



January 2019

Be the light to those around you!

Dear Parents,

We begin this term full of the joy of the Christmas season which ended for us at the celebration of the Baptism of Jesus on 13th January. On the 2nd February we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) when Jesus is recognised as 'the light of the world'. We must also remember that each one of us is called to be a 'light', an inspiration to those around us. In this issue of the newsletter you will find what your son is learning about in each year group. We hope you find this newsletter of interest and as always, please keep us in your prayers as we continue to support your sons in their Religious Education.



Dates from the Church's calendar:

6 th January	The Epiphany of the Lord	26 th January	Ss. Timothy & Titus
12 th January	St. Aelred of Rievaulx	28 th January	St. Thomas Aquinas
13 th January	The Baptism of Jesus	31 st January	St. John Bosco
17 th January	St. Anthony	2nd February	Presentation of Jesus
21 st January	St. Agnus	8 th February	St. Josephine Bakhita
24 th January	St. Francis de Sales	11 th February	Our Lady of Lourdes
25 th January	Conversion of St. Paul		

J1 - Jesus the Teacher

- The boys will learn that Jesus was born into a Jewish family and find out about the story of the presentation in the Temple.
- They will learn that Jesus attended synagogue as a child and as an adult read the Torah. They will learn that Jesus travelled about teaching people.
- The boys will learn that Jesus came to show us the way to live, understand why
- Jesus used parables to teach people and know and understand some of the parables Jesus told.
- The boys will have a chance to appreciate the relevance of the parables for us today and recognise that Lent gives us an opportunity to live as Jesus wants us to.

At home:

You could help your son by:

- reading some well-known parables, e.g. 'The Sower' and talking about what they mean for us

J2 - Celebrating the Mass

"In the Eucharist we participate in the Lord's sacrifice. We are joined to the eternal praise and thanksgiving he offers as Son of the Father, and to his sacrifice on the cross. We receive him as our life and food, a promise of the eternal banquet of heaven. At the heart of the Eucharistic celebration are the bread and wine that become in reality Christ's Body and Blood. Catholic faith adores this enduring presence of Christ not only within the celebration of the Mass but also outside it."

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- J2 will know why Sunday is special for Christians and will know that we come to Mass to hear the teaching of Jesus and pray to him.
- They will learn that in the Mass we offer thanks to God the Father for the gift of his Son and learn that during Mass the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus.
- They will learn that when we receive Holy Communion we receive Jesus and learn that Jesus is present in the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle.
- They will also learn some of the responses in the Mass and understand that Jesus died on the cross, and rose from the dead.

At home

You could help your son by:

- talking to them about all the things we have to be thankful for
- talking to them about how Sunday is a special day for Christians

J3 - Inspirational People

"Love of neighbour ... involves working for a just society... It includes love for the poor. Love of neighbour is also an expression of our search for God."

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- The boys will learn about the conditions for following Jesus and learn how Jesus described a true disciple. They will have a chance to reflect on their commitment to following Jesus.
- They will learn the story of a person who had a special love for those rejected by society and about someone who was an inspiration for young people.
- They will identify people today who are an inspiration in their service of others.

At home:

You could help your son by:

- encouraging them to research some information about inspirational people and saints

J4 - Jesus, the bread of life

"At the heart of the Eucharistic celebration are the bread and wine that become in reality Christ's Body and Blood. Catholic faith adores this enduring presence of Christ not only within the celebration of the Mass but also outside it."

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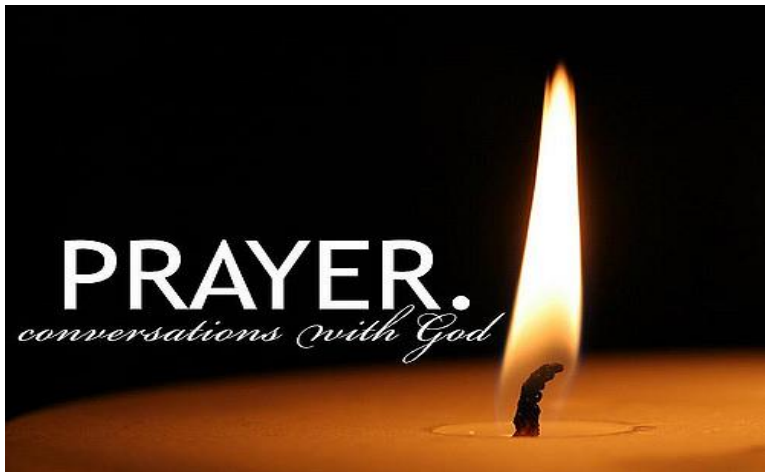
- The boys will learn that the Sacrament of the Eucharist is a thanksgiving for the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.
- They will begin to understand that in the Mass we participate in Jesus' sacrifice to God the Father and learn what happened at the Last Supper.
- They will learn the different parts of the Mass and become familiar with most of the responses.
- The boys will learn that the consecration of the bread and wine is the singular most important moment of veneration in the mass
- The boys will have a chance to reflect on the sacrifice of Jesus and reflect on the sacrifices they can make during Lent.

At home:

You could help your son by:

- bringing their attention to the Eucharistic prayer during Mass in your parish
- ask them during the week to explain what they have been learning during their RE lessons

The Holy Father's Prayer Intentions



In each classroom the prayer intentions of Pope Francis for the relevant month are displayed for the boys to use in daily prayer time, in language appropriate to their age. I include them here for your information should you wish to use them at home in your family.

January 2019	February 2019
<p><u>Evangelisation: for Young People</u></p> <p>That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.</p>	<p><u>Universal - for Victims of violence</u></p> <p>For a generous welcome to the victims of human trafficking and violence.</p>

ROSARY CLUB



Rosary Club resumes on Thursday mornings in J1 classroom from next week with the help of the Rosary Club Prefects. Everyone is welcome to come and newcomers are always welcome. We are continuing to make our individual rosaries this half term which are now taking shape nicely and will be a great help as we progress in learning to pray the most holy rosary

Assuring you all of our daily prayers for you and your families, Veni Sancte Spiritus, Veni per Mariam.

Respice Finem!
Ms S O'Shea
RE department
