

“The Voice and Spirit of Painsley”

Hi all,

The Chaplaincy Crew hope you all had a safe and lovely half term break with your families and enjoyed the glorious weather. It was during this half term that the Church celebrated the wonderful Feast of Pentecost. We heard how the disciples, having locked themselves away in the upper room, received the Holy Spirit from Jesus through the gushing of the wind and the tongues of fire.

Have you ever watched the film the Wizard of Oz? It is regarded as one of the greatest films of all time. If you have, you will know how the wind has a big part to play in transforming Dorothy's life, giving her courage and self-belief as she travels on her journey home.

Let us ponder

The cyclone in the Wizard of Oz

Life in Kansas was normal, grumbly, and people were not very happy, that was until the wind came and it picked up the house, Dorothy, Toto and all, and took them to a place where nothing was the same...

There were people dancing around, monkeys who could fly, unexpected dangers, friends with unexplainable gifts of courage, compassion, wisdom (without anything to offer a rational explanation for their presence) and there was the Emerald City that was so beautiful and full of promise. Towards the end of her journey, Dorothy met the Wizard of Oz and although he was a bit of a fraud he understood Dorothy and he knew that she had inside her all the qualities that she needed and had been searching for all along, to take her back home.

And when she eventually got home, although home was no different, it was Dorothy who was different. She experienced her life with a soul made light by the wind.

Just as Dorothy had to make the journey and “learn it for herself,” along the path of life, we too will have experiences that will grow and shape us and remind us of the power that we already have. Unlike Dorothy, we don't have to wait for our journey to end to receive the ruby slipper, we have been given something much better...the gift of the Holy Spirit which is in us all right now. Our biggest problem is that we don't always believe. All too often we are like Dorothy, searching for something we already possess.

It's similar to the times in which we search for our pencil case, only to realise it was in our school bag all along or we search for our sunglasses and find them resting on top of our head. They were not lost. We had them all along. We just forgot where they were. Unlike Dorothy, our power is not in a pair 'ruby slippers' that sparkle in the light. Our power is from the Holy Spirit, the light of Jesus, who dwells in us, always there, teaching us, guiding us and strengthening us.

So the next time you're searching, the next time you're weak, the next time you're doubting, or unable to speak... remember, you don't need 'ruby slippers'!

You have the light and the life of the Holy Spirit sent down to us all on that Pentecost day.

A reflection from a Year 8 student

“Working from home has been fun but also sad because I don't get to see my friends but other than that it is fine. Something positive that happened this week was taking a test in RE and getting all of the answers right because I had more time to work through the work my teacher had set, giving me more time to revise. One thing on the live stream that made me laugh was when Mr Harris and a boy in my class were joking around on the chat, talking about their football teams. One supports Stoke and the other supports Arsenal. The pandemic has affected my faith because it has made me think how lucky I am to have a garden, have my family and have money for food.”

Sunday's Gospel John 3:16-18

The Most Holy Trinity

On Sunday, we celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity; one God in three persons. The Trinity is a great mystery of our Faith. Trinity means three in one, we have called the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit a 'Holy Trinity'.

It is often quite difficult to understand and explain this concept but let's think for a moment of one of God's creations...an apple!

An apple has three parts: the seeds, the flesh, and the skin. If you cut an apple in half, you can see that each of these three parts is different. The seeds look different from the flesh, which looks different from the skin. Each serving a very different purpose but they are all equally an apple. You could even go so far as to compare the three parts of an apple to the different persons in the Trinity.

The skin is like God the Father because He protects us.

The flesh is like God the Son because Jesus Christ took on human flesh.

The seeds are like God the Holy Spirit because He helps us to grow. Each of the parts of an apple is different, but they are all 'apple.'

The Holy Trinity is one God in three persons and through this Holy Trinity, as Christians, we are called to take this model for our relationships. Working together as one, letting all our differences, instead of being causes of division, become the richness of acceptance, encouragement and celebration. Always using our various gifts in union with others for the good of all.

Food for thought

Without God, our week would be.

Sunday

Mournday

Tearday

Wasteday

Thirstday

Fight day

Shatteredday

7 days without God makes one weak

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2020

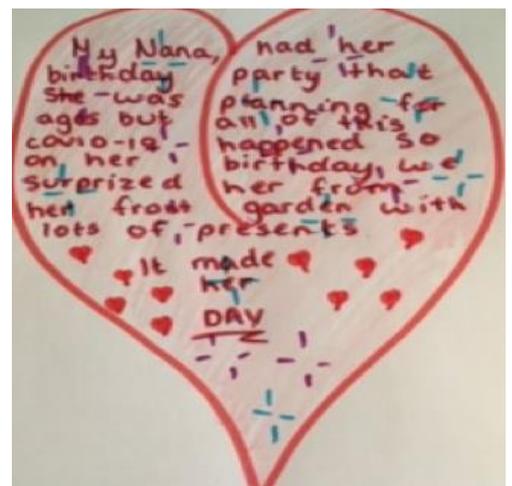
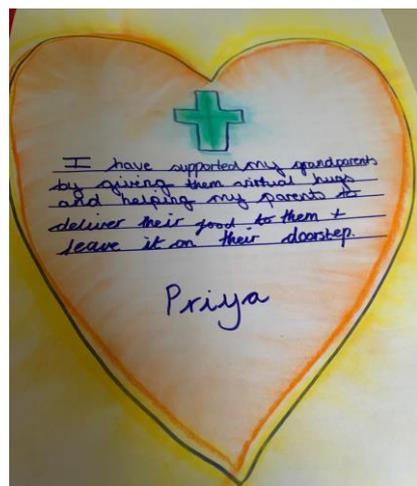
What a blessed pilgrimage we received. Although we were not there in person, the Painsley pilgrims were truly present in spirit during the streaming of the Holy Masses, torchlight processions and concert. A special thank you to our students who participated in the torchlight procession through video and wore our Painsley hoodies with pride. They were great ambassadors for our Painsley community.

'Shining Sacred Heart' Students

To make you smile!

This month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We thought it would be great to acknowledge students who have displayed kindness, love and support during these difficult times.

Students have been asked in their RE lessons to create hearts with a message inside to show how they have helped and supported their families or local community whilst at home. We have received so many beautiful ones, and want to share a few of these with you each week and hopefully make you smile. We are very proud of our students and all the kindness, compassion and love they have shown during this lockdown. All the messages we receive will be displayed in school in the autumn term, a positive reminder to us all of the love and faith being shown and acted upon during this time of adversity by our wonderful students.



A message from the Principal

The Holy Trinity is a mystery of our faith and yet such a powerful reminder that God created us all with some definite service and it is only when we all play our part that we are truly living our vocation.

God Bless