

St. Edward's Primary - Called To Serve



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At St. Edward's, we recognise our duty to continue the mission of Christ through our shared baptism. Our children continually serve each other, their families, our parish and community in word, prayer and deed. As we acknowledge that every human is made in the image and likeness and God, they must be treated as such with dignity and respect from their divine origin until their eternal destiny: the whole child serves the whole person in the whole community.

So far this term, the children have served our community in a range of events, from social to fundraising to charitable donations to worship.

We have hosted a number of events already that outreach beyond our gates to our community: in November, the remembrance sing-a-long saw older members of our parish and local communities invited to join us to commemorate the centenary of WWI, with sentiments deeply rooted in our Catholic faith.

The children attend our weekly parish Mass twice per week and Family Masses continue to take place each half term during the Sunday parish Mass. The children write an introduction and bidding prayers, read at Mass, participate in the offertory and support with the musical liturgy each time. Parishioners Sue Ruddy and Lis Keeley continue to support with the planning and preparation of each Mass. Furthermore, with the announcement of the first World Day of the Poor on 18th November, staff were led in a staff meeting about this occasion and provided with information and resources to then implement in the classroom, with a particular emphasis on prayer. This was marked in school on 16th November in lieu of the Sunday and children wore their own 'dotty' clothes to raise money for Children in Need (which happened to coincide with this day) and a local charity. It was decided that the money should go to the John Paul Centre, a local apostolate that assist those with a range of social and economic problems. A Family Mass was arranged on the World Day of the Poor to bring the school and parish communities together to pray and act together.

The children have continually put their faith into action by helping the less fortunate, recognising Jesus as our motivation. This has been shown by their incredibly generous donations to the Food Bank and the John Paul centre (an initiative spearheaded by the parish); the aforementioned fundraising on World Day of the Poor and the CAUSE Christmas Hamper campaign. These are just some of the school-based initiatives that have taken place this academic year alone. The children regularly fundraise for charities close to their hearts, from cake stalls to hair donations to the Little Princess Trust, to creating and selling items at home to bring in additional donations to school-led fundraising. This is a trend that will continue for the rest of the academic year, not least with our regular Lenten Mission Together drive for which we raised over £600 last year.

A letter was sent out to parents/guardians, inviting them to an Advent reflection each Monday in the school hall during this season, with the first taking place on 3rd December. Furthermore, in December, the first 'stay and pray' session for parents will take place on the 5th, in which the children's families have been invited to help to plan and prepare the liturgy before we pray together. The travelling cribs have been distributed amongst the classes for the children to share the Christmas messages with their families. As in previous years, the Year 5 and 6 children will lead the school and parish communities in an Advent liturgy at our local parish church. This will take place on December 18th at 6pm and provides an invaluable opportunity to come together and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. Parents are encouraged to come into school for many reasons, including workshops, social events, fundraising and for worship.

We have often taken our children on events to nurture their faith and to learn more about our history and this December, we are taking a group of children to the cathedral to participate in the visitation of the Statue of Our Lady of Walsingham as part of the spiritual preparation of England as the Dowry of Mary.

The children take active roles in promoting the faith life of the school through our Mini Vinnies and pupil chaplaincy team. We meet fortnightly and the children are vital in spearheading initiatives and inspiring their peers to put their faith into action. Our school chaplaincy meets termly and comprises of a range of stakeholders: from staff members, to parishioners, to children, to the parish priest.

Target	Action	Who is being served?	Time Frame
To launch the Called to Serve	- Share our mission within a	- Children and staff	Tuesday 18 th December 2018
mission	liturgy in school		
	- Launch the mission at the next	- Families and parish	Sunday 20 th January 2019
	Family Mass (Peace Sunday)		
To make explicit our duty as	- Hold a 'Live, Love and Serve'	- Children and staff	Week commencing 14 th January
Catholics, based on the C2S	theme week to instill and spread		2019
mission and our own mission	the message of our mission		
statement	statement		
	- Parish/Family Quiz Night within	- Families and parish	Thursday 17 th January 2019
	the week		
	- Culminate the week with a	- Families and parish	Sunday 20 th January 2019
	Family Mass		
	- Recognise our common vision		Throughout the year
	and values by celebrating events	- Children, staff and families	
	and feasts in the Church's		
	calendar e.g. World Youth Day,		
	World Day of the Poor, Peace		
	Sunday etc.		
To raise awareness of the plight	- Explicit lessons focusing on		
of our brothers and sisters at	social and moral issues affecting	- Children, families and	
home and throughout the world	people worldwide	vulnerable members of our	Throughout the year
	- Assemblies and worship	local, national and global	
	- Most importantly, through	communities	
	community prayer		
To raise money for those who	- Continue raising money for	- Refugees and the supporting	Lent
are less fortunate	Mission Together during Lent	community in Jordan	
	- Continue donating money to	- Volunteers and service users	Throughout the year
	the John Paul Centre		
	- Select a charity with the	- TBC	Throughout the year
	children to support financially		
	(e.g. Mary's Meals)		

To donate items to the less	- To contact local Food Banks	- Charity service users	Throughout the year
fortunate	and refugee charities to explore		
	required items, with initiatives		
	spearheaded by the Mini Vinnies		
To provide social opportunities	- Host coffee mornings in school	- Local community	Throughout the year
for sick, aged, housebound and	- Plan and deliver communal		
other vulnerable members of our	events termly (like our	- Vulnerable community	Termly
community	Remembrance sing-a-long)	members	
-	- Sing at Care Homes during the		
	Christmas period	- Older community members	Christmas season
	- To go into Teesside Hospice		
	after Christmas for sing-a-longs	- Sick community members	Spring term
	- To continue communication		
	and contact with local Care		
	Homes throughout the year	- Older community members	Throughout the year
To provide opportunities for the	 Parent 'stay and pray' 	- Parents and families	Throughout the year
spiritual development of not	planning, preparation and		
only the children, but our family	worship sessions		
and parish communities too	- Parental prayer workshops, led	- Parents and families	To begin after Christmas
	by parishioner Bernadette		
	Murray		
	- Family Masses	- Parents, families and parish	Half termly
	 Invitations to communal 	- Parents, families and parish	Throughout the year
	worship (e.g. seasonal liturgies)		
To provide social opportunities	- Coffee mornings	- Parents, families and parish	Throughout the year
for our family and parish	- Quiz night		Planned for January 17 th
communities	- Christmas/Summer Fayres	- Parents, families and parish	Christmas and Summer
		- Parents, families and parish	
To care for our common home	- Gardening club to continue	- School community	Throughout the year
	raising awareness of how to look		
	after our school environment		

	- To litter pick around our local community	- Local community	Spring
To continue to strengthen parish bonds	- Continue to attend weekly parish Mass and Sunday Mass	- Parents, families and parish	Throughout the year
	- Continue working alongside members of our parish community for choir, prayer groups and spiritual nurturing	- Parents, families and parish	Weekly engagement
	- Continue to support parish-led charity initiatives e.g. Food Bank, John Paul Centre	- Parents, families and parish	Throughout the year
To acknowledge and affirm that Christ is at the centre of our community	- Formally and informally recognise that Jesus is our motivation and inspiration for doing good through discussion and worship	- Parents, families, parish, community, children and staff	Throughout the year
	- Explicitly instill this belief within the children	- Children and families	Throughout the year