



Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Throughout the school years, the whole family will grow and change – learning more about life and about one another.

Change can be an exciting part of family life. The Season of Lent presents a great opportunity to examine our conscience – do we need a change of heart, a change of attitude?

In this Sunday's Gospel, the fig tree represents God's people – it represents all of us.

We are all called to change: to grow and so enrich the world around us – to love as Jesus loved.

That is what being fully human means! Jesus is like the gardener. He is patient with us, nurtures us and helps us to change for the better.

Enjoy hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **CHANGE**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from Pope Francis

*"Lent helps us fight against any of our faults. We all can improve and change for the better."*

## THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025



Jesus told the people this story: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, 'Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?' 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.'"

Adapted from Luke 13:1-9  
The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent, Year C

Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful.  
Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.

2025: The Jubilee Year of Hope!

Having Hope  
in our Families

Lent is a time of change and each new day is an opportunity for us to change. God has 'planted' us on this earth to produce the good fruits of love, joy and kindness in our lives. Jesus helps us to keep growing in faith and goodness – to change the world and make it a better place.



# Good News for Families

## TOGETHER TIME



### Sunday Gospel Gallery

Look at this Sunday's Gospel picture. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

## 1 READ & REFLECT! Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

One day Jesus told the people this story: "A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard which was taking up space and not producing fruit. So he said to the gardener, 'For three years I have been coming to look for fruit on this tree and finding none. Let's chop it down!' The gardener replied, 'Sir, let's leave it for another year. I'll help it to grow and produce fruit.'"

### What was wrong with the fig tree?

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.

## 2 SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love: This Wednesday's Word...

"To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often." *St John Henry Newman*

## CHANGE



Ask your child what the word 'change' means to them. As a family, share any positive changes which have recently taken place at home, at school or within the community. Let your child know about at least one way in which they have changed for the better and grown in goodness over the past months (e.g. in behaviour, in attitude, in helpfulness). How does your child think that changing in that way has helped them? How has it helped the family or their friends?



Each of you say something about yourself that you would like to change this Lent - and say why. Perhaps it is: trying to listen better at school; trying to follow Jesus more closely; being more patient; helping out more at home; always remembering to say your daily prayers. How can you make that change? Do you need anyone's help? Are there any other ways to make a change for the better this Lent? You may also like to choose something new to do together that will make life better for the family.

3 Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for your patient care for us. Show us where we need to **change** - to grow more in our love for you and for each other. Amen.

## FINDING THREE

**WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH**

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TREE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	VINEYARD	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	OWNER	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	GARDENER	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	TIME	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHANGE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	PRODUCE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	FRUIT	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

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

**cfbrudit bledave yebcard gbrodwc**

The gardener replied, 'Sir, let's \_\_\_\_\_ it for another \_\_\_\_\_ . I'll help it to \_\_\_\_\_ and produce \_\_\_\_\_ .'

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that Jesus cares for us, just like the gardener cares for the tree. Listening and acting upon what our parents, teachers and others tell us about God, helps us to keep growing into the best people we can be.



Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture

This week I will try my best to...



Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley