



# ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

7<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Celebration of the Word- Half Term Four, Week Eight**

This week, we continue our journey through the Lenten season, a time filled with hope, joy and renewal. The resurrection of Christ reminds us that light triumphs over darkness, and that new beginnings are always possible through faith.

Our Gospel reading for this week's **Celebration of the Word is taken from John 8:1-11**. In this powerful passage, Jesus is confronted with a woman caught in adultery. Those around her are ready to condemn her, but Jesus responds with compassion and wisdom: *"Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."* One by one, the accusers leave, and Jesus offers the woman forgiveness instead of judgment. This Gospel reminds us of the importance of forgiveness, the need to avoid hypocrisy, and the power of compassion in transforming our lives.

Our children continue to collect for **St Joseph's Penny**, with the much-anticipated penny race drawing closer. Thank you to all who have supported this effort so far; your kindness truly makes a difference to those most in need. Donations can still be made via ParentPay.

This week, our **Year 10 pupils are hosting a Chocolate Tombola** to raise money for our Easter fundraising appeal. Thank you to everyone who has donated chocolate for this event, the support from our school family is always overwhelming. There's still time to get involved, and any contributions (whether chocolate or monetary via ParentPay) are warmly welcomed.

We are focusing this week on the **Catholic Social Teaching principle of Solidarity**. As Catholics, we are called to stand alongside our brothers and sisters across the world, working together to create a more just and compassionate society. In school, children reflect on what it means to truly support one another, not just in thought or prayer, but through action, kindness, and a shared sense of responsibility for the common good. We are examining the life and work of Mother Teresa to support this.

This week, **St Bernadette** from 10S is our **Saint of the Week**. St Bernadette is best known for her visions of Our Lady in Lourdes, France, where Mary revealed herself as the Immaculate Conception. Despite suffering from ill health and poverty, Bernadette's deep humility and unwavering faith continue to inspire millions. Her life reminds us that God often speaks through the simple and the small, and that great strength can be found in surrender to His will.

Finally- as we come to the end of this half term, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a happy and holy Easter break. May this season of resurrection bring peace, renewal, and joy to your hearts and homes. Thank you for your continued support of Catholic Life here at St James'. We look forward to welcoming our children back after the holidays, refreshed and ready for the final term of the school year.

As always, I welcome any feedback you may have. Please feel free to get in touch with me at [h.purkiss@stjamesheadle.uk](mailto:h.purkiss@stjamesheadle.uk)

Yours faithfully

**Miss H Purkiss**  
Associate Assistant Headteacher