



# St Edmunds Catholic Primary School

## RE Newsletter Spring 1

*Be the light to those around you!*

Dear Parents,

4<sup>th</sup> Jan – 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023

We began this term full of the joy of the Christmas season which ended for us at the celebration of the Baptism of Jesus on 8<sup>th</sup> January. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> February we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) when Jesus is recognised as 'The Light of the World'. We must also remember that each one of us is called to be a 'light', an inspiration to those around us.

In this issue of the newsletter you will find what your child is 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.

Following a second successful visit from Ignite, the Youth Mission Team, it became apparent that lots of our children, for many reasons, spend less time in our church. Consequently, each KS2 class will be joining the parish for Mass every Wednesday at 10.00am followed by Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament.

25<sup>th</sup> January – 5N

1<sup>st</sup> February – 5D

8<sup>th</sup> February – 4MW

March 1<sup>st</sup> – 4C

8<sup>th</sup> March – 3F

15<sup>th</sup> March - 3P



We would like to invite you to join your child's class for Mass – everyone is welcome.

Mrs Nutt

RE Subject Leader

Dates from the Church's calendar:

6 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> January	St. Thomas Aquinas
8 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>The Baptism of the Lord</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> January	St. John Bosco
12 <sup>th</sup> January	St. Aelred of Rievaulx	2 <sup>nd</sup> February	<b>Presentation of the Lord</b>
17 <sup>th</sup> January	St. Anthony (desert Father)	3 <sup>rd</sup> February	St. Blaise
24 <sup>th</sup> January	St. Francis de Sales	8 <sup>th</sup> February	St. Josephine Bakhita
25 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Conversion of St. Paul</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> February	Our Lady of Lourdes
26 <sup>th</sup> January	Ss. Timothy and Titus		

During the winter of Ordinary Time, i.e. up to Lent, we are asked to pray for these intentions:  
**Peace on Earth; Christian Unity; The Sick and Those Who Care for Them; Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it; The Unemployed.**

## Early Years - Getting to know Jesus

This half term, children in Early Years will be getting to know Jesus. Throughout the unit, the children will be given opportunities to become aware that Jesus has a great love for each one of us and will think of ways in which we can show our love for Jesus. They will hear that Jesus cured people who were sick and think of ways we can show our love for sick people.

### At home

You could help your children by:

- saying or sharing prayers together
- talk about people who help us e.g. nurses, doctors
- talk about how we can help others
- giving them jobs which help at home



## Year 1 – Families and Celebrations

***“The Christian family ... can and should be called a domestic church. It is a community of faith, hope and charity”***

*Catechism of the Catholic Church*

The children will learn about what it means to be a member of a family and to be a member of the school community. They will learn what it means to belong to the Church family.



They will hear how Jesus' family took him to the Temple and think about why this was a special occasion. They will learn about some of the celebrations in the Church and why we celebrate these occasions.

### At home

You could help your children by:

- discussing the importance of celebrations in our lives
- talking to your child about their baptism

## Year 2 – The Good News

***“Jesus is sent to preach good news to the poor. Jesus identifies himself with the poor of every kind and makes active love toward them the condition for entering his kingdom.”***

*Catechism of the Catholic Church*

The children will learn that Jesus brought the good news of God's love and that this changed people's lives. They will learn that Jesus used his power to help others and reflect on the importance of these events.

They will reflect on how they can bring good news to their family and friends.

### At home

You could help your children by:

- highlighting opportunities when they can give thanks to God
- read stories about Jesus helping people, e.g. The feeding of the 5000

## Year 3—Being a Christian

***“The greatest commandment of all: “Listen Israel, the Lord your God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: you must love your neighbour as yourself.”***

Mark 12: 29-30

**“The truth of our union with Jesus Christ in the Eucharist is tested by whether or not we really love our fellow men and women.”**

Pope John Paul II, 1979

Year 3 will develop their understanding of what being a Christian involves. They will reflect on the joy and challenges involved in following Jesus and learn about these through the lives of Ss. Peter and Paul. The children will reflect on their gifts and talents and the gifts the Church calls Sacraments, especially the Eucharist. They will reflect on how to use the gifts God has given to us to be a Christian

#### At Home

You could help your child by:

- encouraging them to recognise their gifts and talents
- talk about how they can use their gifts and talents to help others



#### Year 4 – Jesus the Teacher

The children will learn that Jesus was born into a Jewish family. They will learn that Jesus attended synagogue as a child and as an adult read the Torah. They will learn that Jesus travelled about teaching people.

The children will learn that Jesus came to show us the way to live, understand why Jesus used parables to teach people and know and understand some of the parables Jesus told. The children will have a chance to appreciate the relevance of the parables for us today.

#### At home:

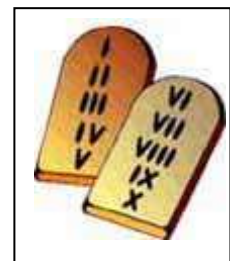
You could help your children by:

- read some well known parables, e.g. ‘The Sower’ and talk about what they mean for us

#### Year 5 – The Commandments/God’s Covenants

At home: You could help your children by:

talking to them about how we try to live by the Ten Commandments.



The children will learn that God loves us and calls us into friendship with him.

The children will understand that the Ten Commandments are a gift from God to help us.

They will learn how Jesus summarised the Ten Commandments (Matthew 22: 36-40) and begin to understand how we can show our love for God by keeping his commandments with his help.

The children will also learn that God sent his Son Jesus into the world because he loves us, and that we celebrate this gift at Christmas.

At home: You could help your children by:

talking to them about how we try to live by the Ten Commandments.

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## **Year 6 – Jesus, the bread of life**

***“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*

The children will learn that the Sacrament of the Eucharist is a thanksgiving for the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

They will learn the different parts of the Mass and become familiar with most of the responses. The children will learn that the bread and wine are consecrated during Mass and become the body and blood of Jesus. The children will have a chance to reflect on the sacrifice of Jesus and reflect on the sacrifices they can make during Lent.

### **At home:**

You could help your children by:

- challenging them during the week to describe what they have been learning during their RE lessons asking them to explain it to you.