



Dear Parents and Carers,

January is traditionally the month of beginnings – a time for making a **NEW START**.

In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear about the two disciples of John the Baptist making a new start. They may not have known what John meant when he said 'Look, there is the Lamb of God,' but they knew what he wanted them to do: they had to start afresh and get close to Jesus.

Wednesday 10th January 2024

Once John's disciples got to know Jesus, they couldn't wait to tell their friends and share their joy with them. We too are filled with this same joy when we get close to Jesus and share the good news.

Regardless of our past, God is always ready to help us to begin again. God invites each one of us to 'Come and See' – to make a **NEW START** with Him, each and every day.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from
Pope Francis

"Let us allow God's constant help to make us new people."

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 14th January 2024



As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, "Look, there is the lamb of God." Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, "What do you want?" They answered, "Rabbi," – which means Teacher – "where do you live?" "Come and see," he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour. One of these two (who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said) was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, "We have found the Messiah," – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, "You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas," – meaning Rock.

*Adapted from John 1:35-42
The 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B*

**Everyone can learn more about this Gospel
in church: all are very warmly invited.**

**2024
The Year
of Prayer**

The Wednesday Word - it's Good News for Families

Pope Francis has declared 2024 as a special Year of Prayer. In this very special year, why not as a New Year's resolution, resolve to join in with *The Wednesday Word* Family Time each week (see overleaf)? Families who regularly pray together find they grow closer and experience the joy that Jesus brings: 'Come & See'.

Connecting Home, School & Parish through Sunday's Gospel wednesdayword.org



Good News for Families



Listening & Learning Together

Jesus said, "Where two or three gather in my name, I shall be there with them."



1

One day, John the Baptist was standing with two of his followers when Jesus walked by. John looked at Jesus and said, "Look, there is the Lamb of God, the one who has come to save us." On hearing this, the two men went after Jesus. Jesus turned and said, "What are you looking for?" They answered, "Where do you live?" Jesus said, "Come and see." So they went and stayed with him for the rest of the day. One of these two men was Andrew, and early next morning he took his brother, Simon, to meet Jesus. Jesus looked hard at Simon and said, "Simon, you will now be called Cephas" (a name which means Rock).

What did Jesus reply when the men asked him where he lived? Which word or words stood out for you in the Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about?

2

Wednesday's Words are ...

NEW START



3

Loving & Growing

"After meeting Jesus, the two disciples immediately noticed something new in their hearts." *Pope Francis*

John's followers made a new start after discovering Jesus. This new year presents an opportunity for us to make a new start. Each of you say what is the best thing that you've ever started. What did you like about it? Ask your child if they have made any new starts in 2024. It may help your child if you mention any new starts or resolutions which you have made for 2024 and tell them how it's going for you. How does your new start help you or others?

"Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin." *St Teresa of Calcutta*

As we begin this new year, are there any new starts that we can make with our family, friends or with God? Perhaps we can: always try to help around the home before having to be asked; remember to start each morning with a prayer and thank God for each new day and for each other; make a new start with church; be peacemakers and try to make friends with someone we've fallen out with. You may like to choose something new to start together that will strengthen your family.



Dear Lord Jesus, please help me to be always ready to make a **new start** with you and with others as we start this new year. Amen.



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Z	D	E	M	D	A	L	C	E	O	R	W
N	J	M	S	E	N	R	P	R	N	M	J
E	C	E	H	U	P	A	S	S	E	D	P
D	N	O	M	I	S	N	G	P	S	E	J
M	F	E	E	S	S	D	L	L	H	W	E
C	O	M	E	L	U	R	M	A	R	L	S
P	G	D	W	C	M	E	B	M	A	L	U
C	R	M	H	A	R	W	R	B	P	G	S
G	R	P	J	D	O	G	W	M	L	O	C

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

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

- ☒ JESUS PASSED
- ☐ LAMB GOD
- ☐ COME SEE
- ☐ ANDREW SIMON

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**

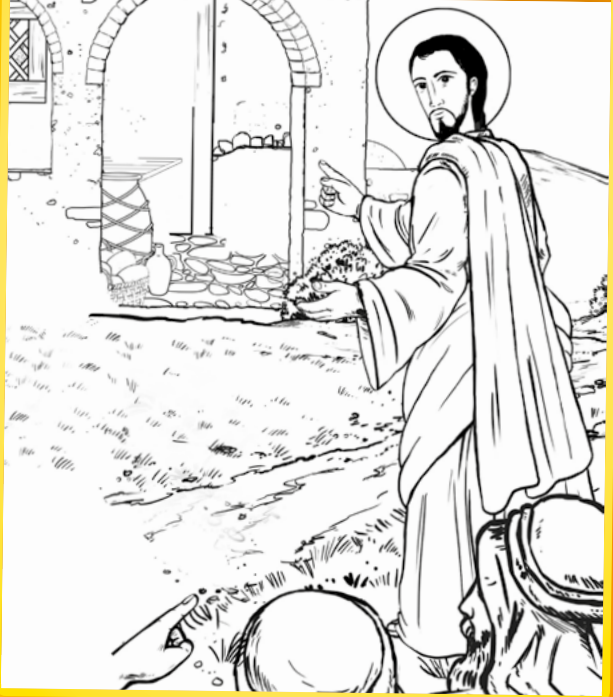
Cross out the letters **u i z** in the jumbled words below to find **4** real words.

Luzamib Lizooku usazive zonieu

John said, "_____, there is the _____ of God, the _____ who has come to _____ us."

We can be sure that our efforts will be rewarded when we take time to make a new start with Jesus. Spending time with Jesus (through prayer) helps us become the best we can be.

Find and draw 5 differences, then colour the picture



This week I will try my best to...

Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley



Print and complete the leaflet with your child & **SHARE A DIGITAL COPY** with your friends

A Free Weekly Gift for Everyone

