



St. Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School
"Love one another as I have loved you"

Religious Education and Catholic Life Fortnightly Newsletter Autumn Weeks 11 and 12



Gospel 'Celebration of The Word' assembly -Tuesday

Key Scripture:

'Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.'
And He said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.'

Luke 23:43



We began our 'Celebration of The Word' by gathering to the hymn 'What a beautiful name it is-the name of Jesus' The children were invited to listen to the words of the hymn and to make links with the message from the Gospel. With the help of Pupil Chaplains, we identified what we needed on make our table a sacred space: The liturgical cloth was white indicating that we were

celebrating. The candle to remind us that God is present with us; The Cross to remind us that Jesus loves us and The Bible where God and Jesus speak to us.

Sunday marked the end of the Church's year. The year ends with an important feast day called 'The Solemnity of Christ the King'. On this feast day we celebrate Jesus as our King and Saviour.

I invited the children to identify kings alive today. Responses included- King Charles and King Felipe.

King Charles is king of the United Kingdom and King Felipe is King of Spain.

The children were challenged to think of a king who is king of everything and king of our hearts. The children responded enthusiastically-Jesus!



Pupil Chaplains re-enacted the Gospel account. We were taken back to Good Friday where we were reminded that Jesus was crucified with two other thieves.

The people at Jesus' Crucifixion did not know who He really was so they labelled Jesus a criminal who deserved a criminal's death - on a cross. They laughed at Him and teased Him. They didn't know that Jesus is the King of Kings. The bad thief mocked and insulted Jesus. The good thief had the faith needed to recognise Jesus as his King and Saviour, and so Jesus rewarded Him. By believing in who Jesus truly was, the good thief was rewarded with the gift of eternal life in Heaven.

Jesus can offer the gift of eternal life in God's Kingdom because by His death and Resurrection He brought salvation to everyone, making Him a king to all people, everywhere.

Jesus revealed Himself as the King of Kings during His Crucifixion.

We discussed how we can show that we honour Jesus as our King. Responses included making Him the most important part of our lives and helping us to think of others; Listening to Him and letting Him guide our words and actions; Praying and thanking Him for all His goodness and gifts that He has given us to us



Reflection:

Think about how you, as a family and individually, can honour King Jesus by showing love and kindness to others today.

Catholic Social teaching: Friday



We began our Catholic Social Teaching 'Celebration of The Word' by gathering to the Hymn 'Micah 6:8' The children were invited to listen to the words of the hymn and to make links to the life of St Teresa.

St Teresa of Calcutta is one of our House Saints. We looked at her life and shared her message that we should spread love everywhere we go and let no one ever come to us without leaving happier.

In addition, we heard examples of how St Teresa helped the poor, the sick, and hungry.

St Teresa is a great role model of a person who put her faith into action and helped those in need.



Reflection:

There are lots of people who need help in our community and in our world. Who can we help? How can we help?

Examples may include: praying, donating money, giving clothes to charity etc...

St Elizabeth's Prayer of the Month



Each month St Elizabeth's School community will say a prayer which focuses on the liturgical season. At present we are in the month of November. November is known as the month of remembrance

Let us pray....



Response:

Please continue praying 'The Eternal Rest' prayer during November and remember our loved ones who have died.

November – Month of Holy Souls



Mrs Diver and the Pupil Chaplains continued to support children to talk about the people in their 'Friend in Heaven' photograph.



Children from Reception to Year 6 shared special memories of the person in their photograph. We discussed that photographs are a really powerful way of keeping these special people in our minds and hearts, Then, the whole school community prayed for 'Our Friends in Heaven' by saying 'The Eternal Rest' prayer.

All the photographs were displayed on the 'Friends in Heaven' table and were looked after by the Pupil Chaplains.



Response:

Please say eternal rest prayer at home during November.

Catholic Social Teaching: Community and Participation- Christ the Redeemer Joint Choir Concert



St Elizabeth's held the first joint concert with St Osmund's, one of our fellow Christ the Redeemer schools. The KS2 choirs from both our schools performed a number of songs. We used this as an opportunity to raise money for our brothers and sisters who live in poverty. At the end of the concert there was a collection for our half-termly charity: CAFOD World Gifts. This links with our Catholic Social Justice themes of: community and participation and preferential option of the poor



St Elizabeth's joined with schools throughout the Archdiocese of Southwark for an online Jubilee Year Celebration. As we approach the end of the Jubilee Year in January this was a chance for us all to reflect on the ways in which we have been living as Pilgrims of Hope in the school and the wider community. We reflected upon our work towards our St Elizabeth's School Jubilee Pledge

Child-led Celebration of The Word



Every week the children in each class plan, lead and deliver an end of topic 'Celebration of The Word' in an age-appropriate way.

The children follow the liturgy format of: Gather, Listen, Response, Go Forth/Mission.

Examples of some of these are below.

Response

Can your child share how they will live the message from their 'Celebration of The Word' with the family?



Reception led their 'Celebration of the Word' in class based on the theme-The Nativity-The Angels visit the shepherds.



Y4 Pilgrims of Hope made their own pilgrimage to St Elizabeth's Church, which is a diocesan Pilgrim Church for the Jubilee Year. The children led their class 'Celebration of The Word' on the sanctuary on the theme of being chosen.

In addition Y4 met Georgia from St Elizabeth's Youth Ministry who guided them around St Elizabeth's Church



Year 5 led their 'Celebration of the Word' in the school hall based on the theme of commitment.



Year 6 led their 'Celebration of the Word' based on the theme of mission.

CAFOD'S WORLD GIFTS

CAFOD World Gifts

Mini Vinnies have selected CAFOD for as our focus charity for this half-term. Gillie, from CAFOD gave a presentation to the children and school community about CAFOD and the work CAFOD does.



Gillie reminded us that God loves each one of us very much. However, many of our brothers and sisters are in need.



Many of our brothers and sisters need support to have the basics they need to survive: water, food, warm clothes, and medicine. We are so fortunate because we have so much.

Gillie shared how we can help transform their lives by buying a world gift. She showed the children how they can put their faith into action by raising money to buy practical items (water, warm clothes, seeds etc...) which will make a real difference to our brothers and sisters lives across the world.



Each class will be carrying out fundraising activities throughout Advent so please do support them in this.

We started our Advent fundraising early with a collection after the singing concert – thank you very much for your contribution.

For more information about CAFOD world gifts please use the following link: <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>



Response:

Please look out for an email outlining your class' Advent fundraising activity and please support the fundraising activity.

Pupil Leadership Catholic Life and Mission

At St Elizabeth's, pupil leadership is very important. Every week there are many opportunities for the children to get involved in the Catholic Life and mission of our school.

Pupil Chaplains' Prayer Packets

Pupil Chaplains have designed 'Prayer Packets' to support and enhance family prayer at home.

Each packet contains: liturgical cloths, a candle, a hand-held wooden cross, Rosary beads and a Pupil Chaplain Prayer book.



The 'Prayer Packets' are ready for sale.

You can order a Prayer Packet for £12 in the Arbor Pay shop or cash or cheque.

Families have been sending photographs of them using the prayer packet to pray.



Response:

Please use the 'Prayer Packet' to develop and enhance family prayer at home.

If you would like, please send in a photo of how the Prayer Packet has been used at home.

Pupil Chaplains Bible Club

This week, Pupil chaplains planned, led and delivered a 'Celebration of Word' assembly to a group of Reception children.

The children used the 'Gather', 'Listen', 'Respond' and 'Mission' format to help them plan.

The Pupil Chaplains used the hymn 'Gather, gather' to gather the children.

The Reception children helped create a Holy Space by placing The Cross, The Candle and Bible on the green cloth.



Pupil Chaplains read one of the Beatitudes 'Blessed are the Peacemakers'.



To explain what a 'Peacemaker' is, the Pupil Chaplains used the example of St Elizabeth.



Children reflected on how they could be more like St Elizabeth in their daily lives and how they could sort disagreements out peacefully. Responses included: sharing, taking turns and listening.



Mini Vinnies

Mini Vinnies have been working hard organising Gillie, from CAFOD, to visit St Elizabeth's School. Following on from Gillie's presentation, the Mini Vinnies are encouraging each class to organise their own individual fundraiser that will raise money for our brothers and sisters who live in poverty. In addition, Mini Vinnies have prepared a suggested list of fundraising ideas to support each class and they are also supporting classes in the organisation of their class fundraisers.

Eco-warriors

Eco-warriors follow the Catholic Social Teaching principle of 'Caring for God's Creation' where we are all asked to care for God's gifts by looking after the environment.

For Autumn 2 the focus for the Eco warriors is to turn lights off when a room is unused and to continue litter picking.

Eco warriors have been designing posters to remind the school community to switch lights off!

They continue to share why these are important to do to in helping to look after our world.



Wednesday Word

'The Wednesday Word' is a weekly Gospel 'gift' from school to each family. Each week the Sunday Gospel is sent out via the link below into school family homes through the 'Wednesday Word'.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/good-news?pid=MTA101634&v=163.4>

Through this resource, the key message(s) from the Gospel is shared.



Response:

Please take the 'Wednesday Word' to Mass on Sunday.

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for the month of November



The Holy Father, Pope Leo, asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. We are all invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention each month

Pope Leo asks... that, we pray with him for those people who are struggling with well-being and mental health. May they find the support, care and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.



Response: Can we take the time to notice and interact with people who are sad and alone?

Thank you for your support,

Mrs Diver and the Pupil Chaplains and Mini-Vinnies