



**ST JAMES'**  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

15th January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

**RE: Celebration of the Word**

As I shared with you last week, here is the second of our weekly updates on our prayer focus for the week.

This week's Celebration of the Word focuses on Peace Sunday that was celebrated yesterday. The theme chosen by Pope Francis is that of Artificial Intelligence and Peace. This may seem like an odd theme, but as staff will share with children this week, it is very relevant to today's society. Whilst we may think that AI has nothing to do with peace, in fact it does. New technologies are developing so quickly that we need to think about their consequences for our freedom, peace and security. Who is gaining power through AI – and who is being disempowered? We also need to think of the risk of Artificial Intelligence, which will only have as much soul and ethical vision as those who programme it, calling the shots on the battlefield, deciding who lives and who dies – and possibly one day even triggering wars automatically. In Philippians 4 we hear these reassuring words "The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." You may therefore wish to share this prayer as a family:

God our creator and sustainer,

We thank you for the gifts of creativity you have given us, for the ability to explore science and understand your creation.

We ask your forgiveness for the times we have used science for evil and not for good, for war and not for peace.

Make us vigilant as we develop technology, that violence and discrimination may not take root, that injustice and inequality will not be fueled, that the poor and vulnerable will not pay the cost.

May all that we create contribute to peace and justice.

**Amen**

Each week, I will also share our end of the day prayer for January and our lunchtime prayer:

End of day prayer:

Angel of God,

My guardian dear,

To whom God's love commits me here,

Ever this day be at my side,

To light and guard, to rule and guide

Amen



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Lunchtime prayer:

Bless us, Oh Lord,  
and these thy gifts which  
we are about to receive from thy bounty,  
through Christ, Our Lord.  
Amen.

We are always happy to receive feedback so please do get in touch if you have any comments or queries, my email address is [c.pickles@stjamescheadle.co.uk](mailto:c.pickles@stjamescheadle.co.uk)

Yours faithfully

Mrs C Pickles  
Senior Deputy Headteacher