

## Catholic Education Week Prayer

Jesus our Teacher,  
in your love for us,  
help us to develop our own talents  
so that we may become like you  
and lead lives of goodness.

Bless all learners  
and all teachers.  
May our Catholic schools continue to  
serve our families,  
our communities and our country.  
Help us, through our learning,  
to believe in you  
and to celebrate the life of your Church.

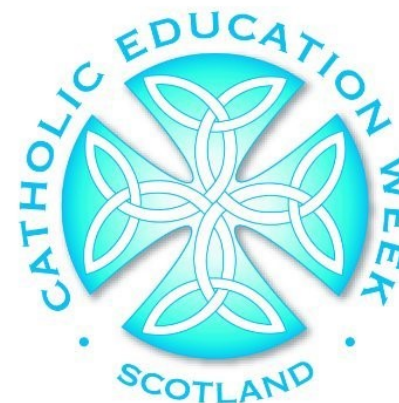
Help us to grow in holiness  
as we grow in friendship with you  
and try to become saints.  
We make this prayer  
in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.



## ST JAMES' PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Catholic Education Week 2022

*Communion, Participation, Mission*



St James' primary school has served the town of Renfrew since the 1930's when the original school first opened. The school was substantially extended in the 1960's and our current building was opened to staff and pupils on the 11<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

Our school motto is "Appropinquate Deo" which means "Draw close to God". As a community of faith and learning, Christ is the driving force behind the school's planning and actions. Our school vision is to educate the whole person - body, mind and soul - so that we may be confident in our response to God's call.

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

St James' primary 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 Gospel values and our School values of Kindness, Respect and Commitment. Our school is a place of worship and celebration and is an opportunity for all to encounter Christ.

We structure learning experiences and outcomes for pupils using "This is our Faith". This provides teachers with clear guidance which enables them to provide experiences of religious education which are faithful to church teaching.

Our school promotes social justice so that the mission of the church is heard by all. Our charity work supports the SCIAF Lenten appeal, MISSIO fundraising and donating to the Renfrewshire Foodbank. Our primary seven pupils regularly visit Craigielea Nursing home where they enjoy spending time with and getting to know the residents. Our Chaplaincy Pupil Committee is forging links with our parish communities and leading us in our charitable events across the year.



St James' primary is a "Laudato Si" School. Our children learn in an environment where they are ecologically aware and through prayer, learning and action, we have a school which promotes and encourages a response to the "ecological vocation" of children, teachers and leaders of education. Our "Laudato Si" Pupil Committee lead positive change across the school in relation to creating a better world for future generations.

Each month, a stage of the school visits St James' parish church to celebrate Mass. Father John and the parishioners welcome the classes and are delighted to have them attend the parish Mass.

During the months of October and May we focus on Our Lady and the importance of saying the Rosary often. In November we remember those who have died and during Advent and Lent we have daily reflections in our classes as we prepare for the important feasts of Christmas and Easter.

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 make preparations for the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

Primary six pupils begin working towards the Pope Francis Faith Award which they complete in primary seven. They learn about the Holy Spirit and the gifts that the Spirit brings. They learn more about what is involved in being followers of Jesus and members of His church. They are invited to use their talents and gifts in the service of others.

As we embrace Catholic Education Week 2022, may our school continue to work together with our parishes to give our pupils the best opportunities possible to grow in their learning, their love of God and each other.

