



Newsletter

Love one another as I have loved you—John 13:34

Friday 22nd December 2023

At Sacred Heart School we:
LEAD with fairness & empathy
SERVE with kindness & consideration
COMMUNICATE with respect
ACT with love

Fourth Sunday of Advent Year B

In the Gospel of Luke for the 4th Sunday of Advent Year B, we encounter Mary, a young woman whose response to God's call exemplifies total openness and trust. Amidst the oppression and suffering of her people, Mary's heart must have echoed the cry of "Adanah Adonai!" – a longing for divine intervention. When presented with the angel's message, unlike many who would seek to rationalise or dismiss such a daunting revelation, Mary embraces it with a profound "Fiat!" Her willingness to become an instrument of God's plan, despite the uncertainties and potential hardships, is a testament to her extraordinary faith.

As we journey through Advent, Mary's example beckons us to listen for God's voice in our daily lives, to trust in His timing, and to be ready to respond with our own "Let it be." Just as she embraced her role in God's plan, we too are invited to trust that our prayers are heard and that, in God's time, they will be answered. Let us then approach God with a heart willing to accept and participate in His divine plan, embodying the spirit of Advent in our willingness to listen, trust, and respond.

Please use the link below to access the Ten:Ten interactive Collective Worship newsletter for December
www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/

Prayer Intentions: Jesus, as you chose the lowly, the outcasts, and the poor to receive the greatest news the world had ever known, so may we worship you in meekness of heart. May we also remember our brothers and sisters less fortunate than ourselves in this season of giving. Amen.

Virtue to Live By

Our Current Virtue to Live By is **Generosity**



You are **generous** when:

- You notice someone who needs help
- You think of others before yourself
- You give freely without need of reward
- You give more than what is expected
- You are willing to make sacrifices for others

Gospel Assembly



Our first assembly back will help children to move from thinking about Jesus' birth to His Baptism, which marked the start of His public ministry. Children will reflect on their identity as God's children and learn that they too are invited to become a special part of His family.

Going Forth: How can you love others for who they are – children beloved by God and invited into His family – this week?

Information / Messages

Advent Charity Fundraiser: Thank you to the donations for The Bethlehem Care and Hospice Trust. We raised £128. This money will support the provision of hospice care to people living in Bethlehem.

Christmas Fundraisers—Thank you to everyone who bought and sold raffle tickets. We raised £513. This combined with the Christmas Fair and the Nativity raffles brings our total Christmas fundraising total to a magnificent £1523. This will be used to improve playtimes and we have started discussions with the children about what developments they would like.

ParentPay—This will be the last newsletter sent via sQuid. All communication, payments and consents after Christmas will be via ParentPay. It is essential that all parents sign up to ParentPay using the letter previously sent. There are still 46% of our parents yet to sign up.

Playgroup: Our new playgroup will be launching on Thursday 11th January from 9.15—10.45am for children 0—pre-school age. All welcome so spread the word to non Sacred Heart families. £1 voluntary contribution.

Absence Messages: When leaving an absence message on the answerphone, please be specific about why your child is not attending school so we can record the absence accurately. If you leave a message, we may call back so please expect a call from school if your child is absent.

Childcare: Our consultation on after school childcare runs until 10th January. Please take a couple of minutes to complete this if you haven't already <https://forms.office.com/e/RTvE2mbp1v>

Parent Pop In: Thank you for the positive feedback on these sessions so far. The next one is on 19th January on the theme of confidence and self-esteem.

Thank You: For all your good wishes, cards, gifts and prayers this Advent season. Everyone at Sacred Heart wishes you a very happy and holy Christmas. We also express our thanks as they leave to Mrs Moore, Miss Tomlinson and Miss Firth—we wish them every success in the future.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 9th January

Back to school

Monday 15th January

FS2 Admissions deadline for Sept 2024

Thursday 18th January

Parents invited to Y4 liturgy 9 am

Friday 19th January

Parent Pop In—Confidence and Self-Esteem 2.45 pm

Wednesday 24th January

Y6 trip to Crucial Crew

Thursday 25th January

Parents invited to Y5 liturgy 9 am

Friday 26th January

Y3 class assembly 9 am

Y4/Y6 Residential deposits due

Wednesday 31st January

Parent Pop In—Concentration and Attention 2.45 pm

Friday 2nd February

School Discos—more info to follow



Well done to all the children recognised for consistently following the school rules and meeting our behaviour expectations this half term.