



22nd April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Celebration of the Word

This week's Celebration of the Word focuses on the Gospel of John 10: 11-18 where we hear about Jesus as the Good Shepherd "I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep." This Gospel reading will be shared by the Form Tutors with their Forms this week and they will talk to their Forms about how we may think that God leads us on our journey through life, but in fact he helps in our times of need, he carries us on his shoulders, as the well known image depicts.

As I shared last week, we are still in our Jubilee Year, a time of special prayer and as they hear the Gospel of the Good Shepherd, the Form Tutors will remind the children that they can always rely on God for his unfailing help. They will also think about how they can be a shepherd who leads others, how they can help others who need them and how they can be an example. The children will be asked to think about one thing they can do to be God's 'Good Shepherd' here on earth and you may wish to discuss this with them at home. Sunday was also a special day of prayer for vocations to the Priesthood.

This links to the Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Dignity. If we help others, just as Jesus does, we too can be Good Shepherds here on earth. Why help others? Because we are all created in God's image.

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

End of day prayer for April:

April is the month of the Holy Spirit so let us pray:

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord,
by the light of the Holy Spirit
you have taught the hearts of your faithful.
In the same Spirit
help us to relish what is right
and always rejoice in your consolation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
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.

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

Mrs C Pickles
Senior Deputy Headteacher