



18th March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Celebration of the Word

Tomorrow is the Feast of St Joseph so this week's focus is on how we can look to him, Jesus' earthly protector, as an inspiration.

We actually know very little about St Joseph. Not a single word of his is recorded in the Bible. Yet, as ordinary as he was, and as little as we know about him, St Joseph is important in the story of our salvation. Pope Francis says "St. Joseph was a man who goes unnoticed, a daily discreet and hidden presence who played an incomparable role in the history of salvation". Form Tutors will share 5 things we can learn from St Joseph:

1. **Example**

None of his words are written in Scripture, but we can clearly see by his actions that he was a just, loving and faithful man. We often think that we primarily influence others by what we say, when so often we are watched for our actions.

What do our actions show?

2. **Worker**

He was a simple craftsman who served his neighbours through his handiwork.

We can all learn a great lesson from Saint Joseph, who is also the patron saint of workers, on the value of our daily work and how it should exist to glorify God, support our families, and contribute to society.

3. **Obedient**

Joseph was obedient to God's Will throughout his life.

How often does our pride and willfulness get in the way of our obedience to God?

4. **Selfless**

In the limited knowledge we have about Joseph, we see a man who only thought of serving Mary and Jesus, never himself.

How do we think of others before ourselves?

5. **Leader**

He led as a teacher by teaching Jesus his trade and how to live and work as a man.

How do we lead others in a positive way?

You may wish to discuss these questions with your child at home. The children will also be thinking about the Catholic Social Teaching principle of Common Good, how can we do things in our lives which are of benefit to everyone in our world?

Our end of the day prayer for March and our lunchtime prayer are as follows.

End of day prayer for March:

In March we traditionally remember Saint Joseph, so this month we pray:



ST JAMES'
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil.
Amen.

Lunchtime prayer:

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

You may also wish to explore some of the Lenten family prayer resources produced by CAFOD, they can be found [here](#).

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

Yours faithfully

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