

A message from Fr. Etienne

For a number of centuries the Church has assigned entire months to special devotions. As a reminder of our duty to pray for the souls of the faithful departed, the Church has dedicated the month of November to the Holy Souls. The Holy Souls are those who have died but who are not yet free from all punishment due to their unforgiven venial sins and all other sins already forgiven for which satisfaction is still to be made. They are certain of entering Heaven, but first they must be purified and made perfect in order to enter our true homeland of heaven. It is our great privilege of brotherhood that we can shorten their time of separation from God by our prayers, good works, and, especially, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. In order to help us in our prayers for our relations and friends who may have died the following prayers may be of help.



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

By Thy resurrection from the dead, O Christ, death no longer hath dominion over those who die in holiness. So, we beseech Thee, give rest to Thy servants in Thy sanctuary and in Abraham's bosom. Grant it to those, who from Adam until now have adored Thee with purity, to our fathers and brothers, to our kinsmen and friends, to all men who have lived by faith and passed on their road to Thee, by a thousand ways, and in all conditions, and make them worthy of the heavenly kingdom.

DE PROFUNDIS –Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord; Lord, hear my, voice! Let Your ears be attentive to my voice in supplication: If You, O Lord, mark iniquities, Lord, who can stand? But with You is forgiveness, that You may be revered. I trust in the Lord; my soul trusts in His word. My soul waits for the Lord more than sentinels wait for the dawn. More than sentinels wait for the dawn, let Israel wait for the Lord, For with the Lord is kindness and with Him is plenteous redemption; And He will redeem Israel from all their iniquities.

God Bless,

Fr. Etienne

November – Remembrance

Insert photo from Megan's assembly

We dedicate the month of November to remembrance as a special time to pray for those who have died and gone before us. In particular, on Remembrance Day we mourned for all those who have died in wars around the world. Class 4W performed a wonderful class assembly which allowed us to stop and reflect on the sacrifices these people made for others. In order to continue the message of remembrance, we are delighted to now have a Prayer Intentions Tree in our new



school entrance. The children have been given a piece of praying hands on card so they can choose a family member or friend who has died and we will pray for them at school. If you wish to add your own intentions, please ask for a card at the school office and we will add it to our tree.

One Million Children Praying the Rosary – a Success!

Insert photo of the children praying the rosary from media drive

Last month, we celebrated one million children praying the rosary - this was a huge success and the children gained so much from the experience. Everyone fully participated in the prayerful atmosphere and it was remarkable to see how easily children engaged with the meditation of prayer as we prayed for peace across the world. We now have on sale rosary beads for £1 each, available from school during break times - please see Mrs Acton.

Sacramental Programmes Update

This year we have had an overwhelming response to the number of children wishing to participate in sacramental programmes. A HUGE thank you to all those of you in Years 3, 4 and 5 who have signed your children up to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist. We are really looking forward to enrolling you at the welcome mass this coming Sunday 26th November. Please arrive at the Day Chapel at 10:30am to receive your attendance card and meet with Fr Etienne. You will be able to walk through the adjoining door into church for 11am mass. We hope to see you all there! The sessions for Reconciliation have been sent on a separate newsletter - we will update you of these after the mass. Later in the school year, we have a welcoming mass for Y6 Confirmation children on Sunday 28th January - details to follow.



Class Masses and Gospel Readings



These are now well under way and the children have been excellent in responding to the mass and understanding the gospel of the day. Years 3 and 4 have both delivered a class mass and Year 5 are busy preparing for theirs. Year 2 have also invited Fr. Etienne in their classrooms for Prayer and Liturgy sessions in which they shared the Gospel of the Day. In the New Year, we have also planned for class masses to take place during the family mass on Sundays at 11am. Details to follow!

Travelling Crib

During the season of Advent, each family will have the opportunity to bring home a travelling crib so that you can share the Christmas story with your children at home. There will be a letter to follow with further details.



Dates for your Diary!

- **Sunday 26th November 11am (*enrollers at 10:30am*)** – Welcome Mass for Years 3, 4 & 5 children enrolling on the sacramental programme of Reconciliation followed by the annual Church Christmas Fair
- **Friday 1st December 4pm** in church - Year 3 and 4 Advent Service; tickets available from school office priced £
- **Friday 8th December at 11am** - Parish Mass for Year 6 and their families
- **Thursday 14th December at 2pm and 4pm** in church; Years 1 and 2 nativity - tickets available soon
- **Monday 18th December** - Years 5 & 6 Christmas Carol Service
- **Sunday January 7th 11am** – Year 6 lead the family mass