

A Weekly Gift to you and your family from your Catholic School

THE WEDNESDAY WORD



Sharing Sunday's Gospel with Parents & Families

Wednesday 16th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Throughout the school years, the whole family will grow and change - learning more about life and about one another.

Change can be an exciting part of family life. The Season of Lent presents a great opportunity to examine our conscience - do we need a change of heart, a change of attitude?

In this Sunday's Gospel, the fig tree represents God's people - it represents all of us.

We are all called to change: to grow and so enrich the world around us - to love as Jesus loved.

That is what being fully human means! Jesus is like the gardener. He is patient with us, nurtures us and helps us to change for the better.

Enjoy hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **CHANGE**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



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

Adapted from **THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH** SUNDAY 20TH MARCH 2022



Jesus told the people this story: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, 'Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?' 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.'"

*Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 20th March 2022
Luke 13:1-9 (the 3rd Sunday of Lent, Year C)*

Everyone can learn more about this Gospel in Church - all are warmly invited.

"Lent helps us fight against any faults. We all can improve and change for the better." Pope Francis

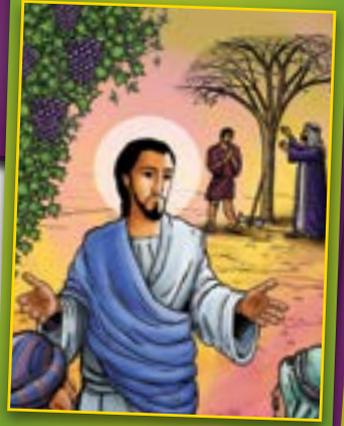


FAMILIES
GROWING IN FAITH

The Gospel above and the FAMILY TIME section overleaf can be read independently by adults or children alike. But reading them as a family really does help the family to grow in faith and love.

Lent is a time of change and each new day is an opportunity for us to change. God has 'planted' us on this earth to produce the good fruits of love, joy and kindness in our lives. Jesus helps us to keep growing in faith and goodness - to change the world and make it a better place.

Luke 13:1-9



1 Enjoy reading the Gospel

One day Jesus told the people this story: "A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard which was taking up space and not producing fruit. So he said to the gardener, 'For three years I have been coming to look for fruit on this tree and finding none. Let's chop it down!' The gardener replied, 'Sir, let's leave it for another year. I'll help it to grow and produce fruit.'"

What was wrong with the fig tree? Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? See the Gospel picture opposite. What does it make you think about?

2 Wednesday's Word is ...

CHANGE



3 Loving God & Each Other

"To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often."

Blessed John Henry Cardinal Newman

Ask your child what the word 'change' means to them. As a family, share any positive changes which have recently taken place at home, at school or within the community. Let your child know about at least one way in which they have changed for the better and grown in goodness over the past months (e.g. in behaviour, in attitude, in helpfulness). How does your child think that changing in that way has helped them? How has it helped the family or their friends?

"Our friendship with God changes our life - filling us with passion, with joy." *Pope Francis*

Each of you say something about yourself that you would like to change this Lent - and say why. Perhaps it is: trying to listen better at school; trying to follow Jesus more closely; being more patient; helping out more at home; always remembering to say your daily prayers. How can you make that change? Do you need anyone's help? Are there any other ways to make a change for the better this Lent? You may also like to choose something new to do together that will make life better for the family.



Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for your patient care for us. Show us where we need to **change** - to grow more in our love for you and for each other. Amen.

Gospel Gallery

P E G N A H C Y R O P
 E C U D O R P E T D G
 M H T I M E N W R A V
 G A H N G E H A E M I
 F N V M D W Y C E P N
 R G A R D E N E R R T
 U E A T N R E N W O R
 I G V I N E Y A R D E
 T Y V U E E M I T U W
 G T U R F V V M I C N
 T H T F R U O W N E R

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE 8 WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

- TREE
- VINEYARD
- OWNER
- GARDENER
- TIME
- CHANGE
- PRODUCE
- FRUIT

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

Whilst thinking about this week's Gospel, search for at least three differences between this picture and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring.

Cross out the letters **b c d** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

cfbrudit bledacve yebcard gbrowdc

The gardener replied, 'Sir, let's _____ it for another _____'. I'll help it to _____ and produce _____'.



Change



This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that Jesus cares for us, just like the gardener cares for the tree. Listening and acting upon what our parents, teachers and others tell us about God, helps us to keep growing into the best people we can be.

This week I will try my best to ...

.....

