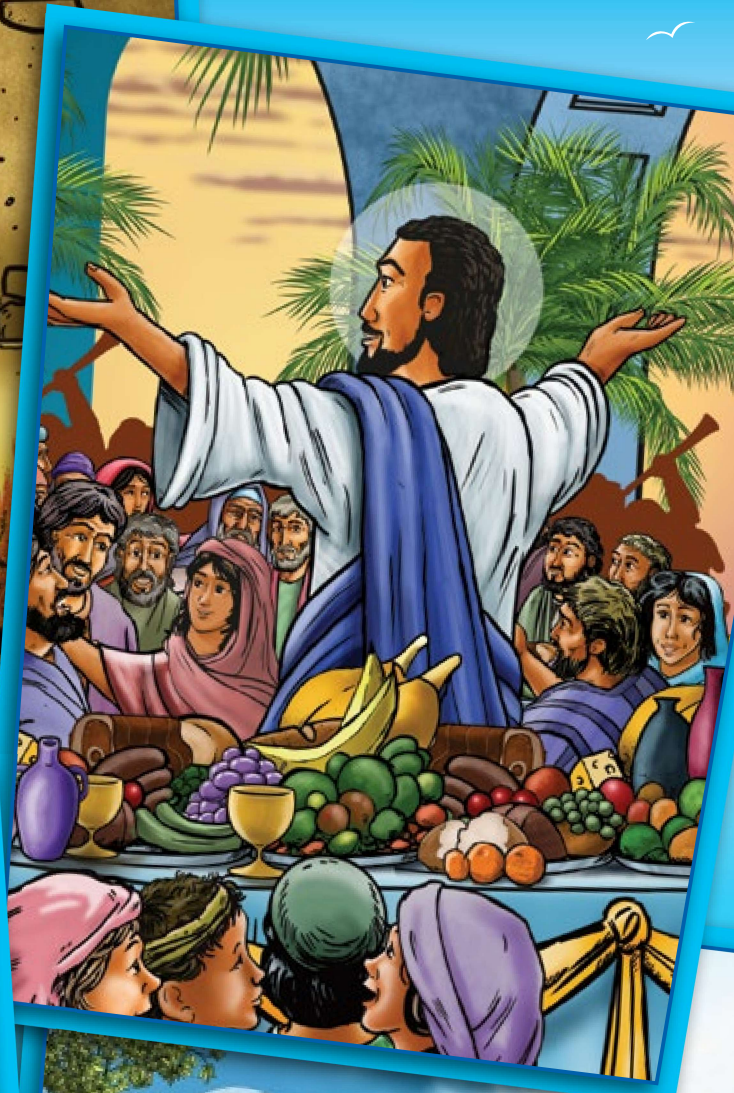
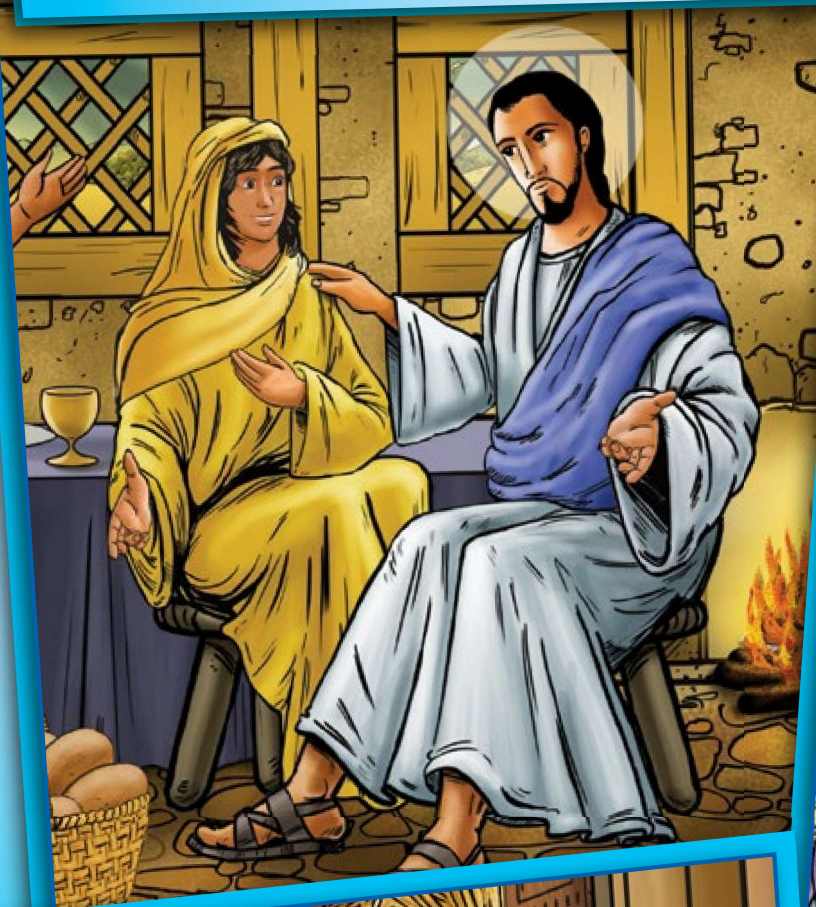
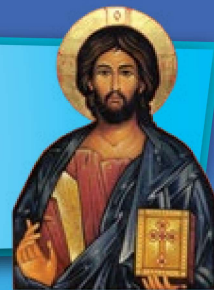


THE Wednesday
WORD

Summer Holidays 2025

SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL



Connecting Home, School and Parish

Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who chose to sit down in front of Jesus to listen to him. Now Martha, who was busy preparing the meal said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me." But Jesus answered, "Martha, Martha, you worry and fret about so many things, but only one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen what is good; this will not be taken away from her."



Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Now explore this Wednesday's word, which is **LISTENING**.



Wednesday's Word

LISTENING

“Open up your heart and listen to what God is saying to you.” Pope Francis

What did Mary do that was good? In this Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus knows that household jobs are important, but he reminds us how important it is to take time to listen to God. Jesus does not force us to listen to him, but he knows what’s best for us. Listening is a sign of real love – it’s a powerful way of showing that we care. Ask your child if they know someone who is a really good listener. Who does your child like to listen to? Do they know people who speak with kindness and love, and want good things for them and others? It may help your child if you give them an example of your own.

“Before we speak, it is necessary for us to listen. God speaks in the silence of the heart.” St Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)

This Gospel reminds us that rushing frantically around can stop us hearing the wisdom of Jesus. We need first to listen to Jesus, to be reminded of what's really important in life; then it's time to swing into action. As the summer holidays approach, explore ways that can help you to listen to Jesus in these coming weeks. Perhaps you can: remember to have quiet times in prayer when you wake up, at bedtime or some other time – just for listening to God as he speaks to your heart; go to Church together; regularly read the gospels in this Wednesday Word Summer Special together. What other ways can you think of?

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for always being ready to **listen** to us. Please help us to **listen** and understand your words and to be good **listeners** to each other too. Amen.

MORDSEARCH

**MARTHA
BUSY**

**MARY
SITTING**

**LISTENING
GOD**

**MOST
IMPORTANT**

**SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS
BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY**

Cross out
the letters
m d o
in the 4 jumbled
words to find
4 real words.

mind **Jed** **sums** **olim** **stend** **smid** **to**
 Mary chose to _____ down _____ front of
 _____ and _____ to him.

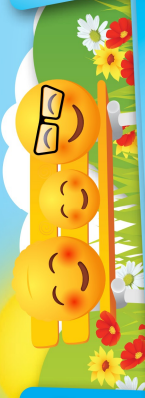
Jesus wants us to spend time listening to him and so allowing him to guide our lives. What are the best times for you to quietly pray and listen throughout the holidays? When you wake up, throughout the day or at bedtime?

Write a promise and then **draw** a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...



G I B Y M P T O P R G M A N R Y S
 A H T R A M S I T T I N G G
 A B Y M Z O G Y T P I A N G
 M P L I S T E N I N G
 A B S T D O M P T D
 A N D B U S Y M O S T
 R T N A T R O P M I D
 Y H G M A R T H A L S
 S A Y M H T Y E T A C



1 Enjoy reading the Gospel

Once, Jesus was in a certain place praying and, when he had finished, one of his disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John the Baptist taught his disciples." Jesus said to them, "Say this when you pray: 'Father, may all people honour your holy name; may your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread; forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive anyone who has done wrong to us.'"

Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 27th July 2025 - Luke 11:1-13 (the 17th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Enjoy exploring this Wednesday's words, which are **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

2

"God our Father is patient, he loves us, he gives us Jesus to guide us. Praying the 'Our Father' together, around the table, is not something extraordinary: it's easy." Pope Francis

In this Sunday's Gospel, what does Jesus teach the disciples (and us) to call God? Jesus wants us to know that God is our Father too - who loves us and cares for us. Our prayers to God our Father should be often and loving, just as a young child talks to their parent. The prayer in this Sunday's Gospel is the shorter version of the Lord's Prayer (the 'Our Father') - a model of praying for us to follow. Each of you say what were the first prayers you learned. Then ask your child if they can say the Lord's Prayer all the way through (please see the full version below).

3

This evening, as a family, think and talk about each sentence in the full version of the Lord's Prayer (below). Then each of you say what the words of this prayer mean to you. In the Lord's Prayer we ask God to forgive us in the same way that we forgive others. As the summer break is about to begin, is there anyone you need to forgive? Is there anyone whose forgiveness you would like? Why not end tonight's special Family Time, and each night throughout the coming school holidays, by saying the Lord's Prayer together? It's a simple and excellent way to start and end each day. Blessings and best wishes for a great summer break.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...



1 Enjoy reading the Gospel

One day Jesus told the people this story: "There was once a rich farmer who grew so much food that he didn't have enough space to store it all. So he said to himself, 'I know what I'll do. I'll build bigger barns. Then I can store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to myself, "Now I have plenty of good things stored up for many years to come. I can take it easy, eat, drink, and have a good time." But God said to him, 'Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your life; these possessions of yours, who will they belong to then?' This is the way it is with people who are selfish and greedy and store up treasure for themselves rather than making themselves rich in the sight of God."

Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 3rd August 2025 - Luke 12:13-21 (the 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Enjoy exploring this Wednesday's words, which are **EARTHLY RICHES**

2

"If we are too attached to riches, we are not free and it is impossible to be truly happy. The Gospel invites us to be open to others, to share with the poor." Pope Francis

Although the farmer was very wealthy, was he considered rich by God? Ask your child what the words 'earthly riches' mean to them. Earthly riches do not bring true lasting happiness. This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that the money and possessions we gather throughout life do not matter to God as much as how we use them to help others. It's the kindness, helpfulness, time and love that we give to others which make us truly happy. These are treasures beyond compare, more valuable than any earthly riches - making us rich in the sight of God.

3

Jesus warns us not to be misled about what will bring us true happiness in life. A good way to use our 'earthly riches' is by giving generously to those in need. Ask your child when they last gave something away. How did it help the person who received it? When was someone generous to them? How can we use our riches to help others in this coming week? Perhaps we can: give any toys or unused items to a charity shop; give some of our time to pray for someone, or to talk to someone who is lonely; have a car boot sale and give the proceeds to CAFOD or another good charity.

Dear Lord Jesus, show us how to be wise and rich in your eyes. Help us to store up treasure in heaven by sharing the riches you have given us with others. Amen

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...



1 Enjoy reading the Gospel

Jesus said to his disciples: "Sell your possessions and give to those in need. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out and no moth can destroy, and treasure in heaven that will not fail you and where no thief can reach it. For wherever your treasure is, that is where your heart will be too. See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like servants waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them."

Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 10th August - Luke 12:32-48 (the 19th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Enjoy exploring this Wednesday's words, which are **HEAVENLY TREASURE**

2 "Dear Friends, let us keep the faith we have received and which is our true treasure." Pope Francis

What kind of treasure does Jesus tell us to build up? We often show what we really treasure by the way we use our money and time. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus talks about the master coming home to remind us that one day he (Jesus) will return. Until then, we should be building up everlasting treasure in heaven - not just trying to build up treasures on earth which have no lasting value. Ask your child what the words 'heavenly treasure' mean to them. Then each of you talk about one thing which you consider to be the most important treasure in life - something that is so valuable to you that you would give everything you own to keep it, and say why.

"Whoever finds Jesus, finds a rich treasure." Thomas à Kempis

Once again, Jesus reminds us that our earthly treasures are not as important as our spiritual treasures: the gift of faith, our love for God and the love we share with people around us. As a family, talk about how you can build treasure in heaven in this coming week. Perhaps you can: remember to share your time and possessions; put any spare change into a charity box; help out at a local charity; put others' needs first; share your love with someone who may not feel loved; set aside some time to be with God in prayer.

Dear Lord Jesus, help us to be your faithful servants - to have good hearts that treasure you above all things and to build up everlasting treasure in heaven. Amen.



Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...



1 Enjoy reading the Gospel

Jesus said to his disciples, "There is still another baptism I must undergo. I am going to be put to a hard test and how hard it will be until it is over. Do you think that I have come to bring peace here on earth? No, I tell you; rather I bring division as I make people face difficult decisions. For, from now on, even a household as small as five will be divided in this way: perhaps three against two or two against three; perhaps a father against a son, or a son against a father, or a mother against a daughter, or a mother-in-law against her son's bride, or a bride against her mother-in-law."

Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 17th August - Luke 12:49-53 (the 20th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **DECISIONS**

2 "Illuminated by the light of the Gospel and supported by the sacraments, we can guide our decisions towards good." Pope Francis

Deciding to follow Jesus is the most important decision that we'll ever have to make. In this Sunday's Gospel, like teachers of that time, Jesus uses blunt language to grab his disciples' attention. Following Jesus would mean making some difficult decisions which might make them unpopular, even with those close to them - this can be the same for us today. Ask your child what the word 'decision' means to them. How do they decide what is right and what is wrong? Who (or what) helps them to make good decisions? Can your child remember a time when they made a good decision - something that would have pleased God?

Good decisions are not always easy to make.

Whenever we have difficult or important decisions to make, we can ask ourselves 'what would Jesus do?' - and then try to do the same ourselves. In this coming week, what else can we do to help us make good decisions - to do the right thing? Perhaps we can: pray for God's guidance; look for what the gospels tell us; consider what effect our decisions might have on ourselves and others; decide to turn away from anything which we know is wrong or which feels wrong; always check important decisions with our parents, carers, teachers or a wise and trustworthy person.

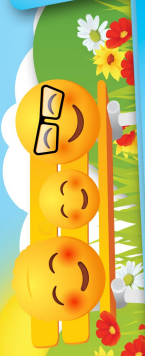
Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for being our friend - for being there to help us to make good and wise decisions, especially when it is difficult. Amen.



Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...





1 Enjoy reading the Gospel

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, "Sir, will there be only a few saved?" He said to them, "Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter heaven and will not succeed." Then Jesus told them this parable: "Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us.' But he will answer, 'I do not know where you come from.' Then you will find yourself saying, 'We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets.' But he will reply, 'I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked people!' And then people from all over the world will come to take their places at the feast in the Kingdom of God."

Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 20th August - Luke 13:22-30 (the 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **HOLINESS**

"Holiness doesn't mean doing extraordinary things, but doing ordinary things with love and faith." Pope Francis

Who will have a place at 'the feast in the Kingdom of God'? The narrow door that Jesus speaks about in this Sunday's Gospel is Jesus himself. Jesus is the 'way' - the way to holiness and everlasting life. We can't do anything to 'earn' a place in heaven. But we can show our love for God and respond to him by trying our best to follow Jesus and grow in holiness. Ask your child what the word 'holiness' means to them. Who is the holiest person that they know? Who reminds them of Jesus - someone who tries to live the way Jesus wants us to live?

To be holy is to be dedicated to God. God wants us to live holy lives - to try to live and love like Jesus did. It's not just what we do or say, but the attitudes behind our words and deeds that make us holy people. Decide on something to do, individually or together as a family, to make your home a holier place in this coming week. Perhaps you can: be more tolerant and understanding; share more with brothers, sisters or friends; be more compassionate and generous with people in need; invite someone round to play or for tea, and help to make them feel special; regularly say your prayers together and ask God to help you to grow in holiness.

Dear Lord Jesus, please help us to us to grow in **holiness** each and every day. Please help us to live like you and so make our home a holy place. Amen.



Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...



1 Enjoy reading the Gospel

While he was eating at the house of a leading Pharisee, Jesus noticed how some of the guests picked the best seats at the table. So he said this: "When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the best seats. A more deserving person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, 'Give up your place to this person.' And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, 'My friend, move up higher to the best seat.' In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For all those who try to make themselves great will be humbled. But if you humble yourself, you will be made great."

Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 31st August - Luke 14:1. 7-14 (the 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **HUMILITY**

"The world tells us to seek success, power and money; God tells us to seek humility, service and love." Pope Francis

What did Jesus say would happen to those who humble themselves? This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that God will reward those who are humble. Look at the Wednesday Word Sunday Gospel picture. If you were at the feast, would you have tried to sit in the best seat or the lowest place? Ask your child what the word 'humility' means to them. Who do they know who is a humble person? Who do they know who is talented but does not boast? It may help your child if you give an example of a humble person that you know.

God is pleased with those who are humble. A humble person knows that all good comes from God and that any talents we have are gifts from God. Humble people do not think that they are better or more important than others; they do not brag or show off. How can we grow in humility in the coming weeks? Perhaps we can: avoid boasting; recognise and praise other people's strengths; be happy about other people's successes; avoid criticising others; apologise to each other when we know we're wrong; admit our faults to God and ask for God's forgiveness and help (especially if we come before God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation - Confession).

Dear Lord Jesus, may we always remember how much we need you and need others. Help us to be your loving and humble children in all that we do and say. Amen.



Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...



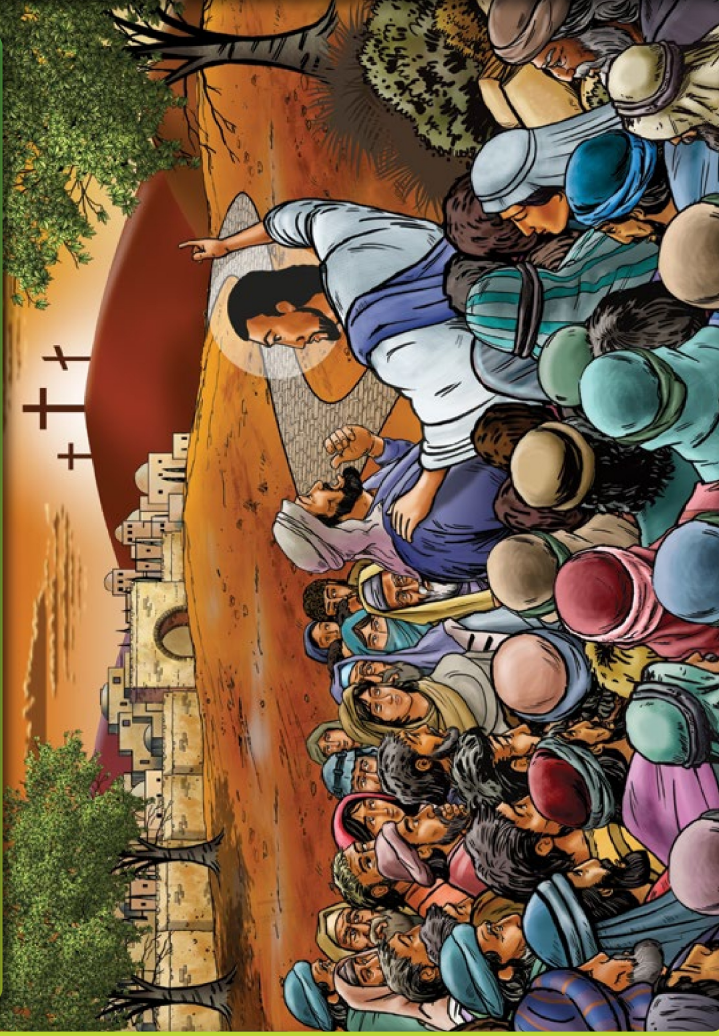
1 Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

Great crowds followed Jesus on his way and he said to them, "if you want to be my disciple, you must love God more than anything else, even more than your family and even more than you love yourself. If you really want to be my disciple, you must be willing to carry your cross and follow me." Then Jesus gave them this example: "Suppose a builder wanted to build something. Would he not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, 'Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish what he started.' So, you must be willing to give up everything you have if you want to be my disciple."



Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 7th September. Luke 14:25-33 (the 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Now enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **LOYALTY**.



2 Wednesday's Word

LOYALTY

"We understand that loyalty to God is a matter of loyalty to a person to whom we are bound to walk together on the same road. And this person is Jesus." Pope Francis

What are some of the things that Jesus said his disciples must do? This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that, to be Jesus' friends, we must put our loyalty to him before anything else in our life. Ask your child what the word 'loyalty' means to them. Who stands out to them as being a loyal friend – someone who stays with them in both good and difficult times? What other qualities make a loyal friend? We can all ask God to help us to grow in loyalty – it's a gift worth asking for.

"Jesus is the loyal friend who never abandons us." Pope Francis

To be loyal is to be faithful, reliable, supportive and trustworthy – to keep promises and stand up for the truth. Being loyal to Jesus is not always easy. He asks us to take up our cross. This means that we must sometimes do difficult things like saying sorry or helping when we don't want to. In what other ways can we show our loyalty to Jesus in the new school year? Perhaps we can: always try to love our neighbour as ourselves; spend time with Jesus and listen to him through daily prayer; be self-giving – always trying to put others' needs before our own; try to forgive others in the same way that Jesus forgives us.

Dear Lord Jesus, help us to grow in our **loyalty** to you: to be trustworthy and reliable people who always stand up for the truth, even when it's hard. Amen.

WEDNESDAY
ORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

GREAT CROWDS

LOVE
GOD

**GIVE
EVERYTHING**

**FOLLOW
JESUS**

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

Cross out the letters

b k s
in the 4 jumbled
words to find
4 real words.

banysthikng Yobkus blosvek smokreb

Jesus said, "_____ must _____ God _____
_____ than _____ else."

Write a promise and then **draw** a big smile on Smiley

As I start a new school year, I will try my best to...

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH



SUMMER SPECIAL

D	G	N	I	N	E	T	S	I	L	R	Y	C	S	
E	Z	Q	Q	U	M	K	B	W	E	T	S	N	G	
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C	V	P	S	Y	M	U	Z	P	R	A	Y	E	R	

Find the Wednesday Words
in the Scripture Square

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT
WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

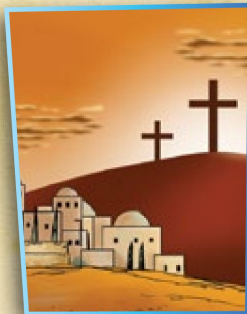
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|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ☒ | LISTENING | ☒ |
| ☐ | PRAYER | ☐ |
| ☐ | RICHES | ☐ |
| ☐ | TREASURE | ☐ |
| ☐ | DECISIONS | ☐ |
| ☐ | HOLINESS | ☐ |
| ☐ | HUMILITY | ☐ |
| ☐ | LOYALTY | ☐ |

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS
BACKWARDS OR **DIAGONALLY**

Now match each word
above to the correct
Gospel picture below



LISTENING



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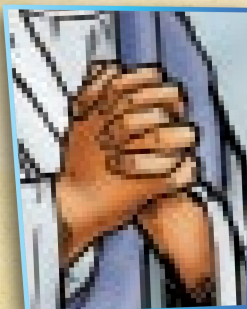
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