



Saint Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Saint Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery.

Diocese of Northampton

St. Thomas Catholic

Academies Trust

Monday 1st February 2021

Issue 50



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Gospel Reflection. Sunday 31st January. 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

A new teaching...

All were amazed and asked one another,
*“What is this? A new teaching with authority!
 He commands even the unclean spirits
 and they obey him.”*

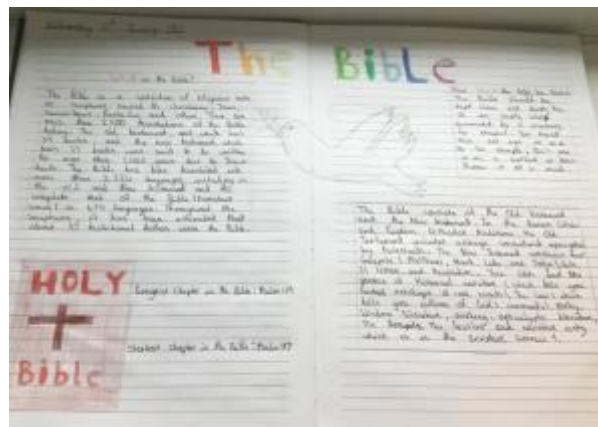
In Sunday's Gospel the impact of the words of Jesus are seen in real concrete action. He heals a man who is sick and who has neither control nor authority over his own body. When Jesus speaks he orders the evil spirits to leave the man. Jesus speaks and immediately the man is healed and liberated. This is when the crowd begin to question Jesus. They wonder about him; *‘they were astonished and started to ask what it all meant.’* In Matthew's gospel they even said, *‘Where did he get such wisdom? What about his miracles? Isn't he just the carpenter's son? Where did he get he get all this?’* (Mtt. 13. 55) Clearly not all those who met Jesus appreciated his teaching, healing or authority.

Earlier in Mark's gospel when Jesus was baptised we read that the Holy Spirit descended on him and a voice was heard to say, *‘this is my beloved. With you I am well pleased.’* This is the source and origin of Jesus' authority. The authority with which he teaches, heals and forgives comes from God. The authority that the people experience and witness from Jesus is the very authority of God. What Jesus says happens. When Jesus says to a person that they are healed, the person is actually healed. When he tells a person that their sins are forgiven they are actually forgiven. The words of Jesus are seen in and through his actions. When Jesus teaches and speaks things actually happen! His words are effective. Those who listen to and hear Jesus experience the change and effect of these words in their lives; this is real power and authority. Jesus exercised his power to heal, liberate and for give people, not to enslave them. He uses his authority to lift people up, not put them down. This is the powerful uniqueness of his sacred and divine authority. When people saw the impact of his teaching in and through his actions, they began to ask who he really was, because they said, *‘here is a teaching that is new and with authority behind it.’* The message that Jesus brings is not only good, it is also new.

As Christians we are called to follow the example of Jesus, not just his teaching. Jesus, the One with ultimate power and authority, came to serve, not to be served. To show this explicitly, Jesus took the place of a slave and washed his friend's feet. This is Christian power and authority. To reinforce this gesture, Jesus said and still says to us today; ***'If I then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet. I have given you an example so that you may do what I have done to you.'*** (John 13.15)

Last Week

Our Year 6 children produced some beautiful 2 page spreads all about the Bible. Packed full of information and fantastic illustrations.



Word of the week



'He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes' *Deuteronomy 10:21*

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

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

- 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.

Cleaner needed

We are looking for a new cleaner to join our team fixed term.

The hours needed are: 3.45-5.45 on a Monday to Friday. Fixed term until February. Please contact the school office if you are interested.

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.

Star of the week

Reception:

Year 1: Natan.D, Braedan.C,

Year 2: Lucas.O, Nadia.L,

Year 3: Anoushka.G, Kacper.Z, Rory.L

Eden: Padi

Year 4:

Year 5: Denis.L, Sophia.U,

Year 6: Abigail.S, Avneet.S

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>

Letter from Father Nathaniel



A Letter from Fr Nathaniel

To my dear teachers, parents and pupils of our great school; St Anthony's Catholic School, Slough.

As this lockdown endures, longer than most of us had imagined, I write to encourage you; to reassure you of my prayers and closeness at this very challenging time. The COVID-19 lockdown has deprived you of the joy of doing your work in the way you love, the company of your friends, the face-to-face classroom lessons, it has also put extra stress on our parents. While we continue to pray for an end to the pandemic, please allow me to share with you, very briefly, the need to be patient at this difficult time.

Patience is a virtue, it is quite essential to our daily life. It might be the key to a happy life, especially in the face of overwhelming situations. Patience means being able to wait calmly and hopefully in

the face of unpleasant, abnormal and frustrating circumstances. It entails the ability to remain focused, undistracted and fully committed to achieving our set goals despite occasional set-backs. Obviously, patience is not only the ability to wait, but the ability to keep a good attitude while waiting. What attitude could that be? A calm disposition; the mentality of not giving-up on our dreams when things are not working according to our plans.

Truly, the COVID-19 pandemic with its serial lockdown has done a lot of damage to our lives and society. May we not allow it to destroy our patience. Living a life of patience at this particular time not only makes us tolerant to the people around us, it also helps our emotional and mental health. Patience helps us to achieve our goals, maintain a more positive outlook on life and makes us less reactive, hence making us less prone to hasty and bad decisions. I want to encourage you again my dear teachers, pupils and parents not to grow tired of waiting. Let us be patient, for this too will pass away.

I am optimistic that soon we will be allowed to resume our normal schooling and daily activities. On my own part, I am patiently waiting, so that soon I will be able to see you back in our Church. Soon, I shall be able to visit you in your different classrooms again; we will be able to celebrate our school Mass together again. I can't wait to listen to your angelic voices, which I have so much desired and longed for, having heard great testimonies from parishioners on how well you sing. I miss you all. Till such a time, let us continue to stay patient and keep trusting in Divine Providence.

Patience may be bitter at times, learning it can be tough, but definitely its fruits are sweet. I pray for you all, that we may receive the patience, vigilance, and understanding necessary to keep ourselves and others safe during this current surge of COVID-19, even as we patiently await a return to our normal life and schooling.

May God be with you all.

Amen

Fr Nathaniel Onwuekwe. St Anthony's Parish Farnham Road.

Prayer for the week



Dear Lord,

Thank you that You have never left me alone to fight my battles. Thank you that even in the midst of all the uncertainty of my life and the world right now, that you are still God. Help me Lord, as I am dealing with so many different situations in my life, help my heart and mind stay focused on you. Help me to not grow downcast, but to remember that my hope is always in you.

Thank you that you are my God, that you are my salvation and that you will always provide a way for me. I am trusting you Lord for this.

In Your Name I Pray,

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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Visit us on the web at: www.stanthonys.slough.sch.uk

Follow us on Twitter at: @stanthonyslough