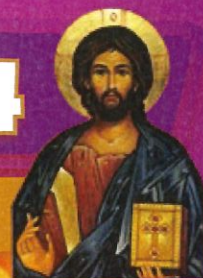


**THE** Wednesday  
**WORD**

# LENT & EASTER 2024



A GIFT TO YOU FROM YOUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April

**Sunday's Gospel connecting Home, School and Parish**

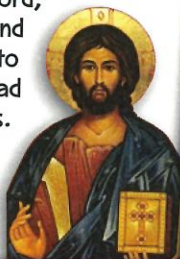


Wednesday  
20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Good News  
for Families

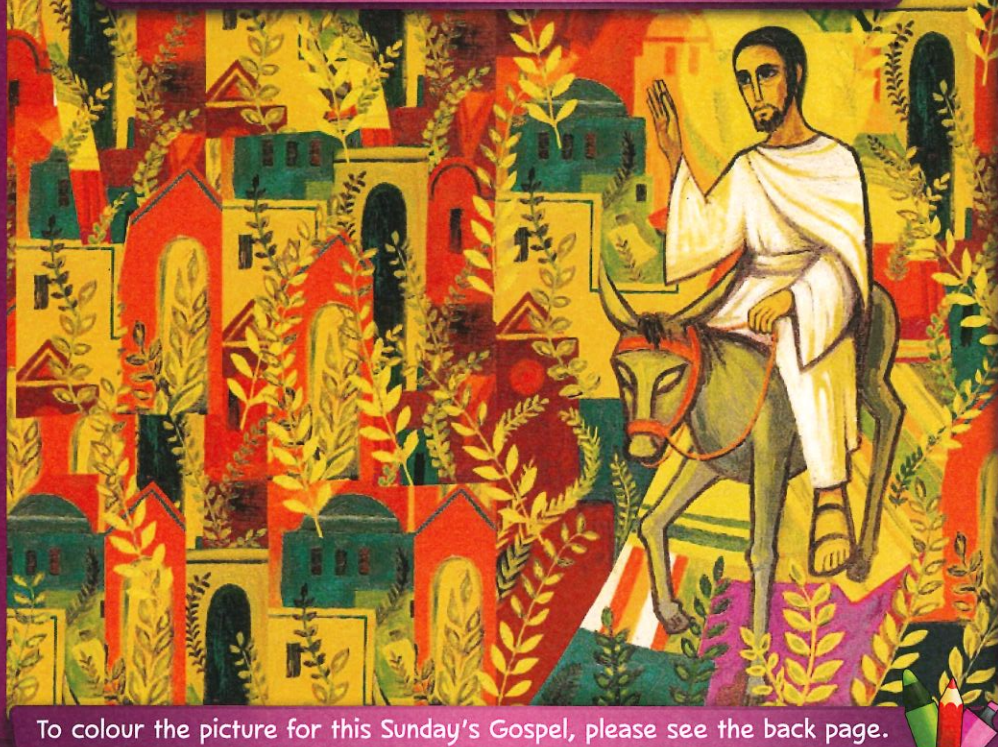
# 1 Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

When Jesus and his disciples were on their way to Jerusalem, they came to the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent two of his disciples into the nearby village to collect a donkey. He said to them, "If anyone stops you, tell them that it is for the Lord, and that the donkey will be returned." So the disciples set off and found the donkey. When they untied it from its post, some people said to them, "What are you doing?" The disciples answered just as Jesus had told them, and the people let the disciples take the donkey to Jesus. Then Jesus rode into Jerusalem. People were spreading their cloaks and palm branches on the road in front of him. They praised God, shouting: "Hosanna! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heavens!"



Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Mark 11:1-10 (Passion/Palm Sunday)

Which words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why?  
Now enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **PRAISE**.



To colour the picture for this Sunday's Gospel, please see the back page.

2

Wednesday's Word

**PRAISE**



"God is full of love: to him be praise forever!" Pope Francis

Why were the people shouting? This coming Sunday is known as Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord. It is the start of Holy Week. Palms will be handed out in Church in remembrance of the welcome and great praise that the people gave to Jesus when he entered Jerusalem. As we grow in our knowledge and love of Jesus, it's natural to want to praise God. Ask your child what the word 'praise' means to them. Ask who regularly praises them and lets them know how good they've been. How does your child feel when they receive praise? Does your child praise anyone - and why? How does your child feel when they praise someone? It may help to share an example of someone you feel deserves praise.

"Praise God always, no matter the time of day." St Benedict

In this Sunday's Gospel, the people praised Jesus. There are many things for which we can praise God (e.g. a loving family, good friends, caring teachers and for always having a good friend - Jesus - who loves us and never forgets us). Praising God brings happiness; it's what we were made for. How can we praise God this week? Perhaps we can: think of all the good things that we have received from God (like the beauty of nature and all creation, for our homes and for each other) and say a quiet prayer of thanks and praise; regularly pray the 'Glory Be' - a simple prayer of praise (see bottom of page).



Dear Lord Jesus, as Holy Week approaches, we thank and **praise** you for giving your life for us, so that one day we too may know the joys of heaven. Amen.



WEDNESDAY  
WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT  
WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

JERUSALEM  
JESUS

RIDING  
DONKEY

PEOPLE  
PRAISING

WAVING  
PALMS

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS  
**BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**

J	O	E	G	N	I	S	I	A	R	P	L
E	E	D	E	A	U	D	G	B	D	P	A
R	L	J	P	S	J	K	E	Y	A	R	P
L	P	A	E	P	E	R	S	M	L	A	P
O	O	J	O	R	S	K	I	E	Y	I	A
E	E	D	P	B	U	S	K	D	G	S	R
G	P	A	L	K	S	S	G	N	I	I	K
N	P	B	E	G	K	W	A	V	I	N	G
I	A	Y	E	K	N	O	D	L	W	G	G
V	L	J	E	R	U	S	A	L	E	M	E
A	M	A	B	R	I	D	I	N	G	M	D
W	S	G	D	O	N	K	E	Y	K	A	W

Cross out  
the letters  
**u b c**  
in the jumbled  
words to find  
4 real words.

nubacme prucaibsd Luborcd hicmub

They \_\_\_\_\_ God, shouting: "Hosanna! Blessings  
on \_\_\_\_\_ who comes in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_!"

## A Great Prayer to Praise God!

Glory be to the Father and to the  
Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was  
in the beginning, is now, and ever  
shall be, world without end. Amen.

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...





**Wednesday**  
27<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**Good News  
for Families**

# 1 Enjoy reading the Gospel

Before sunrise on Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene went to Jesus' tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the entrance and that the tomb was empty. Mary ran to Peter and another disciple (John) and said, "Someone has taken the Lord out of the tomb and we don't know where they have put him." The disciples ran together to the tomb. But John, running faster than Peter, arrived first and looked into the tomb but did not go in. Peter, however, went into the tomb and he saw Jesus' linen burial cloths lying on the ground. He also saw the cloth that had been over Jesus' head; this was rolled up in a place by itself. Then John also went into the tomb; he saw and he believed. Until this moment they had failed to understand that Jesus must rise from the dead.



Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. John 20:1-9 (Easter Sunday)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **EASTER**.

## 2 "Let us prepare to celebrate Easter in the joy of God! Christ is risen! Christ is alive!" Pope Francis

Why wasn't Jesus in the tomb? As a family, look at the pictures on the front cover of this booklet. What do they remind you of or make you think about? This week is Holy Week and this coming Sunday is Easter Sunday. This is the day when the Church throughout the world especially remembers and celebrates the resurrection of Jesus - his rising in glory. Ask your child what they have been learning at school about Easter Sunday. It may help your child if you tell them something else that you know, or have experienced, about Easter.

### 3

Easter Sunday is the greatest day in the Church's calendar. This day reminds us that Jesus, the Son of God, offers each one of us a share in his everlasting life and eternal happiness. All are warmly invited to come and join with the Church community this Sunday and celebrate the hope that Jesus' resurrection brings to our lives. As a family, share ideas about what you might also do to celebrate Easter Sunday and make it special. For ideas and lots more about Easter, please see: [cbcew.org.uk](http://cbcew.org.uk). Who can you help to have a happy Easter?

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

.....  
.....

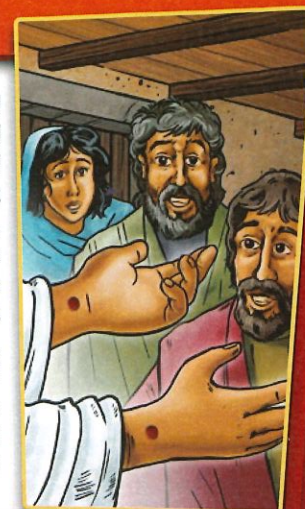


**Wednesday**  
3<sup>rd</sup> April 2024

**Good News  
for Families**

# 1 Enjoy reading the Gospel

The disciples were gathered in a room. They had locked the doors because they were afraid of the people who had crucified Jesus. Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" He showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. Thomas, one of the disciples, was not there when Jesus came and he refused to believe what had happened. One week later they were in the room again and, this time, Thomas was also there. Jesus came and stood among them again and said to Thomas, "Here, touch the marks on my hands and feel the wound in my side. Doubt no longer, but believe." Thomas replied, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who have not seen me and yet believe!"



Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024. John 20:19-31 (the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter, Year B)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **ENCOURAGE**.

## 2 "Jesus is always ready to encourage and support us." Pope Francis

After Jesus had died, the disciples were afraid that the people who had crucified him would now be looking for them too. Jesus' resurrection and miraculous appearance would have encouraged the disciples. When we listen to Jesus, we are filled with words of encouragement. Ask your child what the word 'encourage' means to them. Who encourages them and keeps them going when they find things difficult? How does it feel to be encouraged? Has your child ever encouraged anyone? What did they do?

### 3

There are times when we all need encouraging: that is, to be inspired with courage and to have our hope renewed, especially when we are afraid or going through difficult times. Do you know anyone who may need your encouragement? Each of you choose a way to encourage someone during this Easter season. Perhaps you can: offer words of support; let someone know when they are doing something well; tell someone about the good news of Jesus' resurrection; give someone a helping hand if they are struggling. What else could you do?

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

.....  
.....



Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for this Sunday's wonderful celebration of your resurrection. Please bless my family with new life throughout the great Season of **Easter**. Amen.



Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for coming to strengthen and **encourage** us. Help us to be more like you - to be an **encouragement** to those around us. Amen.

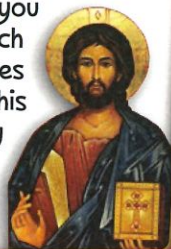


Wednesday  
10<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Good News  
for Families

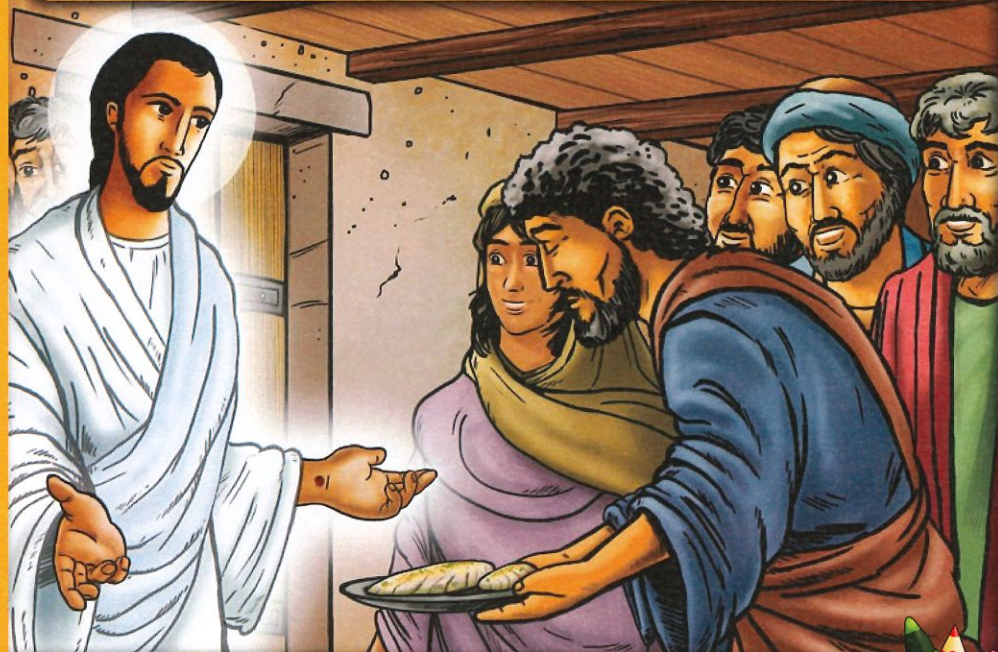
# 1 Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road to Emmaus and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread. They were still talking about this when Jesus himself suddenly appeared among them and said, "Peace be with you!" They were terrified: they thought they were seeing a ghost. "Why are you so frightened?" asked Jesus. "Why do you doubt? Look at my hands and feet; it is really me, in person. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see that I have." Then he showed them his hands and his feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it. They stood there amazed, so he said to them, "Have you anything to eat?" Then they gave him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.



Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Luke 24:35-48 (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter, Year B)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Now enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **BELIEVE**.



To colour the picture for this Sunday's Gospel, please see the back page.

2

Wednesday's Word

**BELIEVE**

"Seek not to understand that you may believe,  
but believe that you may understand." St. Augustine

What were the disciples struggling to believe? After seeing the risen Jesus, the disciples believed that he was alive - he still is! Believing in the resurrection adds something very special to our lives and this cannot be found anywhere else. Jesus invited the disciples to believe and he makes the same invitation to you and me. Ask your child what the word 'believe' means to them, and what it means to 'believe' in Jesus. Each of you say one way that believing in Jesus improves life at home, at school or in the community.

"We can't have full knowledge all at once. We must start by believing."

St Thomas Aquinas - Patron Saint of Pupils & Catholic Schools

Jesus' resurrection - his rising in glory and victory over death - is the greatest event in history! Even though, like the disciples, you may sometimes have doubts, be assured that, when you do doubt, Jesus is still truly close to you and ready to help you to believe. As we journey through Easter, which of the following ways could best help you, as a family, to grow in your belief in Jesus? Perhaps it could be: reading about what Jesus did and said (e.g. in the Bible); being with others who believe; sitting quietly in prayer, asking God to help you grow in belief; living out Jesus' teachings and seeing the difference it makes to your lives.

Dear Lord Jesus, please help our belief in you to grow through recognising your presence in the loving words and actions of those around us. Amen.

WEDNESDAY  
WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT  
WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

JESUS  
APPEARED

ATE  
FISH

DISCIPLES  
AMAZED

GREAT  
JOY

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS  
**BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**

H	J	O	T	A	E	R	G	P	M	J	L
Y	O	J	J	P	M	Z	M	J	O	Y	
Z	J	E	A	P	P	A	L	E	T	A	F
E	S	S	J	E	U	S	Z	Z	S	M	I
T	Z	U	Z	A	M	A	Z	E	D	D	S
E	N	S	L	R	P	Z	M	D	D	U	H
N	G	L	S	E	L	P	I	C	S	I	D
Z	R	O	P	D	D	Z	E	E	D	I	L
A	E	T	J	O	H	N	J	A	N	N	F
P	A	T	E	F	I	S	P	O	R	M	P
N	T	M	D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	S
F	M	O	N	T	O	Y	D	F	P	L	D

Cross out  
the letters  
**u k x**  
in the jumbled  
words to find  
4 real words.

**kamaxzedu bexlikeuve kuthexy juxoky**

Their \_\_\_\_\_ was so great that \_\_\_\_\_ could not  
\_\_\_\_\_ it. They stood there \_\_\_\_\_.

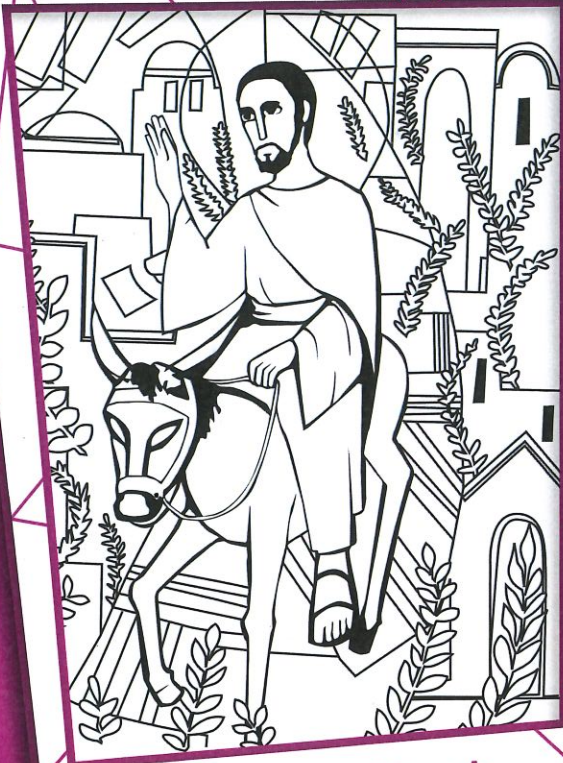
This week we celebrate the Feast of St Martin I, who grew up believing in Jesus, became a priest, and went on to become the Pope. Find out more in the children's section at: [wednesdayword.org](http://wednesdayword.org) (see the 'SAINTS FACTFILES' tab).

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...







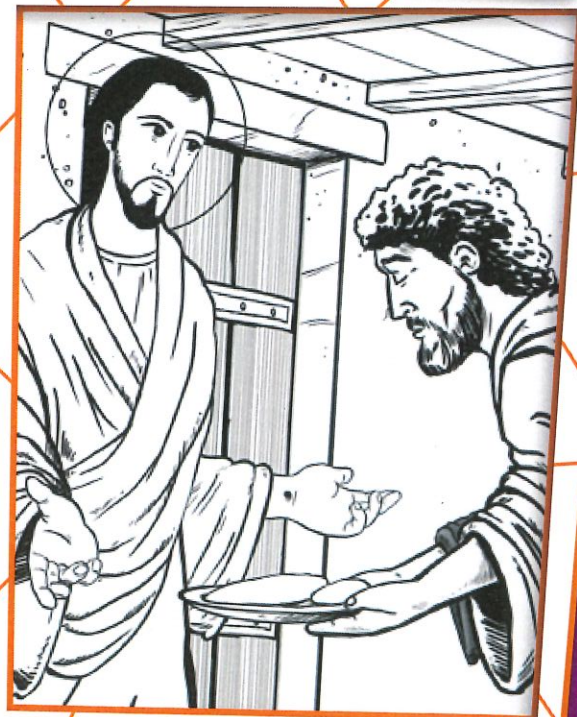
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March



Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March



Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April



Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April

[wednesdayword.org](http://wednesdayword.org)