

Dear Families,

Jesus tells a story about a tree that did not bear any fruit and all the things that the gardener planned to try to make it grow better. People are like trees, they need certain things to grow. Jesus is like the gardener. He is patient with us, nurtures us and helps us to change for the better.

This week's Gospel – from Luke

At that time some people were there who told Jesus about the Galileans whom Pilate had killed while they were offering sacrifices to God. Jesus answered them, "Because those Galileans were killed in that way, do you think it proves that they were worse sinners than all the other Galileans? No indeed! And I tell you that if you do not turn from your sins, you will all die as they did. What about those eighteen people in Siloam who were killed when the tower fell on them? Do you suppose this proves that they were worse than all the other people living in Jerusalem? No indeed! And I tell you that if you do not turn from your sins, you will all die as they did."

Then Jesus told them this parable: "There was once a man who had a fig tree growing in his vineyard. He went looking for figs on it but found none. So he said to his gardener, 'Look, for three years I have been coming here looking for figs on this fig tree, and I haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it go on using up the soil?' But the gardener answered, 'Leave it alone, sir, just one more year; I will dig round it and put in some manure. Then if the tree bears figs next year, so much the better; if not, then you can have it cut down.'"



Creator God, you gave us a world full of wonderful things. May we share these fairly with each other so all people have the chance to grow and live happy lives. Amen.



Live Simply

Wonderful news! Saint Marie's has just achieved our Live Simply Award today! We are thrilled. This has been lots of work and is a true celebration of everything that happens at Saint Marie's to 'Live Simply' by caring for each other and the world around us. Well done to our children and whole school team, and a huge thank you to Mrs Styles for leading us so well with this project. We would like to celebrate at Mass – more details to follow.

Please look out for a new page that will be coming on our school website soon, that will show case what we do to 'Live Simply'.

The Big Lent Walk

Thank you for sponsoring the children doing the Big Lent Walk. So far, we have raised over **£400** for CAFOD! A fabulous amount for a great cause! The children are loving walking around the big field at lunch time with their friends in the sunshine, supported by our volunteering staff.

Saint Marie's Easter Bingo!

We are asking for donations of Easter Eggs as prizes for the Bingo. Could any donations please be brought to the school office. Many thanks for your generosity! We are looking forward to seeing Mr Steve in role as our bingo caller!



Attendance Matters at Saint Marie's

Class	Attendance %
Reception	95.8
Year 1	94.7
Year 2	96.8
Year 3	95.2
Year 4	94.3
Year 5	95.6
Year 6	94.3

Our school target is 96.5%. Please be mindful of not booking holidays in term time. Every day off school has a negative impact.

Other news this week at Saint Marie's

Pre- School – Pre-school have been practicing their skipping skills.



Reception – The reception children were visited this week by Dr Jones to find out how he helps people stay healthy.



Year 1 - Father Joseph came to answer our questions about his role as Parish Priest.



Year 2 – This week Year 2 painted Easter pictures ready to show Father Joseph so they could talk to him about Easter.



Year 3 - Year 3 have been talking about recycling as part of our topic Keen to be Green.



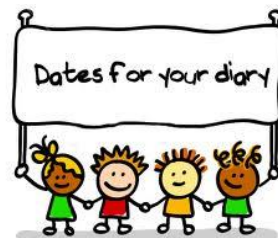
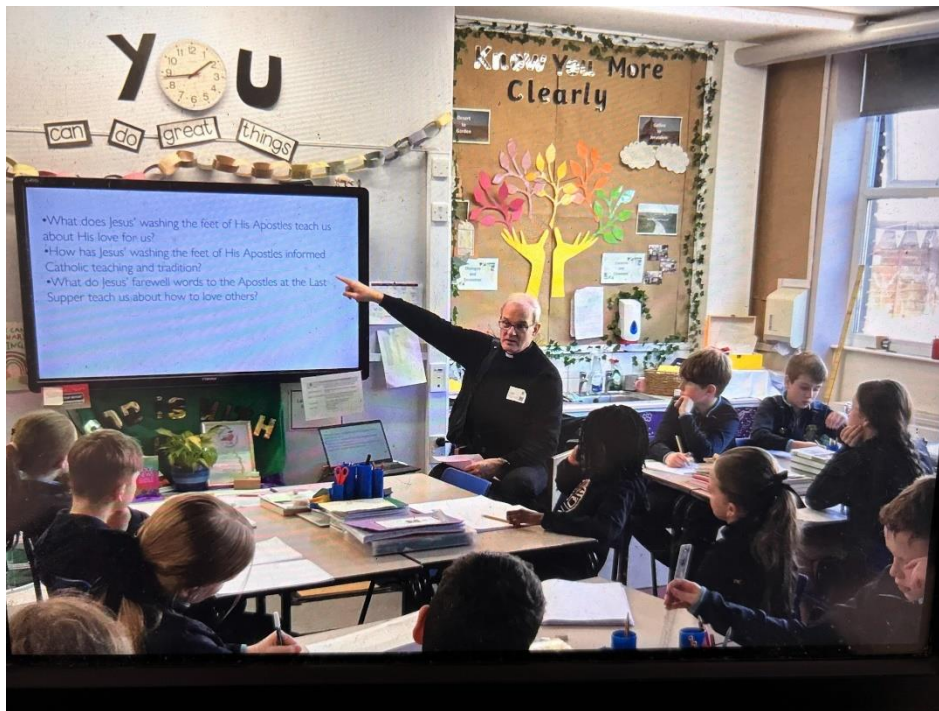
Year 4 – have been building electrical circuits that include a switch.



Year 5 - In French, Year 5 were learning how to ask simple 'why' questions and answer with a 'because' statement.



Year 6 – Father Joseph came to talk about Holy Thursday traditions. It was lovely to have Father Joseph in school this week in all our classes. Thank you Father.



Dates for your diary - any highlighted dates show new information that has been added since last week's newsletter.

Monday 24 th March	Year 4 go on their residential visit to the Anderton Centre
Tuesday 25 th March	Reception educational visit to Liverpool- 'Imagine That' role play experience
Friday 28 th March	Special Mothers' Day Assemblies for families presented by – Year 1/Year 2 at 2.30pm Pre School/Reception at 9.30am

	in the school hall
Friday 28 th March	Year 5 go to Mass at church. Families welcome. 9.30am start
Tuesday 1 st April	PTFA Easter Bingo for families 6pm School hall
Tuesday 1 st April	Year 5 Lenten Collective Worship for families 9am in school
Wednesday 2 nd April	Easter Reflection by Year 3 and 4 in the school hall 9.10am Families welcome to watch
Thursday 3 rd April	Year 6 Lenten Collective Worship for families 9am in the school hall
Friday 4 th April	Year 6 go to Mass at church. Families welcome. 9.30am start
Friday 4 th April	Hot Dog Friday run by PTFA Break up for Easter 3.15pm

Mass during Lent

Throughout Lent, each of our Key Stage 2 classes will go to Mass at St. Marie's Church. If any parents would like to walk with us from school, please notify your child's class teacher. Families are also welcome to meet us at church. Mass begins at 9.30am on these Fridays.

Special Sunday Mass



Please save the date – **Sunday 22nd June.**

Mass at St. Marie's Church on this date will be a family Mass involving our school community. All children and families and staff are warmly invited. The children will be involved in the Mass. The Year 4 children who will have made their First Holy Communion earlier in the month are invited to wear their special clothes again. More details to follow. Please save the date – 11am start. All year groups are invited.



This week's Golden Book children:

- Pre-School – **Daisy** for always being ready to learn
- Reception – **Florence** for making good choices and being a good friend to all.
- Year 1 – **Olivia** for being brave.
- Year 2 – **Elsie** for great effort and concentration during assessment week.
Ernie for great effort and concentration during assessment week.
- Year 3 – **Yarin** for trying hard when working in a group.
- Year 4 – **Gabriel** for trying hard to improve in all areas of learning and great verbal answers.
- Year 5 – **Jewel** for super effort in her tests this week.
- Year 6 – **Mia** for focus and concentration during English.
Rita for always stretching her vocabulary.



Well done children!

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

With very best wishes

Mrs Jackson