



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

13th October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Sharing in the Prayer Life of St James' Catholic High School

Sunday 13th October, was the 28th Sunday in Ordinary time. The Gospel reading was from Luke Chapter 17 verses 11-19.

On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

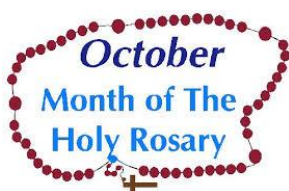
This week, we are focussing on the core value of faith, and the Catholic social teaching of human dignity and participation. In this Gospel above, the lepers said, 'Jesus have mercy on us' because their lives would have been miserable. They were cast out of the community and isolated because their illness was viewed as a punishment and the community needed to contain the disease. Remembering the isolation of COVID may help us to empathise with what they experienced. In last week's gospel, Jesus tells us that even a tiny amount of faith, the size of a mustard seed, can perform great feats, and when he healed the lepers, he said, 'Your faith has made you well.'

Which would have been worse, losing limbs, nerve damage and pain, or the desolation of being cast out of the community and isolated? **This passage reminds us that we all have the power to 'heal' others by including people and showing them compassion and love.**

On Monday 6th October, some children from St James' took the icon that has been travelling on a pilgrimage around all the schools in the Diocese, onwards to Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School in Baguley. They prepared an assembly for Key Stage 2 children and led the singing. They were a credit to the school. If any children would like to join in and play or sing in a music for worship group, they are welcome to come to the Chapel on **Wednesday lunchtime**.

At 'Knit and Natter' group last **Tuesday lunchtime, we made some progress with our knitting. We welcome all who would like to crotchet or knit, whatever their experience.** All are welcome, if you cannot knit or crotchet, we will teach you! We are hoping to make small items such as poppies and bobble hats with chocolates, for Christmas. If any parents or grandparents would like to join us in making these items, please contact me by email at t.mcgeough@stjamesheadle.co.uk

NEW: MONDAY and THURSDAY LUNCHTIMES in OCTOBER: PRAY THE ROSARY



October is a time, when we pay particular devotion to Mary the mother of Jesus. **If there is someone you know who needs your prayers, come and join us in the Chapel at lunchtime on Mondays and Thursdays.** It will be 10 minutes at 1.45pm led by the Chaplain. You will be guided and rosary beads provided.



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On 10th October, it is World, Mental Health day. Children in Key Stage 3 have participated in a 'stilling' exercise in the Chapel. They have been advised to do this often to support their mental health and to feel more relaxed. They are also being encouraged to write a journal at home which could include prayers or whatever they wish to write about.

...and finally, this week, we met with Fr Moses from Wilmslow and a representative from St Ann's, Christchurch and St Chad's. We discussed various ways in which we can support the parishes and we are very grateful that we have been able to increase the number of lunchtime Masses that will be available in school. Also, we explained that we are starting a **Junior St Vincent de Paul society in school (Junior SVP)**. We are being supported by a regional coordinator, but we are not ready to 'go live' yet. More information will follow. If any child is interested in joining, I will be pleased to hear from them.

Chapel Activities at Lunchtime

Monday: Pray the Rosary at 1.45 pm

Tuesday: Knit and Natter

Wednesday: Music for Worship Group

Thursday: Pray the Rosary at 1.45 pm

Friday: Open for Quiet Time

Wishing you and your families a lovely week ahead.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs T McGeough
Chaplain

