor to God's mercy and forgiveness when we fail. Sin is always an exercise of free will. It is always a failure of genuine love of God, of neighbour, of ourselves. Serious (mortal) sin 'separates' us from God until we repent and confess."

Reconciliation is a "sacrament of healing. Reconciliation makes sacramentally present Jesus' call to conversion, involves contrition for our sins, confession of them to a priest, and absolution spoken by the priest in the name of Jesus Christ. In the celebration of the sacrament we acknowledge (confess) God's holiness and mercy and are reconciled to God and the community of the Church."

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Learning ABOUT our Catholic Faith

Year 5 will learn that sin is a failure of love and learn that when we sin we hurt ourselves and others and damage our relationship with God.

They will begin to understand that God loves and forgives us if we are truly sorry and learn that God heals our friendship with him and others through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



They learn how we can prepare ourselves to receive this Sacrament and learn what happens during the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

They will also learn that

this sacrament enables us to change our behaviour.

Learning FROM our Catholic Faith

The children will have the chance to:

- reflect on what strengthens our friendship with God and with others and what damages it;
- reflect on times we have shown or been shown love and forgiveness;
- have the opportunity to go to confession;
- make the Stations of the Cross.

At Home

- Visit www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS2link
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**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS
POPE FRANCIS
FOR LENT 2017**

**"The Word is a gift. Other
persons are a gift"**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Lent is a new beginning, a path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ's victory over death. This season urgently calls us to conversion. Christians are asked to return to God "with all their hearts" (*Joel* 2:12), to refuse to settle for mediocrity and

to grow in friendship with the Lord. Jesus is the faithful friend who never abandons us.

Even when we sin, he patiently awaits our return; by that patient expectation, he shows us his readiness to forgive.

Lent is a favourable season for deepening our spiritual life through the means of sanctification offered us by the Church: fasting, prayer and almsgiving. At the basis of everything is the word of God, which during this season we are invited to hear and ponder more deeply. I would



now like to consider the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (cf. *Lk* 16:19-31). Let us find inspiration in this meaningful story, for it provides a key to understanding what we need to do in order to attain true happiness and eternal life. It exhorts us to sincere conversion.

Year 6 – Jesus, Son of God

"God's Self-Revelation and the covenant relationship reach their fullness in Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God. He is truly God and, as a man, truly human. His life, death and resurrection are the central event of all human history and at the heart of faith. His cross is the sign of his unique offering of himself for each and every human being. As truly God, Jesus reveals the truth and love of God; as truly human, Jesus reveals the perfect response to God and intimate communion with his Father – 'Abba'."

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Learning ABOUT our Catholic Faith

Year 6 will learn that Jesus healed many people, brought others back to life and that His miracles led many to believe that he was the Son of God.

They will learn that Jesus' enemies plotted to have him arrested, about the arrest and the trial before the high priests.

They will learn about Jesus' trial before Pilate and learn that Jesus was condemned to death and crucified.

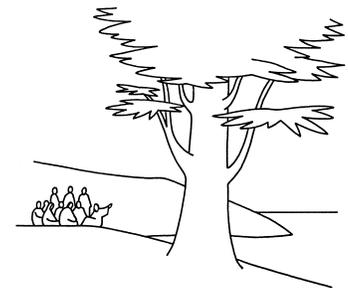
They will also learn what Jesus said before he died and about His glorious resurrection.

Learning FROM our Catholic Faith

The children will have the chance to:

- reflect on the miracles of Jesus;
- have the opportunity to visit a church to make the Stations of the Cross.

- participate in a dramatisation of the passion, death & resurrection of Jesus;
- reflect on the meaning of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus for us today.



At Home

- Visit www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS2link
- Discuss what they have found out in class and how it will affect their life journey.
- Look at the Stations of the Cross after Mass and talk about their relevance for us today.

