

Diocese of Carlisle Board of Education

www.carlislediocese.org.uk/education

Weekly Communication: 17th March 2022

Vanessa's Reflection:



He has shown you, O man, what is good;
And what does the LORD require of you
But to do justly,
To love mercy,
And to walk humbly with your God?

[Micah 6:8, New King James Version]

The season of Lent is about spending time in our heart space; observing the cracks and seeking the vastness - like Jesus did in the wilderness. It's a time for contemplation, reconnecting us to the essence of who we are and who God is. It seems so simple.

But where is the *time* for this seeking, contemplating, reflecting? Why is it that Lent is passing me by, again? Why haven't I given something up, or taken something up? How did it happen that we didn't do pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and that I missed the Ash Wednesday service? However much my heart craves hearing God's 'still small voice', the practises of Lent feel like another addition to a groaning to-do list. Is there a Lent hack?

In all the complexity, Micah cuts through with three simple, beautiful phrases. Act justly. Love mercy. Walk humbly with your God.

Perhaps this is the way Lent might work the metanoia-transformation in us this year. Perhaps Micah is inviting us to pause and ask, "How can I act justly right where I am, right now?" Or, "How can I love mercy, right where I am, right now?" Or "How can I walk humbly, right where I am, right now?"

And that is all that is required. It is enough to ask the questions. The Spirit will lead us to the rest.



Carlisle Diocesan Board of Education: Leaders' Conference 2022

Made in the Image of God

Thursday 16th June: The Roundthorn Hotel, Penrith CA11 8SJ
Breakfast from 9am. Finish at 3.30pm

- ❖ Prof Paul Miller, Educational Equity Services ❖
- ❖ Janett Walker, CEO Anti Racist Cumbria ❖
- ❖ Dr Margaret James, National Director of SIAMS ❖
- ❖ Plus some friends of the Diocese; a range of stalls and lots of time to catch up with colleagues ❖

Contact education@carlisediocese.org.uk for more information or to book a place.
£50 for Enhanced Partnership Agreement Schools with a free Foundation Governor place. £120 per person for anyone else.

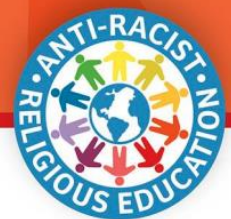
Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works *Hebrews 10:24*

Inclusion Corner:

**What can be done
to reduce racism?
Can religion help?**
Unit of Work for 8-11s

Anti-racist religious education
www.anti-racist-re.org.uk
www.natre.org.uk/anti-racist-re

RE TODAY AND NATRE WORKING WITH THE FREE CHURCHES GROUP
AND METHODIST SCHOOLS



SIAMS Update:

If you are expecting a SIAMS inspection (or an Ofsted inspection for that matter) in the near future, it is worth just having a think about the impact on any groups of pupils who may be invited to speak to an inspector. We're really noticing the difference in pupil discussions in recent inspections.



Pupils have not been used to having visitors in school and talking to people they don't know about their school and their learning. For some it is a real treat and they are keen and excited to take part. But, for some, it can be daunting. In order that the inspection process is not a negative one for any of your pupils, you might want to consider inviting someone they don't know well (a new governor or a governor they haven't seen for a while perhaps) to chat to them so they are more at ease during an inspection. Your Diocesan link will be happy to conduct a pupil voice exercise when next visiting your school if this would be helpful.

Church Corner

This week: Season of Lent

Colour: Purple

Sunday 20th March: Third Sunday of Lent

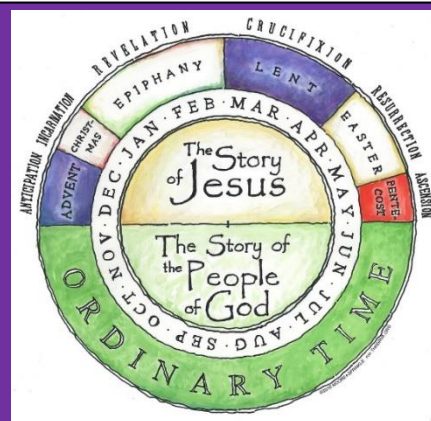
The Gospel reading this Sunday is likely to be Luke 13:1-9. In the first part of the passage, Jesus seems to have been asked a question about two recent events; two groups of people upon whom great misfortune has fallen. The first event is unsuitable for young children.

Some "*Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices*" have been massacred by the Roman authorities, apparently while at worship, offering animal sacrifices in the Temple. Fortunately, the second instance is a bit more palatable. A tower in Siloam (just South of Jerusalem) has collapsed, killing 18 people. Someone seems to have asked Jesus a question along the lines "was God punishing these people for their evil deeds?"

Jesus' answer seems clear: whether it arises from human action or accident, evil and suffering is not sent by God as a punishment. He then redirects his listeners: stop worrying about what other people might or might not have done wrong. Worry about your own life. Accidents and other misfortunes may happen at any moment: repent of your own wrongs while you have the chance.

The second half of the passage, the Parable of the Fig Tree, is intended to emphasise this message. The fig tree is usually symbolic of both the nation of Israel and individual listeners. Jesus describes a tree that has been fruitless for three years. The gardener, representing Jesus, pleads for the tree to have one last chance, promising to dig plenty of manure in around it. God's patience is not infinite, but he has given us one more chance, in the shape of his son. The message of Jesus is timeless, the same as that of the Prophet Isaiah, whose 55th chapter is also likely to be read:

Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.
Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the unrighteous their thoughts.
Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.



Diocesan Y6 Leavers' Service

We are delighted to confirm that we are able to resume the diocesan Y6 Leavers' Services this summer and as well as having services at **Carlisle Cathedral** we will also be offering a service at **Holy Trinity Church, Kendal**.

And once again we are grateful to Andrea Armstrong for co-ordinating this event.

The services will take place at

Holy Trinity Church, Kendal:

Tuesday 14th June commencing 11am

Carlisle Cathedral:

Wednesday 15th, Thursday 16th and Friday 17th June also at 11am.

We anticipate the services will last approximately 1 hour.



Schools will need to book their place as soon as possible by emailing the following information to aa@kirkbampton.cumbria.sch.uk or Tel: 01228 576377

- Date preference (1st and 2nd choice) and venue
- Number of pupils attending
- Number of staff attending
- Any access arrangements (i.e. wheelchair users)

Every effort will be made to try and accommodate schools' choices, however due to the seating capacity of the Cathedral we may have to offer you an alternative slot.

All e-mails will be acknowledged with a confirmation of the slot issued. If you do not receive any confirmation, please check that we have received your booking.

We regret that due to the limited number of seats available we are unable to offer places to parents.

Please can you reply by Wednesday 4th May 2022.

- We will once again ask schools to bring a banner for the opening procession
- If you would like to put forward a child to do a reading in the service, please let me know

Further information will follow once we have confirmed numbers.

For those attending Carlisle Cathedral, you can also reserve a slot for your leavers to see the completed Labyrinth in the Fraternity before or after the service. This can be arranged through Sarah Cameron at the cathedral heritagelearning@carlislecathedral.org.uk. Visits to the Labyrinth must be booked in advance of the leavers' services.

Training:

Coming up this half term:

Preparing for a SIAMS Inspection: Thursday 17th March at 4pm

New and Acting Headteachers Induction Programme (Ethos and Culture): Wednesday 23rd March at 1pm

NEW COURSE Spiritual Development (*how to plan for it and evidence success in an inspection*) Wednesday 23rd March at 4pm

Simply email education@carlisle-diocese.org.uk to join any of our courses or events.

There's always lots going on. Don't forget to keep an eye on our [Events Programme](#).

Support for teaching Islam

<https://muslimlearnerservices.org/>

With Ramadan starting around the 2nd of April, Imran Kotwal from Muslim Learner Services is offering a **FREE virtual** Teaching & Learning about Ramadan & Eid CPD session for Primary School RE Leads, Teachers and/or Headteachers.



15th March 2022 4-5pm or 29th March 2022 4-5 pm.

Description: In this session, we will explore questions like: What is Ramadan? Why do Muslims fast? Why do some Muslims in Britain start Ramadan on different dates? Do all Muslims need to fast? What is Suhoor & Iftar? What is the Night of Power? What is I'tikaf? How do Muslims celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr?

This virtual session led by a British Muslim teacher will help primary colleagues develop an in-depth understanding of Ramadan & Eid. There will be an opportunity to ask questions throughout the session and all schools will be provided with FREE training materials and resources to use with pupils. By the end of the session, you will be able to confidently lead a Ramadan / Eid-ul-Fitr assembly or lesson for all your primary pupils!

Places are limited to one free place per school.

To book your place please complete the booking form [HERE](#)

Heads Huddle:

Heads Huddle is a weekly opportunity to meet with fellow school leaders and members of the Diocesan Education Team in a relaxed and informal online chat.

Please do join us to share the highs and lows of the week; to take a moment for reflection; to enjoy some mutual support; to ask any questions on your mind; and to receive any updates available.



We'd love to see you at 3.45pm on Tuesdays whenever you can make it.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88350734545?pwd=aEFSQlk3Wm5qK2FWNk8wSoxVNC84dz09&from=addon>

Feedback from Headteachers: themes of the week

COVID : The recent surge in case numbers has elevated the pressure once again in schools. One school is only just back to having a full complement of staff after a challenging outbreak. In the main, supportive relationships exist between homes and schools around covid management, however there were some anecdotes about difficulties of managing situations where there is covid in a household and parents/carers tell school, 'We're testing every day', but the child later reveals they've never had a test or they've been 'testing' by sticking swabs in their ears!

Mothers Union: An interesting common symbol brought us to this conversation: a number of individuals on the call have a wee wool holding cross made and distributed by the Mother's Union. We had an interesting conversation about their work; some of us were not aware of the local work and global activism Mother's Union are engaged in, for example their campaigning against gender-based violence. Many Mothers Union groups are keen to support their local schools, either by gifting their time or sometimes money for school-based projects. See [Mothers' Union Diocese of Carlisle | Mothers' Union \(mothersunion.org\)](#) for more information and listings of local groups in Cumbria.



Wellbeing Corner: Talking with Children about the Crisis in Ukraine



Click for our full
Wellbeing Strategy



The terrible events unfolding in Ukraine and likewise, the human cost, has dominated our news and media for the last three weeks, and there is no, one, single person who cannot fail to be affected by what we are seeing unfold in front of our eyes. Should we remove the colour from the images of crowded train stations and terrified children, we might as well we back in the 1940s.

Unlike the 1940s and some of the other conflicts the world has known, this one carries the very real threat of nuclear war – something that strikes fear at the heart of everyone. For adults, this is very real, so how must it be to experience this situation through the lens of a child right now? It can be helpful to have places to go, both as a professional and a parent, to access reliable materials to explore the conflict with children and allow them to explore their thinking, and their questioning in a safe way.

The [BBC Children in Need](#) website has some useful materials for both teachers and parents on their website designed specifically for supporting children with conversations about what is happening in Ukraine. Under each heading, you will find access to relevant and reliable websites, each providing some high-quality resources and guidance.

***“Be there at our sleeping and give us, we pray;
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.”***

. Pam Weeden, Diocesan School Consultant
Executive Coach



Andy Wolfe FCCT @mrawolfe · 5d
The @CofE_EduLead National Conference is COMING BACK!!! 🙌🙌

Date confirmed today for FRIDAY 3.2.23 at @StMM_Academy London. Save the date, spread the word and enjoy this reminder of what happened in 2020 when 800 leaders (staff&students) gathered together! 🙌🙌🙌



3,441 views

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Show this thread

Another date for your diaries:

The National Church of England Conference for Leaders will be back on **3rd February 2023.**

Further details to follow nearer the time.



If you have a vacancy you would like to advertise here, don't hesitate to send it to charlotte.tudway@carlisle-diocese.org.uk. I aim to send out the weekly communication each Thursday so any 'copy' would need to be with me by Wednesday evening (or early Thursday morning) to make it into that week's edition.



Lazonby School is currently looking to recruit a part-time SENCo.

If you know someone who might be interested, please ask them to contact: andrew@lazonby.cumbria.sch.uk for more info



Patterdale School are seeking a new Clerk to Governors

Please email Mandy if you know someone who might be interested
info@patterdale.cumbria.sch.uk

HEADTEACHER VACANCIES

The following church of England Schools are currently advertising for a new Headteacher:

❖ Seaton St Paul's Junior



For more information, visit Cumbria County Council's website by clicking on the logo above.

As always, if you have any questions about any of the information contained in this week's communication, don't hesitate to get in touch:

Charlotte Tudway
Deputy Director of Education
charlotte.tudway@carlisle-diocese.org.uk
www.carlisle-diocese.org.uk/education
07917 993659

