

## St Elizabeth's School RE Newsletter April 2021



We are in the season of Eastertide – when we reflect on the joy of the resurrection and look forward with hope to the arrival of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. This change in the Church season, from the penitence of Lent to our current season of celebration, is reflected in the world through the new life of spring and the hope brought by schools reopening, vaccines and the promise of lifted restrictions!

We hope and pray that your spirits are lifted through this time and that you and your families are well.

### **Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Before the Easter holidays, children learned all about the events of Holy Week and Jesus' death on the cross and that Jesus rose from the dead, on Easter Sunday...but the story doesn't even end there!

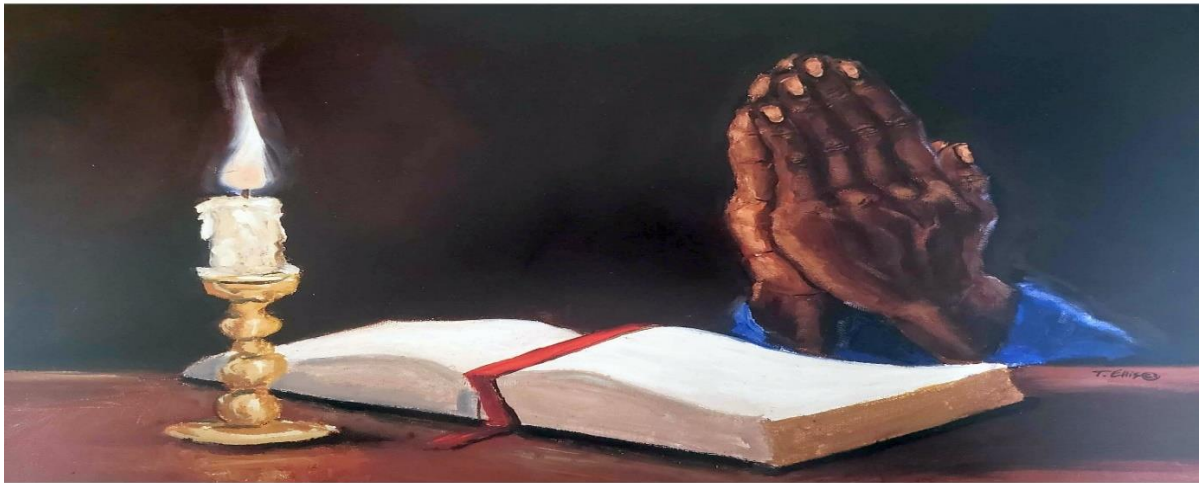
In the Gospel assembly this week, we heard that the disciples struggle to believe that Jesus has truly risen from the dead. To help children explore the theme of belief and disbelief we shared a story about good news that was hard to believe. We discussed what changed disbelief into belief!

Children used this story to help them understand how sad the disciples must have been after the death of Jesus, and how they would desperately have wanted Jesus to be back with them once again – but it seemed impossible. So when Jesus turned up in their midst, the disciples thought He was a ghost, or that their minds were playing tricks on them! It seemed too good to be true!

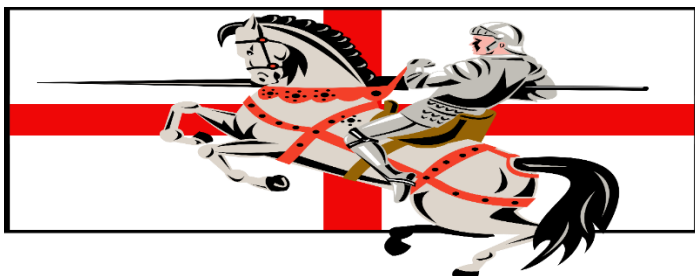
Jesus could see the disciples were 'dumbfounded', so He helped them to believe by asking for some food – to show that His body was real and not in their imaginations!

Children learned that when Jesus appeared to His disciples, He taught the disciples and ate with them. When we go to Mass, Jesus does the same with us! He teaches us (the Liturgy of the Word) and He invites those who have made their Communion to eat the Bread of Life (the Liturgy of the Eucharist). This is why celebrating Mass is such a special occasion. Jesus loves being with us.

Children learned that church is a very special place, and that just like Jesus told the disciples to be witnesses, He also invites us to tell others that He has risen from the dead. The children were invited to continue the disciples' work by being witnesses and living out the Gospel values. They were challenged to think how they could be witnesses today.



*Dear Jesus,  
Thank you for teaching us and feeding us through the Mass.  
Thank you that you are my friend and love spending time with me.  
Help me remember that I can talk to you whenever I want!  
Guide me to be your witness in the choices and decisions I make.  
Amen*



### **St George's Day**

St George's Day will be celebrated on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April in assembly.

St George is England's patron saint.

In class children will listen to some of the legends associated with St George.



**Pope Francis's prayer request for April:**

Every month Pope Francis asks us to pray for a particular cause or focus.

For the month of April Pope Francis has asked that we pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights - in particular inequality of opportunity and poverty.

**Celebration of the Feast Days of Saints**

Thank you to parents who completed the parent questionnaire regarding the feast days of saints from their country. At school we will now endeavour to celebrate as many of these saints as we can.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs Diver  
RE and Catholic Life Lead

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