



# Our Lady of Furness Catholic Federation

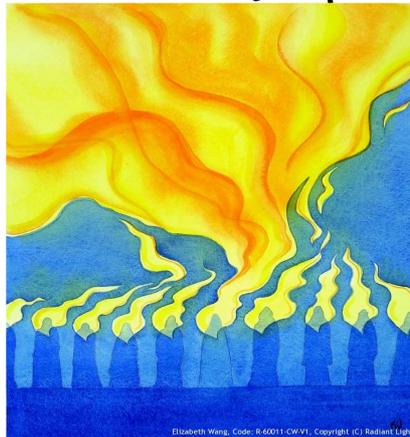
## RE Newsletter 5

Dear Parents,

As we return to school the Church is still celebrating Easter – Jesus risen from the dead. This celebration goes on until the great feast of Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. At Pentecost we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit who empowers and enables us to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Christians believe that it is the Holy Spirit who gives life to the Church. The symbols of wind or breath and fire speak of this life-giving and creative energy present in everything we do, empowering us to live the life Jesus calls us to. During this half-term the Church dedicates the month of May to Mary, Jesus' mother. It would be useful to reflect on the special relationship between the Holy Spirit and Mary through reading Luke's account of Mary's role in the Nativity of Jesus and by reflecting on Mary's role as the first believer – the first disciple – of Jesus.

We hope, as always, you find this newsletter interesting and informative. Please keep us in your prayers as we support your children in their Religious Education.

### *'Come, Holy Spirit'*



*Fill the hearts of your faithful*

Dates from the Church's calendar:

2 <sup>nd</sup> May	<b>St George, Patron of England</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> May	St Augustine of Canterbury
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Ss Philip & James, Apostles	30 <sup>th</sup> May	The Yorkshire Martyrs
4 <sup>th</sup> May	English Martyrs	31 <sup>st</sup> May	Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7 <sup>th</sup> May	St John of Beverley	5 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Ascension of the Lord</b>
13 <sup>th</sup> May	Our Lady of Fatima	8 <sup>th</sup> June	St William of York
14 <sup>th</sup> May	St Matthias, Apostle	9 <sup>th</sup> June	St Columba
19 <sup>th</sup> May	St Dunstan, Bishop	11 <sup>th</sup> June	St Barnabas, Apostle
25 <sup>th</sup> May	St Bede the Venerable	12 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Pentecost Sunday</b>

### *Reception— New Life*

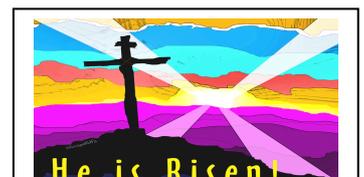
**"Jesus' life, death and resurrection are the central event of all human history and at the heart of faith"**

*Religious Education Curriculum Directory*

This half term, the children in Reception class will be learning about new life. They will learn about the story of the empty tomb, and learn that Jesus appeared to his disciples. The children will begin to understand the special gift of joy and peace that Jesus gave to his friends (John 20: 19-21) and can give to us as well. They will hear the story of Jesus going back to his Father and learn that one day we shall hopefully go there too.

At home you could help your children by:

- planting an Easter garden
- looking for signs of new life



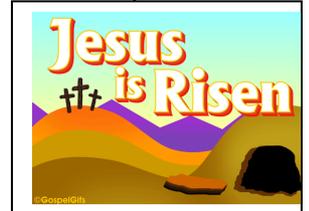
- practise the Sign of the Cross, 'Our Father' & 'Hail Mary'
- encouraging them to write their own prayers

## Year 1 – The Resurrection

**"Jesus' Resurrection ... is the source of our future resurrection: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive."**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Year 1 will learn that Jesus appeared to his disciples in the Upper Room and will think about the times when they have experienced great joy and surprise. They will learn that Jesus helped his disciples to understand that he was risen from the dead and was with them (John 21: 9-14) and this made them very happy. They will learn that when Thomas heard that Jesus was alive he did not believe it. They will also become aware that sometimes, like Thomas, we don't understand what is happening.



### At home

You could help your children by:

- reading stories from the Bible about Easter and Pentecost

## Year 2 – Eastertide

**"It is the Holy Spirit who forms and guides God's people to know God and enter into communion with God through Jesus Christ."**

*Religious Education Curriculum Directory*

Year 2 will learn that Jesus rose from the dead and still lives with us. They will learn that Jesus told his disciples that he would go back to Heaven but promised that the Holy Spirit would come. They will learn that Jesus ascended into Heaven and promised to return again and that this gives us hope. They will also know the story of the coming of the Holy Spirit on the apostles at Pentecost and know that the Holy Spirit is promised to us.

### At Home

You could help your children by:

- talking about how the Holy Spirit helps us
- having a close look at the Paschal (Easter) Candle when at Mass

## Year 3 & 4 – Celebrating Easter & Pentecost

**"God's Self-Revelation is perfected in us by the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, promised by Jesus and revealed at Pentecost."**

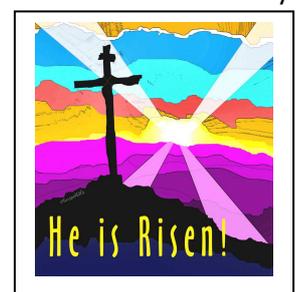
*Religious Education Curriculum Directory*

Year 3 will learn that God the Father raised Jesus from the dead on Easter Sunday. They will learn that because Jesus rose from the dead we too will rise from the dead. They will hear the story of the appearance of Jesus on the road to Emmaus and to Thomas. They will also hear and reflect on the story of the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

### At Home

You could help your children by:

- talking to them about how the Church celebrates the resurrection
- reading the story of Pentecost with them
- discussing with them what they would have felt if they were one of the Disciples



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## *Year 5 & 6 – Life in the Risen Jesus*

**“Prayer is a living relationship with God in, with and through Jesus Christ. All prayer, whether private or public is God’s gift, the action of the Holy Spirit in us and an expression of this living relationship. Prayer is an expression of the universal search for God and of the response of faith to God’s Self-Revelation”**

*Religious Education Curriculum Directory*

Year 5 will learn the story of the appearance of Jesus to Mary of Magdala and learn that the risen Jesus is present among us in different ways. They will learn about Jesus’ teaching on, and example of, prayer and have a better understanding of the Lord’s Prayer. They will learn that we can pray in different ways.

### **At Home**

You could help your children by:

- reading and discussing the story of Mary of Magdala
  - talking with them about prayer
  - making time for prayer together
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