



# St Mary's RE Newsletter



*Welcome*

Fifth edition 2024

At this time, we think of all our children and young people who are taking their exams.

**Dear Lord, as I take this exam, I thank you that my value  
Is not based on my performance, but on your great love for me.  
Come into my heart so that we can walk through this time together.  
Help me, not only with this test, but the many tests of life that are sure to come my way.**

**As I take this exam, bring back to my mind everything I studied  
and be gracious with what I have overlooked.  
Help me to remain focused and calm, confident in the facts and in my ability,  
and firm in the knowledge that no matter what happens today you are there with me.**

*- A Salesian Prayer*



To examine means to look closely, to inspect thoroughly in order to determine the nature or condition. It is strange how this word conjures up many different feelings depending on the context. The car was examined for safety reasons in its MOT. I hoped it would not be too expensive. Our employers examined our application to check our suitability for a job. I wondered if I would fit into the team. A scientist examines bacteria for research, a parent examines an injury when their child has fallen. Exams are part of life, some are necessary for safety, some are for research and some are to measure knowledge. I cannot admit to liking exams but I also know people who joyfully sit lots of exams to collect certificates. A few will be overwhelmed and several will hide their feelings. If you know someone taking an exam maybe the prayer above will help.

Discern



JUDGE

This half term's theme is entitled 'To the ends of the Earth.' The children are looking at the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This part of our faith is revisited each year to allow the children to examine their understanding and take it further. Like St. Paul, when they have knowledge and understanding they will share their learning and the Good News. As we journey for work, family and pleasure we too will have the opportunity by words and actions to spread the good news of the Easter story.

Respond



ACT

Should exams only test knowledge? Many of our favourite films test the courage and integrity of the characters. We are tested daily in lots of different ways so maybe we shouldn't be afraid of tests as long as we have looked into our own hearts and looked carefully to see if we did the right thing to the best of our abilities. Time to revise the 8 bees.

<https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/ignatian-prayer/the-examen/>

#### Catholic Social Teaching - Participation



Taking part. This term the Mini Vinnies led an assembly for KS2 explaining the areas of Social Justice they would like to focus on. They spoke clearly, concisely and I was very proud of the power behind their words. In a nutshell, the Mini Vinnies have asked the children to try to use less plastic in their lunchboxes and if possible use it again and again. Secondly, they asked us to pick up litter to protect our common home. Finally, they asked us to think, act and pray for the lonely and the refugees.



May

**The month dedicated to Mary**

**19th Pentecost**

**26th The most Holy Trinity**

**31st Feast of the Visitation**



June

**Corpus Christi**

**30th Ss Peter and Paul**

Finally, let us ask for calm, and humility in the face of life's trials and tribulations with a little help from our heavenly mother. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

*Miss Howard*

*Look out for the 'Mission Moments' in the school newsletter and please share moments with the school when you spot them.*

