

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024**

Dear Parents and Carers,

God is love and all love comes from God. When we invite Jesus, as a loving friend, into our family life then love grows and life becomes more joyful.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus entrusts his friends, the disciples, with his message of unconditional love, and asks them to carry it to the whole world - not just in their words but also in their actions.

Love is life's greatest blessing and Jesus' message is for us too. By loving as Jesus loves, we too become his friends and we experience the harmony and peace which comes from following his command - to love.

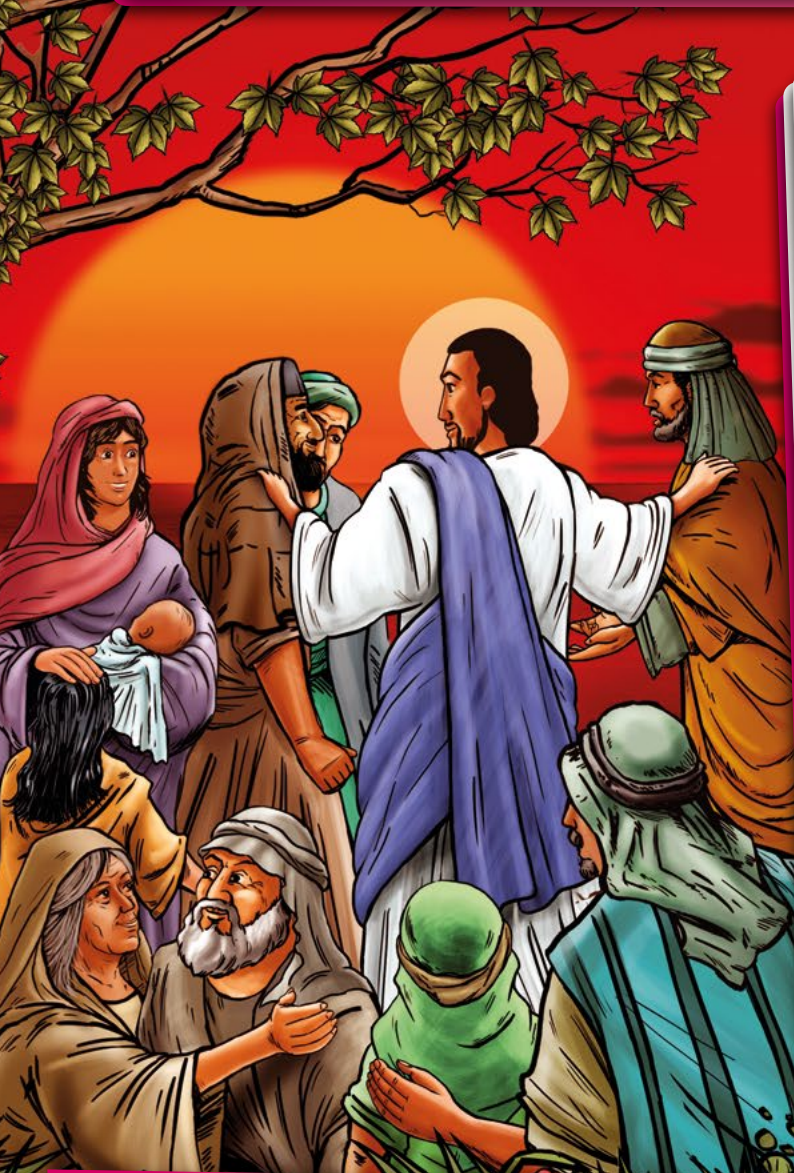
Enjoy a very special time this evening, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **LOVE**.

*Dom Henry Wansbrough*



**A Word from Pope Francis**

*"The family's strength lies in its capacity to love and to teach how to love. Let us ask the Lord for the grace to love everyone."*



**THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH**  
**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024**



Jesus said, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants anymore, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another."

*Adapted from John 15:9-17*  
The 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Year B

**Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful.**  
**Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.**

**2024 The Year of Prayer: Family Time Prayer & Share**

**Good News for Everyone**

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus gives his friends, the disciples, a new commandment - they must love one another as Jesus loves them, with whole-hearted and unlimited generosity. Everyone likes to be loved and family and school life become more joyful when we follow Jesus' command to love one another.



# Good News for Families

## TOGETHER TIME



### Sunday Gospel Gallery

Imagine you are here with Jesus. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

## 1 READ & REFLECT! Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

Jesus said to his friends, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you do as I ask, then you will remain in my love and you will be completely filled with my joy. I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father in heaven. You did not choose me, no, I chose you. You are my friends if you do what I tell you. The command I am giving you is this: love one another, as I have loved you."

### What did Jesus tell his friends, the disciples, to do?

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.

## 2 SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love: This Wednesday's Word...

"What does love look like? It has the hands to help others."

*St Augustine of Hippo*

# LOVE



Jesus wants us to love each other with just as much care and concern as we have for ourselves. Ask your child what the word 'love' means to them. Who makes your child feel especially loved: a) at home? b) at school? c) at Church or in the community? When did your child last show love towards someone? How did they show their love? Who does your child know who stands out as someone who shares God's love with others?



When we follow Jesus' command to 'love one another', we can be sure that God is with us. Each of you decide on something you can do in the coming days to share your love - to love as Jesus loves. Perhaps you can: as a family, call someone who may be sick or lonely; forgive someone and be friends again; be peacemakers; be extra helpful by putting others' needs first. Come and learn more about Jesus' law of love in Church this Sunday. All are warmly invited.

3 \* Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for being our loving friend. Please help us always to love you and to keep growing in love for one another. Amen. \*

## FINDING FIVE

Find and draw 5 differences, then colour the picture

**WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH**

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FATHER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	JESUS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	FRIENDS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	OBEY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	FILLED	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	JOY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMMAND	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	LOVE	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY



Cross out the letters **U M W** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

awnotmhuer lomvewud ulomvew gimvwinug

"The command I am \_\_\_\_\_ you is this: \_\_\_\_\_

one \_\_\_\_\_, as I have \_\_\_\_\_ you."



Jesus' life is a lesson in how we are to be kind and loving to all people - even those people who don't love us in return. In this way we show our own love for God, by doing what Jesus asks of us.



This week I will try my best to...



Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley