

Grateful and Generous What does this mean?

Pupils are growing to be **grateful** for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day; and **generous** with their gifts, becoming men and women for others.

The Secondary Season of
Ordinary Time



Pray it

Linking Grateful and Generous to prayers of the Church and Liturgical Season.

Prayer suggestions and activities: -

- During the Season of Creation (Sep 1-Oct 4) focus prayer on giving thanks to God the Creator, for all that he has given and pray that all those in positions of responsibility will ensure that the produce of the land and sea is shared fairly with all our brothers and sisters across the world.
- Pray Grace before and after meals giving thanks to God and to those who have helped provide and prepare the meals.
- Use St. Francis' Canticles of Creation, Psalms about creation (Psalm 8, Psalm 103) and the ecology examen as a focus for prayer.
- Harvest Fast Day (Friday Oct 6). Pray with gratitude for those who farm, deliver and sell produce for our consumption. Pray that all those who labour receive a fair wage.
- Education Sunday (Sep 10) Give thanks for your school Community, friends and teachers and those who help children to grow in wisdom. Pray that all will use their God-given gifts and talents throughout this coming year for the greater good of all.
- Mission Rosary: During October, the Month of the Holy Rosary, pray for the peoples of each continent. www.missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/missionmonth
- Little Way Week (Sep 25 - Sep 29) Pray for those in our lives for whom we are grateful. Pray that we may be generous in sharing our



Explore it

Linking Grateful and Generous to scripture, meaning and teachings of the Church, Pope Francis and the Saints.

Scripture to Explore:

- **Matthew 20:1-16** - The parable of the workers in the Vineyard. Explore how God shares his generous love equally amongst all.

Activities and Questions:

- Explore the Canticles of Creation. Which of the images stands out for you and why?
- Explore the life of St. Therese of Lisieux. How did she demonstrate generosity through little acts of kindness?
- Explore the life and prayers of St. John Henry Newman. How did he act with gratefulness and generosity?
- Explore the prayers 'Grace Before and After Meals'. How do these prayers reflect being grateful and generous?
- What is World Mission Sunday? <https://missio.org.uk/what-is-world-mission-sunday/>
- What does Pope Francis say about World Mission Sunday? <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/missions/documents/20230106-giornata-missionaria.html>



Live it

Linking Grateful and Generous to the way we can choose to live our lives to serve God and to serve others.

Activities and challenges:

- Go on a nature walk. Appreciate the beauty of the natural world. Show your appreciation by ensuring that you do no damage.
- During Little Way week, create a journal of gratitude, writing prayers and drawings of things which you are grateful for and the ways in which you will use your gifts and talents for the benefit of others.
- Make a card or write a letter of thanks to those who are generous with their time for the service of others. For example, those who volunteer in a food bank or members of the SVP who visit the sick in the parish.
- Encourage others to be generous by organising a collection for your local foodbank. Contact them to find out which items they need.
- How can you be part of World Mission Sunday? How can you be inspired by the theme of World Mission Sunday 'Hearts on fire, feet on the move'?



Sunday Gospels to Explore

Gospels reflective of Grateful and Generous highlighted

Sep 4th	Matthew 16:21-27 Get behind me, Satan!
Sep 10th	Matthew 18:15-20 If your brother listens to you, you have won back your brother
Sep 17th	Matthew 18:21-35 To be forgiven, you must forgive
Sep 24th	Matthew 20:1-16 Why be envious because I am generous?
October 1	Matthew 21: 28-32 Tax collectors are entering the kingdom of God before you.
October 8	Matthew 21:33-43 This is the landlord's heir: come, let us kill him
October 15	Matthew 22:1-10 Invite everyone you can do to the wedding
October 22	Matthew 22: 15-21 Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar



Sing it

Linking Grateful and Generous to traditional and contemporary music.

- [Give thanks with a Grateful Heart](#): Henry Smith
- [If I were a butterfly](#): Brian Howard
- [Blessed be God](#): Aniceto Narazerth
- [There is a redeemer](#): Keith Green
- [Thank you Lord for this fine day](#): Diane Davis
- [Thank you for giving me the morning](#): Martin G. Schneider
- [Oh Happy Day](#): Philip Doddridge
- [I will enter his gates](#): Leona Von Erthorst
- [This is the Day](#): One Life Music



Further explore Grateful and Generous by reading The Jesuit Publication found:
[http://jesuitinstitute.org/Pages/JPP/JPP%20Birmingham/JPP%20Booklet%20Birmingham%20\(2017\).pdf](http://jesuitinstitute.org/Pages/JPP/JPP%20Birmingham/JPP%20Booklet%20Birmingham%20(2017).pdf)

Picture It

Linking Grateful and Generous to artwork.



Jen Norton
All Creation Sings His Praise

- What images of God's creation do you see in this artwork?
- Create your own image of the creation narrative or one of your favourite part of creation. Include scripture and references to being grateful and generous. E.g. Psalm 8 or Psalm 103.
- Look at images from Nasa and explore the wonders of space <https://apod.nasa.gov/apod/archivepixFull.html>