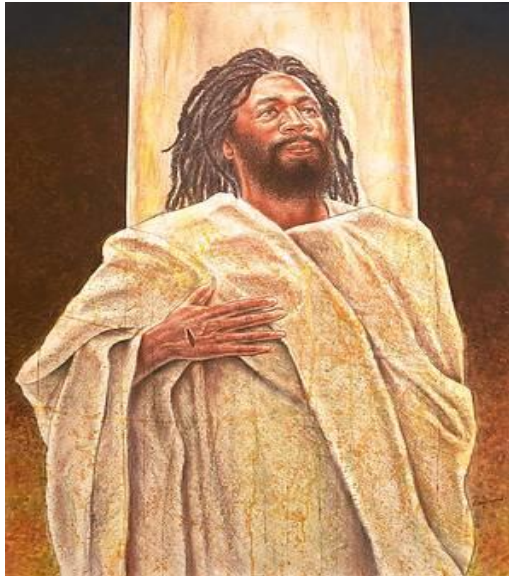


ALLELUIA.
CHRIST IS RISEN.

St Elizabeth's School RE Newsletter
June 2022

Alleluia, Alleluia!

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



During May we were still in the season of Eastertide – we reflected on the joy of the resurrection and looked forward with hope to the arrival of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. This was a change in the Church's season, from the penitence of Lent to the celebration in Jesus' resurrection.

Eastertide is 50 days of rejoicing and celebration between Easter Sunday and Pentecost (when Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to His disciples).

We say and sing lots of "Alleluias!" to celebrate that Jesus is risen! We rejoice in the hope, joy, and peace that Jesus brings through His death and resurrection. St John Paul II called all believers 'Easter people' because we live in the light of Jesus' resurrection.



Jesus said to them:
“Come and have
breakfast.”
John 21: 1 – 4

Through the Gospel assemblies in May we heard that the disciples struggled to believe that Jesus had truly risen from the dead. To help children explore the

theme of belief and disbelief we shared the Gospel accounts of Jesus appearing to His disciples. We discussed what changed disbelief into belief!

Children used these accounts 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, He asked them to have breakfast with them. In the Gospel of the week commencing 2nd May, the children heard that some of the disciples had been fishing but caught nothing all night and were very hungry! Jesus gave them the instruction to throw their net on the right side of the boat. The disciples caught loads of fish.

In this Gospel passage, Jesus did three amazing things that we can learn from:

- He showed Himself to the disciples for the third time after rising from the dead – to prove that He was alive! Jesus is still alive today and we can be friends with Him.
- He performed a miracle through the huge catch of fish to show His divine power – He is God! Jesus is the second person in the Holy Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- He knew the disciples would be hungry after working all night, and so He cooked breakfast – to show that He loves them and provides for their needs!

When we say the Our Father, we ask God to ‘Give us today our daily bread’. That doesn’t mean just bread or food which we need to help us grow strong and healthy: it means all our day-to-day needs.

This prayer reminds us that God provides the daily bread that our bodies need, but also that in the Eucharist; He feeds our souls too! Just like the disciples, Jesus meets our needs and feeds us because He loves us!

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.

The children were challenged to think how they could be witnesses today.



Dear Jesus,

Thank you for loving us!

Thank you for feeding us and meeting our needs. We trust you to provide for us.

Help us to share what we have with others.

We believe that you are alive and our friend forever!

We are an Easter people and 'Alleluia' is our song!

Amen



Mass: Celebrating The Feast of The Ascension
All the children in Key Stage 2 participated in Mass at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church to celebrate the Ascension of our Lord Jesus into Heaven.

The Mass was organised and led by Y5BC. Thank

you to Mrs Bolger and Mrs Compton and all of 5BC who led the celebration of Mass.

We would like to thank Mrs Fitzgerald and Scola for wonderful music.

We would also like to thank Mgr Bill, from Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Sheen, for leading the celebration of Mass and to Nadia Galindo-Slim for her support.

We received the following comments in emails from parishioners at Our Lady Queen of Peace:

"The quality of the music this morning was absolutely superb. It really lifted our hearts. Please pass on my congratulations to all concerned. I hope there will be a return visit!"

"I wanted to say thank you for the wonderfully joyful mass we were privileged to be able to join on Thursday morning. The children's enthusiasm was contagious and their singing excellent. Please thank them and the staff who enabled them to share their gift. The participation and attentiveness of the entire school including those seated in the middle of the church was a demonstration of accessibility and inclusion.

We left the church uplifted. Thank you."



St George's Day

The feast of St George, the patron saint of England, was celebrated in assembly. Children listened to some of the legends associated with St George.

Celebrations from other countries in assemblies

Ximena, in Year 1, shared with the whole school the celebration of Cinco de Mayo (5th May) in Mexico. She shared that this day is significant for Mexicans because they defeated the French forces at the Battle of Puebla. The day is now remembered as a celebration of Mexican culture and tradition.

Dawid and Max in Year 6 shared with the children the celebration of Smigus Dyngus. This is the Polish tradition of spraying friends and family with water on Easter Monday.



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

Pupil Chaplains

May - the month dedicated to Mary

Pupil Chaplains led a whole school assembly celebrating the life of Mary, the mother of Jesus.

During the Pupil Chaplains assembly, Pupil Chaplains shared that during May we honour Mary. This is because during May our world is in full bloom and blossom and full of new life. This reminds us Mary gave birth to Jesus, The Son of God.

Pupil Chaplains shared that Mary is an excellent role model.



Pope Francis's prayer request for May

Every month Pope Francis asks us to pray for a particular cause or focus. For the month of May Pope Francis asked that we pray that young people live life to the fullest, using Mary, the Mother of Jesus, as an example.

May young people listen, have courage to live out their faith and serve others.



It has been lovely to see some parents attending the prayer club on Mondays in school. We would welcome more parents to join. This is a valuable opportunity for parents to pray together and talk their faith. All parents are welcome.

Thank you for your support,
Mrs Kerry Diver
Deputy Headteacher and Catholic Life Lead