

# Parent Newsletter

Living faith  
within our families

May 2020



## Living Your Best Life

Thanks to the support of our current subscribing schools, access to Ten Ten's Collective Worship programme is being made freely available to all during this period of school and church closures. Sign up via our website for Daily Prayers and our all new Sunday Liturgy: <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk> Please tell your friends too!

Well. What a month! It's six weeks since schools closed their doors and we've all had to get used to a very different lifestyle. It's totally understandable if children (and adults!) are feeling the strain, sensing the uncertainty and behaving differently to usual. It's easy to talk of 'survival mode' and feel that it's impossible to thrive under these conditions, however in the w/c 4th May, we shared with children the Sunday Gospel:

Jesus said:

**"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that you may have life, life to the full."**

John 10: 1-10

In this assembly, we asked children to answer the question: 'what do you want to be when you grow up?' We explained about 'Vocation Sunday' and that a 'vocation' is far more than just a job: it can be described as sense of 'calling' to some purpose which a person feel fulfils them, making them feel whole and alive.

We showed video clips of various people – teacher, Mum, doctor, priest, actor – who find joy in their vocations, and noticed a lot of the similar qualities they showed: **generosity, kindness, helpfulness, joyfulness, creativity, understanding** etc.

We encouraged children that these qualities are things they can practice now! Whilst it's wonderful to have dreams and ambitions and work towards a goal, we suggested that

maybe a better question than 'what do you want to be when you grow up?' is 'how can I be TODAY?'

Children learned that the more they listen to Jesus' voice, the more they will hear Him guide them where He wants them to go. But there's one thing that we're ALL called to do, and that's to **live life to the full by loving God and loving others.**

In the assembly, we reflected on how children could practice qualities of **generosity, kindness, helpfulness, joyfulness, creativity and understanding** even in lockdown life! You might like to continue this discussion and praise your child when they demonstrate these qualities.

### Prayer

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for sending Jesus to show me how to live my best life, by following His example and listening to His voice.*

*Help me to discover your plan for my life and give me courage to walk in the path you have chosen for me.*

*Amen*

- For the people God is calling to live their lives to full by becoming a priest or nun – that they would **have the courage to take up their calling.**

You might like to pray these things with your child, and for any priests and sisters you know.

## The Good Shepherd

The 4th Sunday of Easter is sometimes called 'Good Shepherd' Sunday, because the Gospel helps us to remember that Jesus is like a good shepherd who provides us with everything that we need. It is also known as 'Vocation Sunday', when we particularly think of those called to vocations in the priesthood and religious life.

The reason these fall on the same day is because priests and sisters try to emulate Jesus, our Good Shepherd, in feeding us, protecting us, helping us, sheltering us and guiding us. On this day, we pray:

- That **God would help priests and nuns** in all the work they do to help people know Jesus better.