



# Saint Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Saint Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery.

Diocese of Northampton

St. Thomas Catholic

Academies Trust

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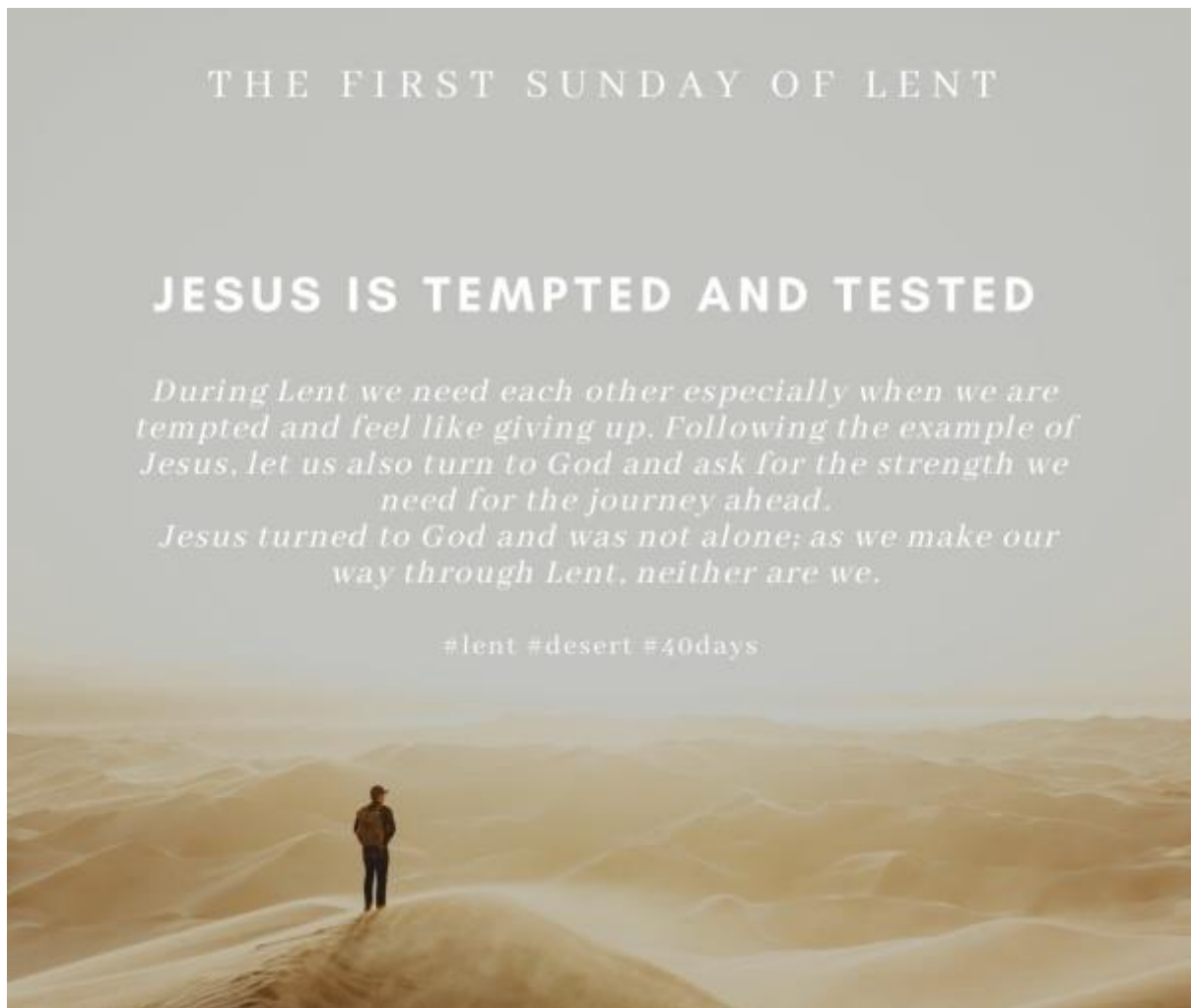
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Gospel Reflection. Sunday 21st February. 1st Sunday of Lent



### **Jesus is tempted and tested**

Having started our Lenten journey on Ash Wednesday, we now find ourselves in the desert with Jesus as he is tempted and tested. Mark's account of Jesus in the desert is short, sharp and very direct; Jesus is in the desert with the wild beasts. This is as real and as human as it gets. He is tested but does not give in nor give up. There is no actual mention of the 'temptations' but they are there nevertheless; they are implied rather than named. Rather than give into his temptations, Jesus remained faithful to God and his mission of announcing the arrival of God's Kingdom. He left the desert with courage and conviction and began to proclaim the Good News. Jesus began his public ministry and we begin Lent with the message ***repent and believe the good news.***

We know that each of us is tempted and tested in many ways each day. These 'temptations' are often small and seemingly insignificant. Our temptations may not be as dramatic as those of Jesus, but they are no less real or dangerous. Temptations come to us as attractive and appealing. If and when we give into them, we hand over our power to them and they control us. If however, we can not only face but also resist them, then we retain our power over them. This requires more than just our efforts. Like Jesus, we need to turn to God and ask for the strength and courage when we are tempted and tested.

As St. Paul knew well from his facing his own demons and temptations when he wrote,

***'three times I have asked the Lord that it might leave me; but the Lord said, my grace is enough for you: for my power and presence is strongest when you are weak.'*** (2 Cor. 12.9-12)

Paul had the wisdom and humility to be honest both with himself and God. He knew he couldn't face his weakness and temptations on his own; like Jesus, he too needed to ask God to strengthen and encourage him. As we begin Lent, can we in faith and with humility ask Jesus to walk with us to guide, lead and protect us? While he was in the desert being tempted Jesus was not on his own and neither are we as we make our way through Lent. We don't have to face our temptations and weaknesses on our own. ***Jesus, because he himself has been tempted, he is able to help others who are tempted.*** (Hebrews 2.18)

If we try to be faithful to our Lenten promises by ourselves and if we try to make this forty day journey on our own, it is going to be a long hard road. We need the prayers and support of those around us to strengthen and encourage us. When we say the *I Confess*, we pray these words; ***I ask you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to Lord our God.*** This is what it means to belong to the Body of Christ; we are called to pray with and for each other. During Lent we need each other especially when we are tempted and feel like giving up. Following the example of Jesus, let us also turn to God and ask for the strength we need for the journey ahead. Jesus turned to God and was not alone; as we make our way through Lent, neither are we.

## Before Half Term!

What a busy last week our children had! Reception were learning about the Hungry Caterpillar. They got creative and produced some lovely story maps. Their teachers also challenged them to make ice mobiles using natural resources, a piece of string and leaving it outside in the cold over night! Our Year 3 and 6 children have been completing baking challenges. Year 3 have also been testing their Art skills whilst drawing Egyptian Sphinx! Year 2 have been busy writing about and creating Magical Creatures!





Introduction have you ever seen a flying  
griffon flying and soaring  
flapping griffons fly by using their  
chest muscles to push air out  
↳ lifting birds can use the  
their wings and catching warm air  
soaring griffons can soar by changing  
the angle of their tails.















## Word of the week



'No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.'

**1 Corinthians 10:13**

## Nursery



Now is the time to apply for Nursery spaces. Our Nursery is thriving and we have an excellent team of really dedicated Staff. Please contact the school office for more information.

## Messages and Reminders



### **#feedbackFriday**

We would love to hear your feedback! It is so nice to talk to you on the gate and hear positive feedback about the online learning. Please email:

**[catchup@stanthonys.slough.sch.uk](mailto:catchup@stanthonys.slough.sch.uk)**

With feedback and messages for our school, children, learning and community and it will be shared via Twitter on feedback Friday!



### **School Closure:**

- School is only open to children of those who are classed as Critical Key workers and vulnerable children. Guidance about this can be found on the below website:

[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

- In order to keep our children and staff safe we will be constantly reviewing children's places and the situations of our families.
- Online learning will take place daily for all children. Details of all lessons and resources can be found on the website and via ParentPay.

### **Its good to talk!**

Times are hard for lots of us at the moment and there is no harm in admitting that and asking for help. Talking Therapies is a free NHS service here to support the residents of Berkshire aged 17+ who may be struggling with difficulties including: low mood, anxiety and stress at this unprecedented time.

If you are in need of support you can call the Talking Therapies admin team on 0300 365 2000, alternatively you can [Sign Up](#) via their website referral form.

### **Lenten Appeal**

Our lovely staff are joining CAFOD Walk for water for our Lenten appeal. If you would like to sponsor them please do using the following link: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-anthonys-walk-for-water>

### **Star of the week**

#### **Reception:**

**Year 1: Patryk B,**

**Year 2: Lukretsia K**

**Year 3: Reuben, Hayden A, Ridhika R**

**Eden: Armaghan**

**Year 4: Emilia C, Wiktorja G**

**Year 5: Alvin H, Vanessa B**

**Year 6: Marta, Gab. Sara**

## Free Courses and Online Help

### **C3746134 - Introduction to autism**

22/02/2021 - 29/03/2021

Mon 11:30am-1:00pm

FREE

<https://bit.ly/3pcaXiO>

### **C3746036 - Supporting your child's reading & writing**

23/02/2021 - 16/03/2021

Tue 09:30am-11:30am

FREE

<https://bit.ly/35iPuwR>

### **C3746094 - Managing stress and anxiety in children**

24/02/2021 - 31/03/2021

Wed 09:30am-11:00am

FREE

<https://bit.ly/36BH2lc>

### **C3746327 - Support your child with Maths KS2**

26/02/2021 - 12/03/2021

Fri 09:30am-11:00am

FREE

<http://bit.ly/2WcT4Dd>

# Lunch Boxes

At Saint Anthony's we promote a healthy living and eating life style for all our children. The children learn all about what foods to eat in order to get the best out of our bodies and brains and become the best learners we can be. We would really appreciate the support from home in also promoting this message. Please do not put chocolate and high sugar/salt products in your childrens lunch box. For some ideas and guidance please see the website and posters below:

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>



## Prayer for the week



Lord God as we enter into the season of Lent, we remember the trials and temptations of your son Jesus Christ in his journey through the wilderness, and how he triumphed over all. In our prayers we think of the difficult journeys in life encountered by so many people in the world. We pray that in their different times of need, they may find discernment to see their way ahead, and strength to overcome whatever problems they face. We pray that faith may be deepened in this period of Lent, and all may walk in the light of the Lord.

Amen

## Contact Us

We always welcome your feedback and hope we can answer any questions you may have. Although the office is currently closed, we will still answer emails and phone calls.

### **Saint Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery**

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Follow us on Twitter at: @stanthonyslough