

Trinity Cluster



Catholic Education Week 2024



Dear Parishioner,

It is a privilege to be able to share with you an update from the schools across our Cluster.

Catholic Education Week takes place each year from the Feast of St Margaret of Scotland (16th November) until the Feast of St Andrew (30th November).

The Catholic Church in Scotland encourages schools, parishes and other agencies to work closely together in order to celebrate the successes of Catholic education particularly during one week each year. The purpose of Catholic Education Week is to highlight the significance of education, not only for young people but for society as a whole. Students, parents, teachers and others are asked to reflect on their own roles in the education process – at home, in school, in the local parish and in other educational settings.

A key strength in all cluster schools is regular and well-planned opportunities for liturgical and faith celebration, and to support the faith journey of our children and families. In all of our cluster schools, liturgical and faith learning events are planned in advance with our Parish Priests and provide all in our community opportunity for communal celebration and deepening of faith.

We hope that you find the information contained within this short publication informative and reassuring of our collective commitment to Catholic Education. We wish to reassure you of our continued support for Parish life and thank you for all of your support and prayers for our school communities.

Yours Sincerely,



P. Marshall

Head Teacher

Trinity HS



N. Fitsimmons

Head Teacher

St. James' PS



C. Mackenzie

Head Teacher

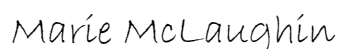
St. Anne's PS



L. Gardyne

Head Teacher

St John Bosco PS



M. McLaughlin

Head Teacher

St. Catherine's PS



St. James' Primary School

Our school motto "Appropinquate Deo" translates to "Draw close to God". As a faith based learning community, we are guided by Christ in all our planning and actions. Our school vision is to educate the whole person - body, mind and soul - so that we may confidently respond to God's call.

During Catholic Education week, we will focus on this year's theme of 'Pilgrims of Hope'. We will celebrate all that is important to us as a Catholic school, both within our own community and as part of the wider Trinity cluster.

Our school is an inclusive community where we welcome, value and support all pupils, parents and staff to fulfil the potential of their God given talents. Our learning is shaped using the Gospel Values of Compassion, Integrity, Justice and Wisdom and our School Values of Kindness, Respect and Commitment. Our school is a place of worship and celebration, offering everyone the opportunity to encounter Christ.



We are a Laudato Si school. Our pupils learn in an environment that fosters ecological awareness. Through prayer, learning and action, we promote and encourage positive change across the school, aiming to create a better world for future generations.

Our Rosary Group meets every Monday during lunchtime to pray a decade of the Rosary together. We pray for the special intentions of pupils and staff.

Primary Four and Primary Seven classes work in partnership with the parishes of St James' and St Columba's to help pupils and their families grow in faith as they prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Primary Six pupils begin working towards the Pope Francis Faith Award. They learn about the gifts of the Holy Spirit and are invited to use their own gifts and talents in the service of others. As we embrace Catholic Education Week, may our school continue to collaborate with our parishes, to provide our pupils with the best opportunities possible to grow in their learning, their love for God and their love for each other.





St. Catherine's Primary School

The community of St Catherine's Primary would like to share with you how we will be celebrating Catholic Education Week and preparing for the 2025 Jubilee Year that Pope Francis has themed with the motto 'Pilgrims of Hope'. The Gospel Values are central to everything that we do within St Catherine's and enable us to be Pilgrims of Hope. Our journey to maintaining hope is supported by us being a Pope Francis Laudato Si school, and by our values that are reflected in our motto 'Attain,



Achieve, Aspire'. As a Laudato Si school we are focused on providing ecological education that collectively improves the local, national, and global environment. Our Eco, Fair Trade and



Gardening Citizenship Groups are focused on aspiring and achieving a brighter and fairer future for all and is highlighted by the whole school community development of our new outdoor learning area, our promotion of Fair Trade and our Eco Green Flag award.

It is part of our mission to develop humanity within our children through raising funds and awareness of how we can help people less fortunate than ourselves, for example our Charity Champions Citizenship group annually raises money for Missio, SCIAF and Mary's Meals. At Christmas our Faith in Action group makes up food parcels for the older people who live near our school. This month we have also created Christmas Cards that will be given to elderly people in Renfrewshire who may not receive cards at this time of year.



Our Primary 4 and Primary 7 children are continually being supported in their faith journey by their families, school, and parish, as well as through preparing to celebrate the Sacraments of Confirmation, Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. This term we are delighted to be joined by the Mysterious Tuesday Rosary group from our cluster secondary school, Trinity High School.

We support all of our children to actively live the gospel values and to provide hope through actions, including being merciful and forgiving. As a school community we share our faith through attendance at Mass and with our families, in our parishes of St Mirin's in Paisley and St Columba's in Renfrew.

We would like you to follow our Pilgrimage of Hope through following St Catherine's Primary School on x (formally Twitter) <https://twitter.com/@stcatherinespsy> or by visiting our school website <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/stcatherines>.

St. Anne's Primary School



We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision." Pope Francis

Since 1981, we have been a proud member of the Catholic community in Erskine and have had the privilege of working with our Parish of St. Bernadette's, our Cluster schools and the wider Diocese of Paisley to build a community where we "Love one Another."

In St. Anne's, we journey together as 'Pilgrims of Hope' and we know that the Spirit of God is with us and works through us on our journey.

Our hope for a bright and positive future is based on putting our faith into action as we journey through life. Hope is trusting in God, knowing he will protect us and taking action to sow the seeds of faith in our relationship with God, with others and with our environment and common home.



Building Hope in our Relationship with God:

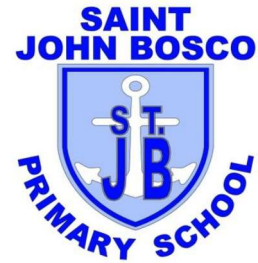
As a community of faith, we are committed to developing our relationship with God through the power of prayer. There are opportunities for daily prayer in school and we share collective prayer experiences through our weekly 'Community Prayer Assemblies.' We are fortunate to attend First Wednesday Mass in the Parish of St. Bernadette's and our children take an active role in the Liturgy and Mass. We regularly light votive candles in the Church to pray for the special intentions of our school and community. Our Rosary Groups during the months of October and May provide us with an opportunity to encounter Jesus and engage in collective prayer to pray for our own special intentions and the intentions of our Holy Father, the Pope. We recently enjoyed a visit from the Mysterious Tuesday Rosary Group from Trinity High School who shared with us the importance of prayer in our daily lives as a source of strength and hope. The seed of faith is sown in our preparations for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. These Sacraments strengthen our faith and give us hope for the future that we will be able to grow closer to God.

Building Hope in our Relationship with Others:

We put our faith into action through having positive encounters with other people and we respect one another irrespective of differences in race, culture or creed. In St. Anne's, we are an inclusive and welcoming school who celebrate diversity and who put our school motto into practice every day. Our faith is put into action by the fundraising work and charity initiatives that we are involved in. We recently hosted a McMillan Coffee morning and raised the tremendous amount of £1,250 for this important cause. At the end of November, we are preparing to support one of our families whose child has been affected by a brain tumour by taking part in a whole school and Nurse 'Walk of Hope' which seeks to raise funds for medical investment into research as well as raising awareness for the charity and its profile within the community of Erskine.

Building Hope in our Relationship with the Environment:

We are proud to be a Laudato Si school and we are committed to ensuring the ecological preservation of our common home, Planet Earth. We work together to promote initiatives that will help to create a better world for future generations.



St. John Bosco Primary School

As we look forward to the year of Jubilee in 2025 we prepare with hope, as Pope Francis asked us to. Please take a moment to read how the community of St John Bosco primary school are 'Pilgrims of Hope' who are 'Sharing Jesus Beliefs'.

As Pilgrims of Hope, we have the same shared beliefs, school mottos and values. Our school values of kindness, inclusion, compassion and support enable us to live the Gospel values in action and to share these values in action within our local community and in the wider world. Our children know that we must look after our planet and we follow our Laudato Si teachings provided by Pope Francis. We put these values into action by litter picking within our local area and developing our school grounds, planting trees and encouraging wild-life.



Within St John Bosco primary school we are proud to demonstrate our faith through attendance at Mass with our school in the local parish of St John Bosco in Erskine and with our families in our parishes of St John Bosco in Erskine and Our Lady of Lourdes in Bishopton. We gather together as a school community to pray a decade of the Rosary each Tuesday and Thursday morning during the months of October and May. We are now joined regularly by the Mysterious Tuesday Rosary group from our cluster secondary school, Trinity High School. We build partnerships with home and parish as we prepare our children in primaries 4 and 7 for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation.



As Pilgrims of Hope, we constantly reinforce our home-school-parish links. During Advent, our children in primaries 1 & 2 benefit from the 'Travelling Crib' when they each take home the crib and set this up in their own homes. In May and June our primary 4 children also enjoyed taking home the 'Travelling Rosary', with each of them having the opportunity to take home the statue of Our Lady and create their own altar at home.

As Pilgrims of Hope we know how important it is to share hope through our actions. Our children not only help each other within school but are also keen to support others in our local community and across the world. We are proud to support local charities and local people. Our children visit local care homes at Christmas and throughout the year, spreading hope and joy. Our children work with Catholic Erskine to send Christmas cards and Easter wishes to those in the community who are alone. Our children also provide hope to those in other countries who are less fortunate than us, raising funds for SCIAF and MISSIO.

To keep up to date with St John Bosco primary school's Pilgrimage of Hope please follow us on X (formerly Twitter) <https://twitter.com/StJohnBoscoPS> or visit our school website, <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/stjohnboscoprimary/>



Trinity High School

“We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire; that is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee Pilgrims of Hope” Pope Francis

In the past year we, as a school, have had the privilege to be drawn closer to God in a number of ways; we will outline these below.

Faith Pilgrimages and Excursions

Over the last year we have been very fortunate to go on pilgrimage both inside and outside of the school. Of particular note is our annual pilgrimage to Carfin Grotto. This is free to pupils and staff and is a fantastic day of prayer and contemplation.

Pupils from across the various faith groups such as Mysterious Tuesday, Faith Leaders and Caritas are able to reflect on their own personal journeys and have the opportunity to pray together as a community. Pupils in S1-S3 have also had the opportunity to build links with the faith communities of Judaism, Islam and Sikhism through visits to our local Synagogue, Mosque and Gurdwara.





Trinity High School

Celebration of Holy Mass

We are blessed to be working in partnership with our fantastic local Priests. This allows the school community to celebrate Mass each week on a Tuesday (8.30am) and Friday (12.30). We would like to extend a warm invitation to any Parishioner who wishes to join us for our weekly Mass (please sign in at the school office). As a community of faith we ensure we make time to join for Mass on special Holy Days of Obligation and the Patronal Feast Days for our four Houses (St. Andrew, St. Margaret, St. Therese and St. Columba).



Charity and Thanksgiving

We are very proud of our school's reputation for giving back to the local, national and international community. Last session organisations and charities such as Food Rush, Christmas Gift Appeal, SCIAF, Mary's Meals, Fairtrade all benefited from the generosity of time and resources from all in the Trinity High School Community.





Trinity High School

Mysterious Tuesday's and

Faith Ambassadors.

We are very fortunate to have very keen pupils who attend the Mysterious Tuesday club. Across the year they have produced a variety of resources to be used in school, our parishes and our feeder primaries. A highlight of the year has been the visits to our primary 7 classes to spend time praying the rosary with them.



Our Faith Ambassador junior chaplaincy group have worked hard over the past year to self reflect and promote the faith life of Trinity. Some of their highlights have been taking part in our P7 transition day and highlighting the diversity of faith and cultures present in Trinity.



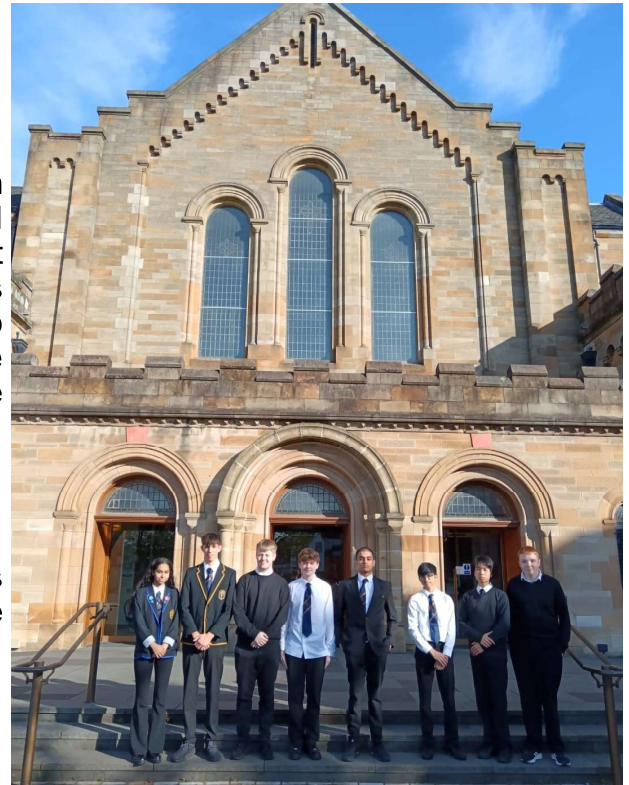


Trinity High School

Vocations

This year we have been fortunate to participate in pilgrimage for our annual vocations week. Pupils and staff travelled to St John the Baptist Parish in Port Glasgow to attend the annual vocations Mass. This highlighted to our pupils that we do not have to go very far to experience pilgrimage, however, when we step outside of our normal activity we can experience God's love in some very unique ways.

Our S6 pupils also attended the Diocesan vocations conference and this allowed them to consider the pathway that God is calling them to undertake.



10 years of Food Bank Food Rush

This year Trinity celebrated 10 years of the Food Bank Food Rush appeal. This initiative was started by past pupil Kevin Milliken when he had the idea to involve every school in Renfrewshire in donating to Renfrewshire Foodbank. This initiative was set up to ensure that every month the foodbank would have a supply of food to support our local families.





Trinity High School

Retreat Days

Over the past year we have utilised our S6 Caritas pupils and chaplaincy team to deliver our S1-3 retreat days. Pupils have spent time reflecting on the call to Sainthood and how they can apply the school values to their lives. Our S6 have reflected on the meaning of love and charity and what it means to treat everyone as our neighbour no matter how challenging life can get. This has enabled them to see all pupils as children of God.



Aid to the Church in Need

In September 2024 a group of 50 pupils visited Hamilton Town House to attend the Aid to the Church in Need Conference. This enabled pupils to consider how lucky they are to be able to live out their faith on a daily basis without fear of persecution. This event also allowed pupils to experience pilgrimage in a new way. During the event they were able to connect with their peers in Liberia through a live link up to a Catholic school. Pupils were able to experience pilgrimage by travelling through a sacramental journey with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament led by Firecloud during exposition. Pupils learned what it is to live in hope and how they could bring hope to others on a daily basis.

