



St Mary's RE Newsletter



Welcome

Fourth edition 2024

“Prayer unites us; it makes us brothers and sisters. It is in prayer that our hearts find the strength not to be cold and insensitive in the face of injustice. In prayer, God keeps calling us, opening our hearts to charity.”

Pope Francis

Understand



SEE

Spring cleaning time. Time to clear out the clutter and give some useful things to a charity shop. Time to sort out the ever growing pile of paperwork and keep only the useful stuff. Time to celebrate the memories we have and put them into perspective. Time to pause and remember the people who have died and value the effect they had on our lives.

Discern



JUDGE

This half term's theme is entitled 'Desert to Garden.' The children are looking at how our faith and the teaching of God are told, explored and explained in the celebration of mass. The word Eucharist means 'thanksgiving'. Every Sunday the mass celebrates the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The curriculum focuses on the culmination of Jesus' teaching on earth with the events leading to what we now call Holy week.

Respond



ACT

The difficult thing about Lent is I really feel I ought to be doing more. I ought to be less busy and do something for someone else. I ought to count my blessings and not want more. The bishops have announced that 2024 has been chosen to be a year of prayer. While watching T.V. and not watching a religious program the question of 'Why bother to pray? God doesn't need our help' was asked by a character. The response changed my attitude to prayer. It was something to the effect of 'Maybe prayer isn't designed to change God's mind but to change the person saying the prayer.' Maybe my Lenten promise should focus on prayer rather than what I ought to do.

Catholic Social Teaching - Human Dignity



Everyone is special. We believe every human person is made in the image of God. This is a gift we all share as fellow human beings; we are infinitely loved by our creator. God is present in every human person, regardless of religion, culture, nationality, orientation or economic standing. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sPfx2rVtgxs>



March

8th International Women's day

20th International happiness day. *Since 2013, the United Nations has celebrated this day to recognize the importance of happiness in the lives of people around the world. The UN launched the 17 Sustainable Development Goals in 2015 to end poverty, reduce inequality and protect our planet which are the three key aspects that lead to well-being and happiness.*

21st World Down's syndrome day

21st World water day

24th Palm Sunday

28th Maundy Thursday

29th Good Friday

31st Easter Sunday



April

8th The Annunciation of the Lord

22nd World Earth day

23rd St George

Saints...



... are in tune with themselves

Finally, Pope Francis has asked for a symphony of prayer. In my head this creates a picture of music, a multitude of voices, art work and teams of people working together. Prayers don't have to be quiet or only in church or said by a lone person. Prayer should be our route to peace in our world where war is replaced with a multitude of voices and music and shared art ensuring that the dignity of every person is respected.

Miss Howard

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

THE YEAR OF
PRAYER



"I would greatly desire that we devote 2024, the year preceding the Jubilee event, to a great 'symphony' of prayer."

POPE FRANCIS