



It is with profound sadness that we join the nation in mourning the loss of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

We give thanks for her dedication and service, and we pray for her family as they come to terms with their profound loss.

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord
And let perpetual light shine upon her.

Amen



FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all safe and well.

My weekly message is in video format. Please do take a listen and let us know what you think, any feedback is welcome.

Please find below the link to our website to view my message:

<https://www.st-josephs.slough.sch.uk/assets/Documents/Letters/20220909-Newsletter-1.m4v>

St Joseph, pray for us

Ciran

THEME OF THE WEEK – Repentance

SECTION 1

Our theme this week is 'Repentance'. Jesus is surrounded by those who were considered sinners, in particular tax collectors, people who worked for the Romans and exacted money from the Jews, often asking more than what was due and becoming dishonestly rich. They were considered traitors of Israel and enemies of God. No wonder that the Pharisees (who thought they were the perfect ones) were scandalized that Jesus spent time with them. Jesus replies telling three stories to show them that God is not a tyrant who keeps a record of our misdeeds, but a loving father who always seeks for and forgives those who go back to Him.

Do we sometimes feel that we are better than other people before God?

In the two stories about the lost sheep and coin, Jesus uses the Greek word *metànoia* for repentance, and says that whenever one repents, the angels rejoice in heaven. This word literally means 'to change one's mind, to change direction'. When we repent of something wrong we have done, not only we feel sorry about it and ask forgiveness, but we make a strong resolution to change our way of life so that it may better reflect the plan that God has for us.

DO you remember a time when you had to repent about something? How did you try not to make the same mistake again?

Repentance 1

Weekly Reflections
12th September 2022



A reading from St Luke's Gospel
Luke 15:1-10

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbours, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman, having ten silver coins if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Prayer for the Week

Father God, I know that I often get things wrong and don't live up to my calling as your beloved child. Give me the help of your Holy Spirit to understand my mistakes, the strength to change direction, and the joy of your forgiving embrace.
Amen.



Day 1

There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

Throughout the Bible we have a series of encounters with people who feel righteous before God and consequently despise those they consider inferior.

St Paul, though, tells us that all have sinned and need God's forgiveness.

- Are you ever tempted to feel better than others?
- If so, how do you try to overcome this temptation?

Day 2

The word Repentance in the original Greek is *metánoia*, which means 'change of mind', and in Latin *conversio* or 'change of direction'.

To repent means not only being sorry for our mistakes and asking for God's and one another's forgiveness. It also means a radical change of mind and direction that reflects the way God wants us to live.

- Are there things that you would like to change in your life to be a better disciple of Jesus?

Day 3 Exaltation of Holy Cross (14th September)

Lord Jesus, your great love for us made you carry the heavy Cross, making it the instrument of our salvation. Give us strength to bear the trials that will come our way today and in the coming year, and to offer them to you as a token of our love.

Amen.

- Do you remember a time when you made a little sacrifice for the benefit of others?
- If not what could you do?

THEME OF THE WEEK – Repentance

SECTION 2

The third story in our Gospel is famously called the parable of the Prodigal Son, or the son who wasted his father's money. Instead we must refer to it as the parable of the Merciful Father, as the heart of this story, and indeed of the Christian life, is not sin and the things that we do wrong, but God's love and mercy which are always available if we turn back to him with humility.

Think for a moment of the image of God you have in your mind. Is he a strict judge always ready to catch you wrong, or is he the loving father Jesus came to show us?

The elder brother is jealous of the feast prepared for his brother and refuses to join. When the father goes out to fetch him, he complains: Why do you celebrate bad people like my brother and never reward good people like me? The father explains that there is room for all in his house, and that – like God - he wants all who belong to his household to partake of his joy.

Have there been times when you haven't been able to rejoice in other people's success or felt like they had been unjustly supported?

Jesus does not tell us what happened after the father spoke to the elder son. If you had to write an ending, what would it be like?

Repentance 2

Weekly Reflections
12th September 2022



A reading from St Luke's Gospel

Luke 15:11-32

And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and

Prayer for the Week

Father God, I know that I often get things wrong and don't live up to my calling as your beloved child. Give me the help of your Holy Spirit to understand my mistakes, the strength to change direction, and the joy of your forgiving embrace. Amen.

Day 4

Our theme this week is 'Repentance'. In the second part of the Gospel Jesus tells a story about a child who goes astray and soon finds himself destitute and unhappy. He finds the courage to go back home prepared to be treated as the last of the servants, but, instead, his father throws a big party for him.

If we have the courage to admit our faults we can be assured that God will always forgive us. Look closely at Rembrandt's interpretation of the story of the Merciful Father. The left hand of the father is different from the right one.

- How?
- What do you think that means?



Day 5

Lord Jesus, you taught us that God wants none of his children to drift away from his embrace. Give us a taste of the Father's love, that we may rejoice in it and share it with our brothers and sisters. Amen

Catholic Schools' Week 2022!

12th – 17th September

During Our Catholic Schools' Week, St Joseph's will continue to foster, build up and enhance relationships between our parishes, schools and homes for the good of all. During our Catholic Schools' Week this year, we will be reflecting on the theme of '**Reaching Out to Others**'.

On Sunday 11th September 2022 (24th Sunday in Ordinary Time in the Church's Liturgical Calendar) we are presented with Jesus' famous parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son from the Gospel of Luke chapter 15. In each of these stories we encounter someone who is reaching out, going out and searching. The shepherd reaches out to find the one lost sheep, the woman searches for the lost coin and the devoted Father reaches out in love to both of his sons.

Over the coming days we will reflect on different aspects of reaching out to others. We know that reaching out costs us something, it can disturb our sense of comfort and security and takes effort. It helps shift our focus from ourselves and our immediate needs and concerns onto the needs of others. In the characters of the shepherd, the woman and the Father from Luke's Gospel chapter 15 we see an image of God who constantly reaches out in love to us. Our God who never gives up on us but is always seeking us out to save us, serve us and lift us up.

Let us pray

Lord, in the beautiful parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son we see reflected your own great love for us. Help us during this week to have a greater insight into your heart of love, especially for those who are on the margins of life, those who are hurting and in need.

Give us the grace to reach out to others and so be instruments of your love in the communities to which you have called us.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

A leaflet with Daily Reflections and Prayers by the Diocese of Northampton is available. Please get in touch with our Chaplain, Orazio on o.camaioni@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk if you would like a PDF copy.

Free school meals

Am I eligible for free school meals?

You will be able to claim free school meals for your child if you receive one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have a net income from employment of no more than £7400 per year). For more information on how the government calculates your earnings from employment whilst claiming Universal Credit, please check the "Eligibility under Universal Credit" section below.
- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

<https://www.slough.gov.uk/xfp/form/244>

Mr J Gibbons

Literacy - Word and Idiom of the Week

Word of the Week is Invoke. This is a verb that means either:

1. To call on (a deity or spirit) in prayer, as a witness, or for inspiration.
2. To cite or appeal to (someone or something) as an authority for an action or in support of an argument.

Idiom of the Week is 'to cross the Rubicon'. This means to make a difficult decision with irreversible consequences.

Reading Tests

We will begin our first round of Reading Tests on the 19th of September. Students will be tested during their reading time and this will discern their Reading Age and generate a report as to how best the school and parents can support students reading. Reading Ages will be published on our school reports (with an explanation of what this means) and appropriate sections of the test reports will be given to parents as well.

Students will be informed early next week of their test date and location.

Mr G Stack-Clark

Rewards Screen

Please see the attachment for full details of the rewards, challenges and dates.

REWARDS SHOP - COLLECTION



LRC

In the Break & Lunch

- Orders before 5pm will be available from the following day
- Orders more than **two weeks** old will be cancelled (points will be refunded)

Mr R Dann

PE Lunchtime and Extra Curricular Timetable

PE After school clubs

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch 1 Year 8,9,10	Table tennis and Badminton MJO	Table tennis and Badminton AAN	Table tennis and Badminton MJO	Table tennis and Badminton AAN	Table tennis and Badminton MJO
Lunch 2 Year 7,11,12,13		Table tennis and Badminton AAN	Table tennis and Badminton AAN	Table tennis and Badminton AAN	
Afterschool	Year 7,8 and 9 Football @ Slough Town Football Club FWA, NCA, JCO Year 7,8 and 9 Trampolining KBR, MJO Year 9-6 th form Fitness room	Year 7,8 and 9 Netball MJO, AAN, KBR Year 7,8 and 9 Basketball JCO, FWA Year 9-6 th form Fitness room	Year 7,8 and 9 Badminton FWA, SCH, MJO Year 9-6 th form Fitness room AAN, FWA		Year 10,11,12,13 Football @ Slough Town Football Club THU, FWA, EED Year 10,11,12,13 Netball MJO, KBR Year 10,11,12,13 Basketball FWA,CWH

Miss M Joseph

YEAR 9 NEWS

Congratulations to all of year 9 on a fantastic start to the year. As a year group, year 9 achieved 628 positives this week and a special shout out goes to 9T who achieved 150 of these. Keep up the good work! Just a reminder for all students to make sure that they have all the equipment that they need for the day with them in their linen bag – missing items can be purchased through ClassCharts. We will be having a welcome evening for year 9 parents and guardians on Thursday 29th September. All parents/guardians are required to attend. If you are unable to come, please contact myself or Miss Stevens as soon as possible to arrange an alternative time to meet with you.

Have a great weekend!

Miss Stevens

YEAR 13 NEWS

A huge welcome back to all the year 13 students this week, you have made a really positive start. Whole school mass was celebrated on Friday morning and thank you to all for joining in and setting the example to younger students. The interview process for head boy and girl positions is underway so best of luck to all the candidates who have applied.

A big thank you to all the students who came into school a day early to help the year 7's with their first day. Your friendly faces and support was really appreciated and the younger students look up to as excellent role models.

During electives on Wednesday afternoon year 13 were helpful in joining in sessions and assisting younger students, well done.

Have a great week

Mrs Bray

TVLP News

Open to entries: TVLP 'Love' art competition, with Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust

This year I would like us to make sure our students take part in as many TVLP events as possible as there is such a variety they offer to support students personally and academically in their growth.

This term there is an Art competition open to all year groups and work submitted will be displayed in the childrens' ward corridor at Wexham Park Hospital in October.

Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust will be the judge, with the winning students receiving a £30 National Book Token and a TVLP certificate. All the runners up and displayed art work entries will also receive a TVLP certificate. If there are any queries please come and speak to me (Miss Boland). Please see attached poster for more information.

Thank you.

Miss Boland

TVLP opportunity:

The **TVLP bulb planting event** now looks likely to take place on either Saturday 1st October, 2:00pm-3:30pm, or Saturday 15th October, 2:00pm-3:30pm at Thames Hospice in Maidenhead. This is a great chance to get involved in community projects and cheer up those that need it most and enjoy the gardens at Thames Hospice.

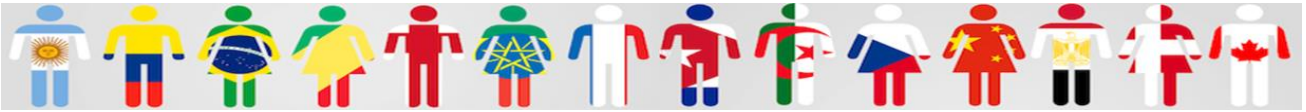
There is also a lovely cafe onsite as well as toilet facilities. All the equipment required to plant the bulbs (gloves, hand tools, etc) will be provided.



TVLP participation certificates will be given to each attending student. If you are interested, please can you email L.Boland@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk so that I can plan numbers and logistics.

TVLP Newsletter is attached for your information

EAL NEWS (English as an Additional Language)



Back to school tips

We are excited to welcome all our students back and we hope this new school year will bring lots of learning and growth.

These are few tips to ensure your child is set up for a successful year.

- Please stay connected and collaborate with teachers; by staying informed, you can stay up to date on your child's linguistic and academic progress. Understanding what is going on in school will give you a better idea of how you can support your child at home. Coordination and partnership between the school and home helps children thrive and succeed. If language is an issue when communicating with your child's teachers, let the school know the language that you feel most comfortable with. I am always happy to help email J.Ura@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk
-
- Supporting learning at home is vitally important to your child's view of education and achievement. Click here to read [our homework policy and time table](#)
- Reading for pleasure has been positively linked with an increase in the following literacy-related benefits for children:
 - Reading attainment, phonics and writing ability
 - It increases the learners' exposure to language.
 - It can consolidate previously learned language.

Please encourage your child to read for pleasure; your library is one of the most important resources in your community, and anyone can use it. You and your family will find books, videos, music, newspapers, computers, and much more for your child and you — for free! Click below to find information about [Slough Libraries](#)





#IcandoMaths

Solution to last Week's Puzzler

- C** Let the length of each edge of the rhombus be x . Then, as the rhombus and the smaller regular hexagon have an edge in common, the length of each edge of this hexagon is also x . So the length of each edge of the larger regular hexagon is $2x$. The two regular hexagons are similar. Therefore the ratio of their areas is the square of the ratio of their edge-lengths, that is $1^2 : 2^2 = 1 : 4$.

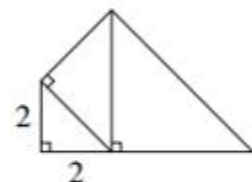
Solution to the Break time Teaser:

- B** The two-digit squares are 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81. The products of their digits are 6, 10, 18, 36, 24, 8, respectively. So exactly one two-digit square has the required property, namely 49.

Problem of the week

The shape shown is made up of three similar right-angled triangles. The smallest triangle has two sides of side-length 2, as shown.

What is the area of the shape?



- A 14 B $12 + 12\sqrt{2}$ C 28 D $24 + 20\sqrt{2}$ E 56

Break time Teaser:

A function machine does the four operations shown in order.



Iris inputs a positive integer and the output is also a positive integer. What is the smallest possible number which Iris could have input?

- A 9 B 84 C 102 D 120 E 129

Send your answers to Mr Allinson. Complete answers will get positive points on Class Charts.

PUPIL NOMINATIONS OF THE WEEK

YEAR 9

Kacper Kocur for being curious and active and **Darragh O' Connor** for good work in all his subjects this week.

YEAR 10

Hannah Marie Anaya and **Daniel Rossiter** for the most positive points this week

YEAR 12

Bruno Boaretto and **Melissa Pala** for earning lots of positive points and all Year 12 Students for a really excellent start to their sixth form journey

YEAR 13

Lewis Passos-Wiggs and **Georgie Koroma** for earning the most positive points in the first week back.