

Share the Spirit



Painsley MAC (north) Primary Schools

THE
GOD
WHO
SPEAKS

End of term reflection

Dear Parents,

This term has seen unprecedented change. Change at any time can be unsettling for children and adults, especially when what lies ahead may seem uncertain. It also gives us an opportunity to appreciate so much which we have taken for granted. As Lent draws to a close and we journey on to Holy Week and Easter we are reminded of the one true constant in our lives - that God always has, does, and will love us.

We hope this newsletter will be the first of many. In it you will find information about how to support your child and family on their faith journey over the coming weeks. It will sign-post you to online resources as well as containing useful ideas for Eastertide.

Please let your school know if we can help or aid you in any way. We may not be able to gather together, but we thank God that as a community we can still support one another through this time, and be united in prayer for one another.

With prayers for your family
and wishing you a blessed Holy Week and a Happy Eastertide,

Mrs A. Howard.x.
Lay Chaplain



Great online resources

Ten Ten - Sunday Liturgy
for families

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/primary-subscription/prayers-for-home/sunday-liturgy-for-families/>

CAFOD - Children's Liturgy

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>

Birmingham Archdiocese -
Live links

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/parishes-online>

Mini Vinnies - whether you
are a Mini Vinnie or not,
there's lots to do here!

<https://www.svp.org.uk/mini-vinnies>

School websites

Each school's website has liturgies
for you to share as a family
during this Holy Week



Holy Week @ home

WHAT IS IT? WHY DOES IT MATTER? WHAT CAN I DO?

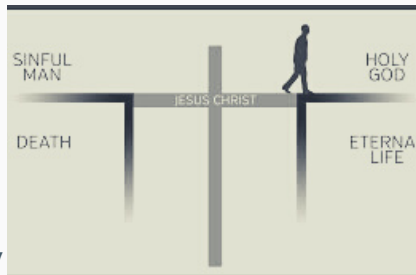
Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday - this year on Sunday 5th April. Palm Sunday starts as Jesus entered into Jerusalem, riding on a donkey, and was welcomed as a king. Just days later, the same crowd would demanded Jesus' death on the Cross. As we journey through Holy Week we walk with Jesus, as He celebrated His last meal with His friends and gave us the gift of Himself through the Eucharist, and to the Cross. Jesus' death was awful, and it can be hard to understand...

Why did this happen?

Because we were separated from God by sin and death. Jesus took upon Himself the sins of every person who ever has, is, and will live. He overcame death by rising to new life and opening the gates of Heaven to all of us.

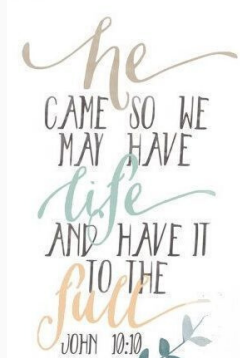
Why would God allow this?

God loves each of us as His beloved child. Imagine asking one child to die to save another, when you love them both completely... It would be impossible. So God knew the only way to enable us to be with Him for eternity in Heaven was to undertake it Himself. Jesus is truly God, and truly human.



What does it all mean?

Particularly appropriate at this time, the Easter story is a story of hope. In a turbulent world where death, illness, suffering and pain can seem overwhelming. God has been through the very worst of human pain and suffering, and He is with us in ours if we allow ourselves to find Him within it. Walking to the Cross with Jesus reminds us that God has the ability to take our very worst and to make it His very best - a story of hope and love.



Please don't forget to send a picture or two of how you journey as a family through Holy Week to your school office.



Palm Sunday

Fold a 'palm' cross for each person in your family -use a strip of paper if you don't have a long thin leaf.

Put some branches on your front door to mark this special day

Use one of the online resources to share a family liturgy together, or from your school website.

Maundy Thursday

Share the family liturgy from your school website.

Don't forget to clap for our carers tonight at 8pm! Thank and pray for all those who serve and care for others especially in the face of Coronavirus.

Good Friday

Have some quiet time today.

Share the story of the Stations of the Cross - perhaps as you go on a family walk. Find it on your school website.

Share the family liturgy from your school website.

Create some artwork reflecting on one of the Stations of the Cross.

Holy Saturday

Share the family liturgy from your school website.

Talk about waiting and hope...

Easter Sunday

Use an online resource to celebrate a family liturgy.

Enjoy your Easter celebrations and remember to share the love and hope with others.

Look out for activity ideas coming on your school website.