

# Family Time

A 1/2-termly publication for families with young children.



Issue 2: For God so loved the world....

Holy Rood Catholic Church, Swindon

November/ December 2022



Welcome to the second edition of the new publication, 'Family Time'!

The aim is to provide a resource for families to use with their young children, to help parents to share their faith and to make learning about our Catholic Faith enjoyable. Some of the quizzes and competitions offer prizes too!

We hope you enjoyed the first edition: if you have any comments about any of the content, or suggestions about what to include, please contact HRYM on [hrym.swindon@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:hrym.swindon@cliftondiocese.com).

Competition entries can be sent electronically to the email address above, or look out for the entry box in the church foyer!



# Saints Alive!

To talk about:

- Can the Saints help us with living our lives the way God wants us to?

To discover:

- What things are really important to you? Can you find a Saint who has something to say about it?

For example, do you really love caring for nature? Check out St Francis of Assisi!

## Saint's mini-bio – Saint Francis of Assisi - Feast day: 4<sup>th</sup> October

I was born in Italy in 1181. As a teenager I only wanted riches and fun. But in 1202 I went to war and spent a year in prison. There I had time to think and pray. I realised that money had not bought me happiness. I met a leper and saw beauty within him - I hugged him. I was inspired to give away all my money and I preached and begged on the streets. I founded the Franciscan Order and travelled through Spain and Egypt to try to convert people there. I also shared in the Lord's suffering, by receiving the stigmata in my own flesh in 1224. I died two years later at the age of 44.

**Fun fact:**

Francis practised preaching by preaching to wild animals!

**To pray:**

O God, you gave Francis a great love for all creatures. Help me to care for creation wherever possible, recognising the great gifts you placed at our disposal. Saint Francis, pray for us!

(From [onlinewithsaints.com](http://onlinewithsaints.com))



# For God so loved the World

God loves the world so much that He gave us his only son, Jesus, to be our Saviour. How do we show our love for our world? We could say that it looks very much like we do not care for it very much at all - we have polluted our oceans, cut down our forests and been selfish with the earth's resources.

To talk about:

- How can we make things better before it's too late?

To discover:

- Time yourself cleaning your teeth - do you leave the tap on all the time?
- For one week, count how many plastic cartons and bags your family throws away - include ones you recycle. Then multiply that by 52 (you might need a calculator!) This is the amount of single use plastic your family uses in a year.
- Research Fair Trade goods on the internet.

## Fairtrade

"The FAIRTRADE Mark is the symbol of the international Fairtrade system - and the most globally recognized ethical label. When you buy products with any of the FAIRTRADE Marks, you support farmers and workers as they improve their lives and their communities."

Check out the website [info.fairtrade.net](http://info.fairtrade.net) to find out all about what Fairtrade means and why buying products with the Fairtrade logo is a very good idea!



# Family Challenge!

For one month, can your family take on this challenge? Maybe try it as part of your Advent preparations?

- Reduce the amount of wasted water by:  
turning the tap off when you brush your teeth  
having a shower instead of a bath
- Reduce the amount of electricity used by:  
only boiling the amount of water in the kettle that you need  
turning off lights when you leave the room  
turning off your tv and computer instead of leaving it on stand-by
- Reduce the amount of single use plastics you buy by:  
looking for goods without any, or less, packaging  
make sure all packaging is recyclable before you buy  
choose loose fruit and vegetables instead of prepacked
- Look out for Fair Trade symbols on products and swap in at least one as an alternative to your usual brand.



# Bible Quiz

Answer the following questions then take the first letter of each answer and rearrange them to reveal the secret word - you will need a bible!

When you have found the secret word, complete the form at the end of this publication and either email it or drop it in the entry box.

One correct entry will be drawn at random and will receive a small prize!

1. The name of one of Jesus' disciples who needed proof that Jesus had risen from the dead.
2. One of these came to visit Mary to tell her she was going to have a baby.
3. The name of a set of Catholic prayers and also the string of beads used to pray them.
4. One of the Old Testament prophets, who heard the still small voice of God while hiding in a cave.
5. Jesus is said to be the "alpha and ....."
6. The symbol of Christianity we see in churches, and sometimes wear as a necklace.
7. The name given to a play or story which tells of the birth of Jesus.
8. The name of the country of Jesus' hometown Nazareth

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
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Now rearrange these letters to make a word! Go to the back page for the entry form - good luck!



# Bible Wordsearch

Can you find the names of 12 animals in the word search below?

B	V	C	Y	U	P	N	E	S	S
A	P	R	L	I	D	I	T	I	U
R	W	O	Z	E	B	O	A	I	M
T	O	C	T	O	R	S	G	K	A
H	C	O	W	T	R	C	A	E	T
O	T	D	O	D	A	Q	L	V	O
R	T	I	V	R	Y	A	U	S	P
S	S	L	I	A	H	P	T	U	O
E	M	E	R	W	E	R	M	L	P
E	T	B	T	E	I	I	G	I	P
W	E	I	H	C	Z	C	N	B	I
Z	I	S	H	R	E	G	I	T	H

Horse, whale, pig, hippopotamus, cow, zebra, tortoise, dog, tiger, crocodile, sheep, ostrich

Find the solution on the back pages!



# Meeting Jesus during Advent



Advent is a very special time. Yes, we might all be looking forward to Christmas and all that means for us - presents, delicious food, meeting with family members and good friends, decorating the Christmas tree - but the few weeks before Christmas day, the time we call Advent, is about recognising the amazing gift to the World of Jesus Christ and preparing our hearts to receive Him.

## Advent Candles

The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. Three candles are purple, and one is rose. The purple candles symbolize the prayer, penance and preparations undertaken by Christians at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass. Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas. The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding Our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the dead.

The light of the candles signifies Christ, the Light of the world. Some modern-day adaptations include a white candle placed in the middle of the wreath, which represents Christ and is lit on Christmas Eve.



# Family Devotion - Loving Creation

## Talking to God:

Thank God for the gift of creation. Pray that He will help you to look after the world.

## Discuss:

Take turns guessing how many different kinds of living things there are in the world. See how many you can write down - who has the longest list?

Then try to guess how many species of animal have become extinct over the last 100 years.

The most accurate estimate of the total number of species on Earth includes 6.5 million species found on land and 2.2 million in the ocean's depths. (that's a lot!)

Since 1900 nearly 500 species of animal have become extinct. These include, the Sicilian Wolf, the Japanese Sea-lion, the Tasmanian Tiger, the Caspian Tiger, and the Golden Toad. The disappearance of these species is mostly due to loss of habitat and food, or other human-made causes.

## Ask Each Other:

- How does this make you feel?
- How are you helping to protect our world so that future generations don't miss out on anymore of God's wonderful creation?
- Can we do more as Catholics? If so, what?

Psalm 89:11

"The heavens are Yours, the earth also is Yours;  
The world and all it contains, You have founded them."



# Make an Advent Wreath

(from [Catholicicing.com](http://Catholicicing.com))



You will need:

- 5 empty toilet rolls and a paper plate
- Colouring pens and crayons
- The templates from the following pages
- Scissors and glue

1. Colour the flames, holly and candles - if you colour the candles with crayon and the flames and holly with pen, they will stand out better.
2. Cut out the candles and wrap them around the toilet rolls. Glue in place.



3. Take your paper plate, draw a circle in the middle (use a glass or small dish to draw around), and mark 4 crosses evenly around the edge.



4. Carefully cut out the circle and crosses as shown:



5. Next, colour and cut out some leaves and holly berries and glue them to the plate, leaving the crosses uncovered.
6. Lastly, add some glue to the Xs and place a candle on each. If they are not very stable, add a rolled up piece of card inside the tube and push it through the open X.



The flames can be folded down inside the tubes and pulled up one at a time as the weeks go by – just like the Advent Wreath in church!



# Jokes

Try these jokes out on your friends and family!

- Q. Why was the broom late?  
A. Because it overswept!
- Q. What wobbles as it flies?  
A. A Jelly-copter!
- Q. Why does a golfer wear two pairs of socks?  
A. In case he gets a hole in one!
- Q. What goes up but never comes down?  
A. Your age!
- Q. What's the best way to stop food going bad?  
A. Eat it!
- Q. Which is faster, hot or cold?  
A. Hot, because you can catch cold!
- Q. Where do sheep get their hair cut?  
A. At the baa-baas!
- Q. What are the wettest animals in the world?  
A. Rain-deer!
- Q. Why did the teacher wear sunglasses?  
A. Because the students were too bright!



# Solution To Wordsearch

B	V	<u>C</u>	Y	U	P	N	E	S	<u>S</u>
A	P	<u>R</u>	L	I	<u>D</u>	I	<u>T</u>	I	<u>U</u>
R	W	<u>O</u>	Z	E	B	<u>O</u>	A	I	<u>M</u>
T	O	<u>C</u>	T	O	<u>R</u>	S	<u>G</u>	K	<u>A</u>
<u>H</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>T</u>	R	C	A	<u>E</u>	<u>T</u>
<u>O</u>	T	<u>D</u>	<u>O</u>	D	A	Q	<u>L</u>	V	<u>O</u>
<u>R</u>	T	<u>I</u>	V	R	Y	<u>A</u>	U	<u>S</u>	<u>P</u>
<u>S</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>L</u>	I	<u>A</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>T</u>	U	<u>O</u>
<u>E</u>	M	<u>E</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>R</u>	M	L	<u>P</u>
E	T	<u>B</u>	T	<u>E</u>	<u>I</u>	I	<u>G</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>P</u>
W	<u>E</u>	I	<u>H</u>	<u>C</u>	Z	C	N	B	<u>I</u>
<u>Z</u>	I	<u>S</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>H</u>



# Issue 2 Entry Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number (parent's) \_\_\_\_\_

I think the secret word is:

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Post your entry in the entry box in the church foyer, or email / text a photo of it to [hrym.swindon@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:hrym.swindon@cliftondiocese.com) / 07585227725

A correct entry will be drawn on or after the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Good luck!

