



St. Joseph's Parish



Family Activity Sheet



25 October – 1st November 2020

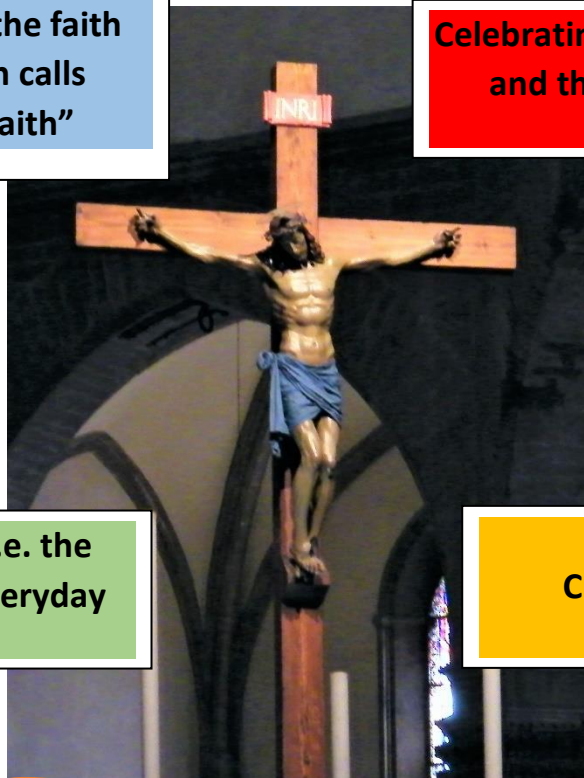
Introduction:

We have some great saints this week, leading up to All Saints day next Sunday, and with half term, there are several activities here to keep everyone busy. We are also introducing a competition for Christmas, so read on.

There are Four Dimensions of the Faith which we can put around the cross, making sure that Jesus Christ is the centre of everything we do:

Speaking/Learning the faith
(which the Church calls
"professing the faith")

Celebrating it in the liturgy
and the sacraments




Living it (in Christ) – i.e. the
choices we make in everyday
life




Christian prayer.

These notes will use these colours to show the balance of activities – some of course reflect more than one dimension of the faith, but over the month, try to pick a variety of activities.

We would love any pictures of you doing these activities! If you have any, please send to the parish office. By sending them to the office please state if you are happy for them to be included in the newsletter (which is emailed to everyone and put on the website) and/or the parish Facebook page

Date	Feast/memorial	Activity
25 th October	<p data-bbox="584 245 1043 284" style="text-align: center;"><u>30th Sunday of Ordinary Time</u></p> <p data-bbox="757 339 869 371" style="text-align: center;"><i>Gospel</i></p> <p data-bbox="667 384 958 416" style="text-align: center;"><i>Matthew 22:34-40</i></p> <p data-bbox="600 432 1025 464" style="text-align: center;"><i>The commandments of love</i></p> <p data-bbox="450 480 1176 967" style="text-align: center;"><i>When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, ‘Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?’ Jesus said, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.’</i></p> <p data-bbox="450 1070 1164 1334">The whole of our Christian life is about this; loving God and loving one another. It can be difficult to “love” God, but let’s turn it around and think about the fact that God loves us first. With the love that He pours into us, we can love other people.</p>	<p data-bbox="1294 245 1973 284" style="text-align: center;"><u>Kitchen demonstration of God’s love for us:</u></p> <p data-bbox="1205 292 1391 323">You will need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1249 336 1563 368">• Tape or sticky labels <li data-bbox="1249 376 1608 408">• Waterproof marker pen <li data-bbox="1249 416 2040 488">• Jug, preferably one with a lid, or a saucer that covers the top of the jug <li data-bbox="1249 496 1554 528">• Medium sized bowl <li data-bbox="1249 536 1727 568">• Large bowl, e.g. washing up bowl <li data-bbox="1249 576 1711 608">• Kitchen sink complete with tap! <p data-bbox="1205 616 2056 727"><i>The aim of this activity is to show that the Father’s love for us does not stop and that He fills us with His love so that we can love Him back and other people.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1249 775 2051 847">○ Each person writes their name on a sicky label and stick it on a jug <li data-bbox="1249 855 2029 999">○ Then write “God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit” on a sticky label and also the names of people that we find it difficult to love, on labels and stick these inside the medium sized bowl, with the “God” one in the middle <li data-bbox="1249 1007 2051 1078">○ On one more label, write “everyone else” and stick this in the washing up bowl <li data-bbox="1249 1086 1912 1118">○ Place the medium bowl in the washing up bowl <li data-bbox="1249 1126 2029 1198">○ Hold (or place) the jug over the medium bowl under the tap <li data-bbox="1249 1206 2040 1318">○ Turn on the tap and let the jug fill with water, and then overflow into the bowl with the other labels and then let that bowl overflow into the washing up bowl.

		<p><i>The water is like God's love which never stops flowing and once we are filled with His love, we overflow with love to other people and return this love to God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.</i></p> <p><i>And that love keeps on flowing out to the world.</i></p> <p>Use the lid or saucer to see what happens if we cover the jug – the water (love) does not fill us (the jug) but God's love never stops. He continues to love but we can't love, without His love first.</p>
<p>25th October</p>	<p align="center"><u>30th Sunday of Ordinary Time</u> <i>Gospel</i> <i>Matthew 22:34-40</i> <i>The commandments of love</i> <i>When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'</i></p>	<p align="center"><u>Family reflection on the Gospel</u></p> <p>After doing the activity above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put up a picture of Jesus • Light a candle • Someone read this Gospel passage out loud • Shut your eyes or look at the picture of Jesus and someone read this, pausing at each full stop for a moment. <p><i>Imagine that you are looking at Jesus and He is looking at you. See Him smile at you. He is calling your name. see his mouth saying your name. He says, "I love you". Feel that love of Jesus for you. It's like a warm feeling running through you. Tell Jesus that you love Him. Say anything else in your mind that you want to say to Him. When you are ready, open your eyes.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish by saying the Our Father together. 

<p>26th October</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Chad and St. Cedd</p> <p>These brothers, (who died in 672 and 664) were very holy men. Chad was the bishop of Mercia (the ancient kingdom where we live) and was the first bishop of Lichfield. Cedd was a monk who built many monasteries, especially in what is now Sussex.</p> <p>At the time of the Reformation, St. Chad's bones were hidden by a Catholic family so that they could be kept safe as the protestants did not think that saints were important. When the Catholic cathedral was built in Birmingham, St. Chad's bones were put there in a beautiful casket.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan as a family to make a pilgrimage to St. Chad's cathedral in Birmingham (sadly not to be recommended until the covid crisis is over) • Can anyone find out about other local saints? May be draw pictures of them that we can put up in the narthex at Church. E.g., St. Wulstan, St. Egwin, Oswald, Nicholas Owen, Edward Oldcorne and lots more. <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
<p>28th October</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Simon and Jude, Apostles</p> <p>St. Simon was known as Simon the zealot which means that he was a man of great faith.</p> <p>St. Jude was also called Thaddeus and was the Apostle who asked Jesus at the Last supper why Jesus only showed Himself to His disciples and not to the world. He is not to be confused with Judas Iscariot who betrayed Jesus. He is the patron saint of desperate and impossible causes.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Write a prayer to St. Simon and to St. Jude:</u></p> <p>You can ask St. Simon to help you have more faith You can ask St. Jude to pray for an end to the covid crisis. This is a big prayer and he likes to pray for our difficult situations. Maybe there is something else that you would like these two saints to pray for.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>

1st
November

All Saints Day

All Saints day is about celebrating all those who are in heaven, not just the named (canonised) saints.

Saints come in all shapes and sizes, and vary from very young to very old, men, women, rich poor, kings and the lowest in the country.

Did you know that “Halloween” means “All Hallow’s Eve”? It’s the day before All Saints day, (just like Christmas eve is the day before Christmas day). So instead of celebrating all that is nasty and evil in this world (there is already too much of that), here are some ideas for you to do as a family.

In preparation for All Saints day

- As the saints come in all shapes and sizes, so do leaves! Collect as many different shapes and colours of leaves, clean them with a paper towel and make a circle with them around a candle to put on the table for your main meal on Sunday 1st November (All Saints day).



- Maybe you could do leaf rubbings or draw around them and cut out leaf shapes



- How about writing the name of different saints on each leaf?
- Find out about your own patron saint and draw a picture of him or her – we would love to put them up at Church, just bring them in next time you are passing by, or post in the letter box at the Church.
- Have family fancy dress competition – dress up as a saint?





Christmas picture competition

This is advanced warning, but you may like to use half term to begin to think about this. We would love to decorate the Narthex with your pictures/paintings/drawings of the Christmas story.

Choose a part of the story that is in Luke or Matthew's Gospels (Luke 1:26-2:20, Matthew 1:18-2:23) and create a picture (not a model) to illustrate it. You can use any medium, paint, pencil, pen, crayon, collage etc, or a mixture. All pictures submitted will be put on display and there will be prizes for the different age categories. Submission must be no later than after midday on 6th December. More details later.



Remember, any pictures or prayers, would be lovely to have for the parish newsletter. Just email copies or photos of them to the office.