



Wednesday 17th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus uses the image of the grain of wheat, which dies to produce a rich crop, to show us that his death was necessary if many were to receive eternal life.

Through this Gospel Jesus is also encouraging his disciples to follow him - to give him first place in their lives. This message is for each one of us too. Jesus wants us to make following him our most important priority.

Choosing to follow Jesus is not always easy; it demands commitment. But it helps our families to keep growing in love and leads us to happiness in this life, and in the life to come.

Enjoy a very special time together this evening, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **FOLLOW**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



To see this week's Parish Version of The Wednesday Word: wednesdayword.org - Parents' Pages - Lectio Divina with Fr Henry.

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 21st March 2021



Jesus said, "Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves their life loses it; anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. Whoever serves me, must follow me; wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour them. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all people to myself." By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

Adapted from John 12: 20-33
The 5th Sunday of Lent, Year B

You are warmly invited to learn more about the Gospel through your local parish church

"Lent is a journey during which the Lord asks us to follow three steps: almsgiving, prayer, and fasting."

Pope Francis



THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH & THE YEAR OF THE FAMILY

Pope Francis has declared a special 'Year of the Family' for the Church, starting this week on 19th March 2021 to 26th June 2022. This year the Church is also celebrating a special 'Year of St Joseph'. Find out more at: www.cbcew.org.uk/year-of-st-joseph

Jesus always welcomes anybody who wants to follow him.
 We follow Jesus whenever we are kind, helpful, try to make peace and put others' needs before our own. We can be sure that Jesus is always waiting and wanting to help us to follow him.



1 Our Special Time Together

Enjoy reading the Gospel overleaf (or below for younger children)

Jesus said to his friends, the disciples, "If you do not bury a grain of wheat, it stays just one grain. But if you bury it in the ground, it dies, and then produces a rich harvest. In the same way, those who are willing to give up their lives to help others will be given everlasting life. Whoever serves me must follow me. When I am lifted up from the earth, I will bring all people to myself." By these words Jesus made it known how he would die.



What did Jesus say we must do to serve him? Which words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? What does the Sunday Gospel picture make you think about?

2 Wednesday's Word is ...

FOLLOW



3 Loving God & Each Other

"Are you a parent or grandparent? Be holy by patiently teaching the little ones how to follow Jesus." *Pope Francis*

Following Jesus includes respecting and caring for those who sometimes may be rejected or neglected. Ask your child if they know what 'to follow someone' means. Who impresses them? Who sets them a good example which they would like to follow? How has that person made things better for someone, for a family, for friends or for your school? It may help your child if you can talk about a person whose example you follow, or have followed.

"Let us ask for the grace to follow Jesus faithfully, not in words but in deeds."

Pope Francis

We can follow Jesus in the simple things we do in our lives every day, and make life better for all the family and everyone around us. In this coming week, how can we follow Jesus, even in little ways? Perhaps you can: be a good listener if someone is sad and wants to share their problems with you; find regular time to pray for others; be kind and generous; go out of your way to support anyone who needs your help.

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for giving your life for us and for calling us to **follow** you, so that our world may become a better place. Amen.

Gospel Gallery

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HOLD LOSE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	HELP OTHERS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	SERVE FOLLOW	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	EVERLASTING LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**



Search for at least three differences between this picture and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring.

Cross out the letters **U C Z** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.
zearcuth clifutezd pecopulez Wuhzenc

Jesus said, "_____ I am _____ up from the _____, I will bring all _____ to myself."

DID YOU KNOW?

The Church dedicates every Wednesday to St Joseph, the Patron Saint of Families. *The Wednesday Word Family Time* is also dedicated to St Joseph.

This Friday, 19th March 2021, the Church celebrates his feast day. Find out more about St Joseph at: wednesdayword.org/home/st-joseph.htm

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

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