

The Easter Season
5 April – 24 May

Grateful and Generous

Pupils are growing to be grateful for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for blessings of each day; and generous with their gifts, both now and in the future.

What does this mean?

Catholic Schools help their pupils grow by encouraging them to know and be grateful for all their gifts, developing them to the full so that they can be generous in the service of others.

Pray it

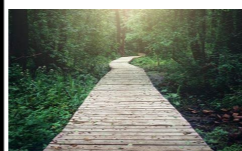


Linking Grateful and Generous to prayers of the Church and Liturgical Season

Prayer suggestions and activities:

- April: Pope’s Prayer Intention **For priests in crisis** Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.
- May: Pope’s Prayer intention **That everyone might have food** Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.
- Ascension: Pray in thanksgiving for the teachings and example that Jesus gave us during his ministry on earth and grateful for the hope His ascension gives to all.
- Pentecost: This is a time to pray for all who work with others throughout the world spreading Good News with grateful and generous hearts, following in the footsteps of the disciples.
- Pray Marian prayers, including the Regina Caeli (Queen of Heaven), traditionally prayed during night prayer and especially throughout Eastertide, and other prayers during the month of May, such as the Magnificat, Mary’s song of praise and thanksgiving to God.
- Pray the Diocesan Prayer for Vocations, particularly on 26 April, the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, in thanksgiving for their generosity.
- Explore the Examen spiritual exercises from Ignatius of Loyola, which always begins with gratitude to God for all his blessings.

Explore it



Linking Grateful and Generous to scripture, meaning and teachings of the Church, Church traditions, Pope Leo XIV and the Saints

Scripture to Explore:

- Luke 24:13-35: ‘He was known to them in the breaking of bread’
- The Road to Emmaus’ Explore how Jesus revealed himself to the disciples and how they shared this news with the other disciples with grateful hearts.
- John 10:1-10: I am the door of the sheep

Activities and Questions:

- Explore resources developed by the Bible Society which reflect key events in scripture between Easter and Pentecost.: www.biblesociety.org.uk/resources/the-in-between-time
- Explore Mission Together’s Vocations films: missiontogether.org.uk/globalchurch/
- St. Joseph the Worker (1 May) Explore his loving example of generous vocation.
- Explore Pentecost and how it marks the beginning of the Christian church’s mission to the world.
- Explore the key teachings in ‘Dilexi te’ (“I have loved you”), Pope Leo XIV’s exhortation all about God’s love for the most vulnerable and marginalised people in our society.

Live it



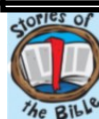
Linking Grateful and Generous to the way we can choose to live our lives.

Activities and Challenges:

- Send prayer cards or thank-you notes to staff in a local nursing home or hospital to show appreciation for their care and service.
- Take time to notice acts of kindness or generosity and thank the person, or write a short note to show your appreciation.
- Go on a prayer walk and pray for people you would like to know Jesus, reflecting on the Road to Emmaus and the people who support you in life. Create and decorate your own colourful El Salvador cross as a reminder to live generously and thank God for your blessings.: <https://cafod.org.uk/education/primary-teaching-resources/romero-primary-resources>
- Give your time to help others at home, school, or in your parish

Discuss:

- Are you generous with your time and kindness towards your family and classmates? How can you show generosity in small everyday actions?
- Which gift or quality do you need to develop to become the person God calls you to be? How can you use your talents to help others?
- How does your school celebrate gratitude and generosity? How can we follow the example of the disciples at Pentecost by using our gifts to serve God and others?



Sunday Gospels to Explore

Gospels linked to Grateful and Generous highlighted

- 12 April John 20:19-31 Eight days later, Jesus came
- 19 April Luke 24:13-35 He was known to them in the breaking of the bread
- 26 April John 10:1-10 ‘I am the door of the sheep.’
- 3 May John 14:1-12 ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life.’
- 10 May John 14:15-21 ‘I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper.’
- 17 May John 17:1-11a ‘Father, glorify your Son
- 24 May John 20:19-23 ‘As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you, Receive the Holy Spirit.’

Sing it



Linking Grateful and Generous to traditional and contemporary music.

- [A New Commandment I Give Unto You: Anon](#)
- [This Is My Body: Jimmy Owens](#)
- [Sing Hosanna: Anon](#)
- [The Summons: John L. Bell & Graham Maule](#)
- [I am the Good Shepherd: Fernando Ortega](#)
- [Hail Mary, Gentle Woman](#)
- [Hail Queen of Heaven: Emmaus Music](#)
- [Immaculate Mary: Anon](#)

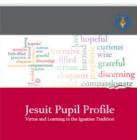
Picture It

Linking Grateful and Generous to artwork.



‘The Ascension of Christ’
Salvador Dali
1958
<https://arthur.io/art/salvador-dali/23>

- Christ is depicted as seen from below.
- The figure of Christ from his feet in the foreground and to his outstretched arms form the shape of a triangle. What do you think this represents?
- What details stand out to you about Dali’s depiction?
- How does this painting make you feel?



Further explore The Jesuit Institute Publication found;
<https://www.jesuitinstitute.org/find-resources/jpp/grateful-generous>