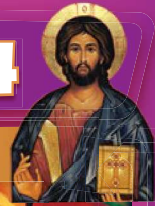


THE Wednesday WORD LENT & EASTER 2024



A GIFT TO YOU FROM YOUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Wednesday 20th March

Wednesday 27th March

Wednesday 3rd April

Wednesday 10th April

Sunday's Gospel connecting Home, School and Parish

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1 Enjoy reading the Gospel

Before sunrise on Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene went to Jesus' tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the entrance and that the tomb was empty. Mary ran to Peter and another disciple (John) and said, "Someone has taken the Lord out of the tomb and we don't know where they have put him." The disciples ran together to the tomb. But John, running faster than Peter, arrived first and looked into the tomb but did not go in. Peter, however, went into the tomb and he saw Jesus' linen burial cloths lying on the ground. He also saw the cloth that had been over Jesus' head; this was rolled up in a place by itself. Then John also went into the tomb; he saw and he believed. Until this moment they had failed to understand that Jesus must rise from the dead.

Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 31st March 2024, John 20:1-9 (Easter Sunday)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **EASTER**.

2 "Let us prepare to celebrate Easter in the joy of God! Christ is risen! Christ is alive!" Pope Francis

Why wasn't Jesus in the tomb? As a family, look at the pictures on the front cover of this booklet. What do they remind you of or make you think about? This week is Holy Week and this coming Sunday is Easter Sunday. This is the day when the Church throughout the world especially remembers and celebrates the resurrection of Jesus - his rising in glory. Ask your child what they have been learning at school about Easter Sunday. It may help your child if you tell them something else that you know, or have experienced, about Easter.

3 Easter Sunday is the greatest day in the Church's calendar. This day reminds us that Jesus, the Son of God, offers each one of us a share in his everlasting life and eternal happiness. All are warmly invited to come and join with the Church community this Sunday and celebrate the hope that Jesus' resurrection brings to our lives. As a family, share ideas about what you might also do to celebrate Easter Sunday and make it special. For ideas and lots more about Easter, please see: cbcew.org.uk. Who can you help to have a happy Easter?

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for this Sunday's wonderful celebration of your resurrection. Please bless my family with new life throughout the great Season of **Easter**. Amen.



Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...



1 Enjoy reading the Gospel

The disciples were gathered in a room. They had locked the doors because they were afraid of the people who had crucified Jesus. Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" He showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. Thomas, one of the disciples, was not there when Jesus came and he refused to believe what had happened. One week later they were in the room again and, this time, Thomas was also there. Jesus came and stood among them again and said to Thomas, "Here, touch the marks on my hands and feel the wound in my side. Doubt no longer, but believe." Thomas replied, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who have not seen me and yet believe!"

Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 7th April 2024, John 20:19-31 (the 2nd Sunday of Easter, Year B)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **ENCOURAGE**.

2 "Jesus is always ready to encourage and support us." Pope Francis

After Jesus had died, the disciples were afraid that the people who had crucified him would now be looking for them too. Jesus' resurrection and miraculous appearance would have encouraged the disciples. When we listen to Jesus, we are filled with words of encouragement. Ask your child what the word 'encourage' means to them. Who encourages them and keeps them going when they find things difficult? How does it feel to be encouraged? Has your child ever encouraged anyone? What did they do?

3 There are times when we all need encouraging: that is, to be inspired with courage and to have our hope renewed, especially when we are afraid or going through difficult times. Do you know anyone who may need your encouragement? Each of you choose a way to encourage someone during this Easter season. Perhaps you can offer words of support; let someone know when they are doing something well; tell someone about the good news of Jesus' resurrection; give someone a helping hand if they are struggling. What else could you do?

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for coming to strengthen and encourage us. Help us to be more like you - to be an encouragement to those around us. Amen.



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This week I will try my best to...



Wednesday
10th April 2024

Good News for Families

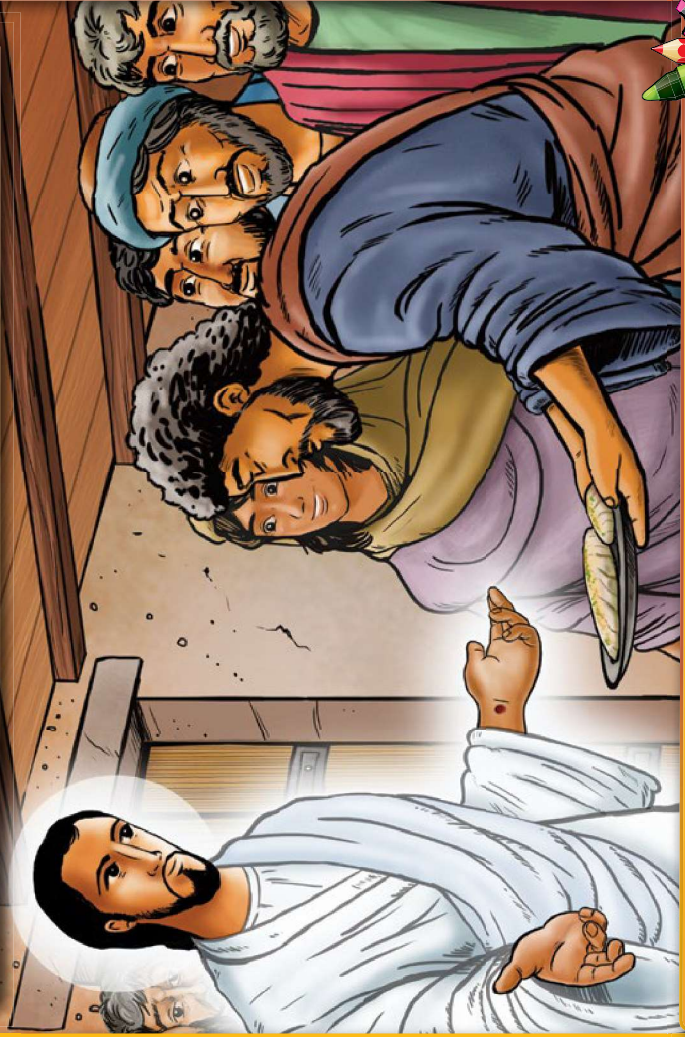
1 Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road to Emmaus and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread. They were still talking about this when Jesus himself suddenly appeared among them and said, "Peace be with you!" They were terrified: they thought they were seeing a ghost. "Why are you so frightened?" asked Jesus. "Why do you doubt? Look at my hands and feet; it is really me, in person. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see that I have." Then he showed them his hands and his feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it. They stood there amazed, so he said to them, "Have you anything to eat?" Then they gave him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.



Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 14th April 2024, Luke 24:35-48 (the 3rd Sunday of Easter, Year B)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Now enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **BELIEVE**.



To colour the picture for this Sunday's Gospel, please see the back page.

2

Wednesday's Word

BELIEVE

"Seek not to understand that you may believe, but believe that you may understand." St. Augustine

What were the disciples struggling to believe? After seeing the risen Jesus, the disciples believed that he was alive - he still is! Believing in the resurrection adds something very special to our lives and this cannot be found anywhere else. Jesus invited the disciples to believe and he makes the same invitation to you and me. Ask your child what the word 'believe' means to them, and what it means to 'believe' in Jesus. Each of you say one way that believing in Jesus improves life at home, at school or in the community.

"We can't have full knowledge all at once. We must start by believing."

St Thomas Aquinas - Patron Saint of Pupils & Catholic Schools

Jesus' resurrection - his rising in glory and victory over death - is the greatest event in history! Even though, like the disciples, you may sometimes have doubts, be assured that, when you do doubt, Jesus is still truly close to you and ready to help you to believe. As we journey through Easter, which of the following ways could best help you, as a family, to grow in your belief in Jesus? Perhaps it could be: reading about what Jesus did and said (e.g. in the Bible); being with others who believe; sitting quietly in prayer, asking God to help you grow in belief; living out Jesus' teachings and seeing the difference it makes to your lives.



Dear Lord Jesus, please help our **belief** in you to grow through recognising your presence in the loving words and actions of those around us. Amen.

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH



SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

JESUS APPEARED

ATE FISH

DISCIPLES AMAZED

GREAT JOY

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

H J O T A E R G P M J L
Y O J J P P A L E T A F
Z E S J E A P P A L E T A F
E S S J E A P P A L E T A F
T Z U S L R E L S E L P D D U S
N G L S E L P D D U S
Z R O P J O H N J A N M P S
A E T E F I S C I P L E S
P A T M O N T O Y D F P L D

Cross out the letters **u k x** in the jumbled words to find 4 real words.

kamaxedu bexlikeuve kuthexy juxoky
Their _____ was so great that _____ could not _____ it. They stood there _____.

This week we celebrate the Feast of St Martin I, who grew up believing in Jesus, became a priest, and went on to become the Pope. Find out more in the children's section at: wednesdayword.org (see the 'SAINTS FACTFILES' tab).

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley
This week I will try my best to...
.....
.....



THE Wednesday WORD GOSPEL GALLERY



Sunday 24th March



Sunday 31st March



Sunday 7th April



Sunday 14th April

wednesdayword.org

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