



# Cheadle Catholic Junior School

## Religion Newsletter Spring 2

*The Lord calls us to 'come back to me, with all your heart'.*

Dear Parents,

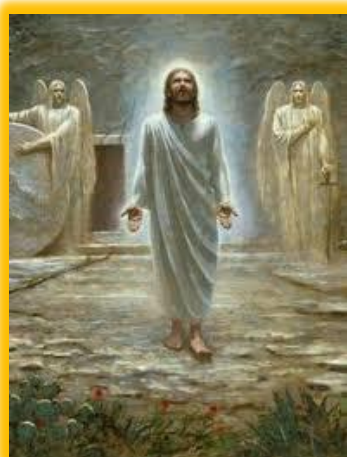
The word Lent comes from an old English word that means 'lengthen' and refers to the turning of Winter into Spring when the days lengthen and the cycle of life, by the grace of God, is being renewed once more. There are so many things around us during this season to be thankful for. There is more sunlight, birdsong is more noticeable, daffodils are beginning to grow and trees are beginning to show signs of coming to life. These signs of new life are echoed in the season of Lent through which the Church bids us to reawaken our spiritual sensibilities and refocus on tending to the Lord who calls us 'come back to me, with all your heart'.

Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday, brings to the forefront of our consciousness the importance of humility in everything and thankfulness for everything, including life itself which is a pure gift. The journey of Lent is a journey towards the new way of living that Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, promised to us through the power of our most celebrated season - Easter and the Resurrection of Jesus.



We tend to think that Christmas is the most important time in the Church's year, but the Resurrection of Jesus is by far the most important for Christians. When we as Christians say that our hope is in the risen Jesus, we mean it is our greatest hope. When Jesus rose on the first Easter morning, it was a brand new kind of life. He promises this same life to all who hope in him. No wonder that Easter is the greatest feast!

*"That you may not grieve as others do who have no hope." (1 Thessalonians 4: 13)*



In this issue of the newsletter, you will find what the children are learning about in each year group. We hope you find this newsletter of interest and as always, please keep us in your prayers as we continue to support your children in their religious education.

Dates from the Church's Calendar:

14 <sup>th</sup> February-Ash Wednesday	19 <sup>th</sup> March-St Joseph
18 <sup>th</sup> February-1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent	24 <sup>th</sup> March-Palm Sunday
25 <sup>th</sup> February-2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent	25 <sup>th</sup> March-The Annunciation
3 <sup>rd</sup> March-3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent	29 <sup>th</sup> March-Good Friday
10 <sup>th</sup> March-Mothering Sunday & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	31 <sup>st</sup> March-Easter Sunday
17 <sup>th</sup> March-5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent and Feast of St Patrick	23 <sup>rd</sup> April-St George

## Year 3 –Celebrating the Mass

*“In the Eucharist we participate in the Lord’s sacrifice. We are joined to the eternal praise and thanksgiving he offers as Son of the Father, and to his sacrifice on the cross. We receive him as our life and food, a promise of the eternal banquet of heaven. At the heart of the Eucharistic celebration are the bread and wine that become in reality Christ’s Body and Blood. Catholic faith adores this enduring presence of Christ not only within the celebration of the Mass but also outside it.”* Religious Education Curriculum Directory



Year 3 will know why Sunday is special for Christians and will know that we come to Mass to hear the teaching of Jesus and pray to him. They will learn that in the Mass we offer thanks to God the Father for the gift of his Son and learn that during Mass the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus.

They will learn that when we receive Holy Communion we receive Jesus and learn that Jesus is present in the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle. They will also learn some of the responses in the Mass and understand that Jesus died on the cross, and rose from the dead.

We have also started the workbook 'Called to His Supper'. The children have been busy learning the responses said in Mass and have been working hard practising hymns for their First Holy Communion Masses.

The year 3 children will have the opportunity to reflect on their sins through a simple liturgy on the theme of Reconciliation.

At home you could help your children by:

- talking to them about all the things we have to be thankful for
- talking to them about how Sunday is a special day for Christians
- go online to [www.tere.org/interactive\\_site/KS2link.htm](http://www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS2link.htm) and complete the interactive activities

## Year 4 – Jesus the Saviour

*Jesus “is truly God and, as a man, truly human. His life, death and resurrection are the central event of all human history and at the heart of faith. His cross is the sign of his unique offering of himself for each and every human being.” Religious Education Curriculum Directory*

Year 4 will learn that Jesus is truly God and, as man truly human and learn that Jesus came to share our life so that we can share his life. They will learn that when Jesus died on the cross he took away our sins, learn what happened in Holy week and learn what happened on Easter Sunday.



At home you could help your children by:

- reading the stories of Jesus' last week with them
- visiting church during Holy Week
- go online to [www.tere.org/interactive\\_site/KS2link.htm](http://www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS2link.htm) and complete the interactive activities.

## Year 5 – Reconciliation

*“There is no limit to God’s grace, nor to God’s mercy and forgiveness when we fail. Reconciliation is a sacrament of healing. Reconciliation makes present Jesus’ call to conversion, involves contrition for our sins, confession of them to a priest, and absolution spoken by the priest in the name of Jesus Christ. In the celebration of the sacrament we acknowledge (confess) God’s holiness and mercy and are reconciled to God and the community of the Church.”* Religious Education Curriculum Directory

Year 5 will learn that sin is a failure of love and learn that when we sin we hurt ourselves and others and damage our relationship with God. They will begin to understand that God loves and forgives us if we are truly sorry and learn that God heals our friendship with him and others through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. They learn how we can prepare ourselves to receive this Sacrament and learn what happens during the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



They will learn the story of a person who had a special love for those rejected by society and about someone who was an inspiration for young people. They will identify people today who are an inspiration in their service of others.

At home you could help your children by:

- talking to them about what strengthens their friendships
- Reading about the final week in the life of Jesus with them
- go online to [www.tere.org/interactive\\_site/KS2link.htm](http://www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS2link.htm) and complete the interactive activities

**Date for your Diary:** The year 5 children are busy planning their class Penitential services later on this term.

## Year 6 – Jesus, the Son of God

*God's Self-Revelation and the covenant relationship reach their fullness in Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God. He is truly God and, as a man, truly human. His life, death and resurrection are the central event of all human history and at the heart of faith. His cross is the sign of his unique offering of himself for each and every human being. As truly God, Jesus reveals the truth and love of God; as truly human, Jesus reveals the perfect response to God and intimate communion with his Father – 'Abba'." Religious Education Curriculum Directory*



Year 6 will learn that Jesus healed many people, brought others back to life and that His miracles led many to believe that he was the Son of God. They will learn that Jesus' enemies plotted to have him arrested, and learn about the arrest and the trial before the high priest. They will learn about Jesus' trial before Pilate and learn that Jesus was condemned to death and crucified.

They will also learn what Jesus said before he died and about His glorious resurrection. The children will have the chance to reflect on the miracles of Jesus. They will have the opportunity to make the Stations of the Cross and participate in a dramatisation of the passion, death & resurrection of Jesus. They will also reflect on the meaning of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus for us today.

Year 6 are also busy planning and preparing their class Penitential services to be held later on this term.

At home you could help your children by:

- discuss what they have found out in class and how it will affect their life journey.
- look at the Stations of the Cross and talk about their relevance for us today.

If you would like any further information, or have any queries regarding the religious education of your child, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Thank you for your continued support in your child's religious education. As a school community we value the on-going partnership between home, school and Parish.