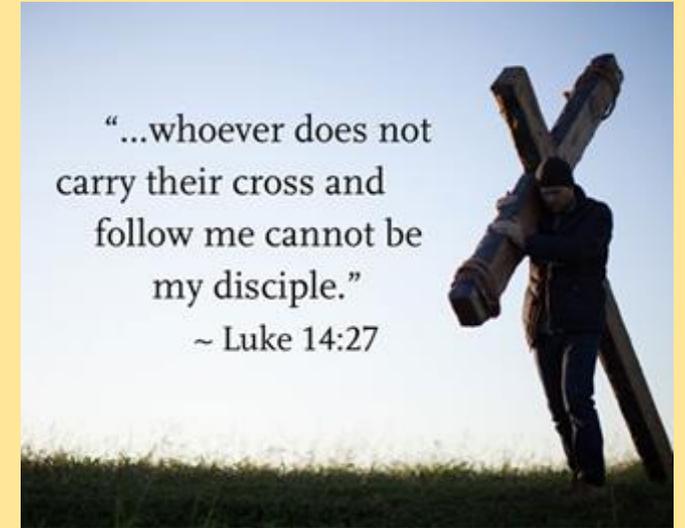


# Prayer & Reflection



Garden of Peace  
Isaiah 32:14-18

**PEACE  
WITH CREATION**  
SEASON OF CREATION 2025



“...whoever does not  
carry their cross and  
follow me cannot be  
my disciple.”  
~ Luke 14:27

Week beginning: **Monday 8th September**

***SEPTEMBER = A Season of Creation***

***Catholic Social Teaching – Caring for God’s Creation***

***23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – the cost of being a true disciple of Jesus***

# The Wednesday Word

The logo for 'Hallow' is centered on a purple square background. The word 'Hallow' is written in white, with a blue circle and a white halo above the letter 'o'.

You are invited to 10 minutes of prayer and reflection every Wednesday.

Join Jonathan Roumie (Jesus- The Chosen), Jeff Cavins, Mark Wahlberg, Chris Pratt and Gwen Stefani as we reflect on the Gospel on the day.

**8am**

**12:40pm (First lunch)**

**1:30pm (Second lunch)**

**Venue- School Chapel.**

The Catholic Church asks us to use the whole month of September as a Season of Creation, a time of sustained prayer and action.

During this season, collectively, we are encouraged to pray and engage in community events in order to deepen our relationship with God, our neighbours, and the planet we share, being ever more attentive to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

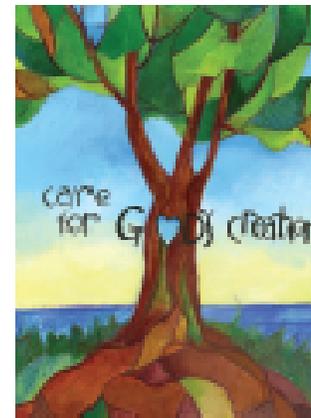
Caring for our planet is one of the key parts of Catholic Social Teaching.



*Garden of Peace*  
Isaiah 32:14-18

## PEACE WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2025



### CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION

We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

## CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

### Caring for God's Creation

How do I show respect for Creation?

The earth and all life on it are part of God's creation.

We are called to respect this gift. We are responsible for taking care of the world we live in and for sharing all the wonders and resources the earth gives us.



## Laudato Si' for young people

Pope Francis has written a letter addressed to every person on the planet, asking us all to protect the earth.

### REFLECTION

How will you play your part to protect our common home?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OomC251Qab8>



**PLEASE  
PRAY  
FOR ME**

# A Prayer for our Earth by Pope Francis

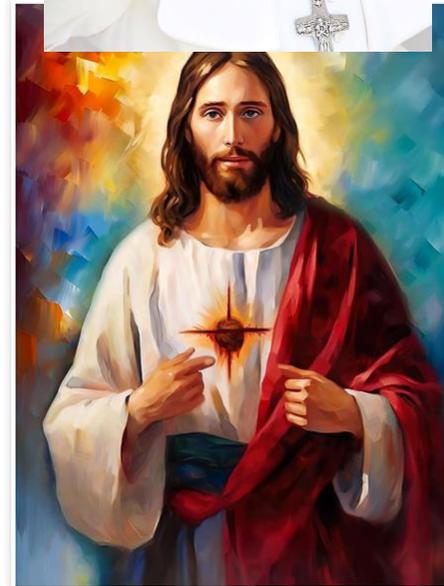
All powerful God,  
you are present in the universe  
and in the smallest of your creatures.  
You embrace with your tenderness all  
that exists.  
Pour out upon us the power of your love,  
that we may protect life and beauty.  
Fill us with your peace, that we may live  
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.  
O God of the poor,  
help us to rescue the abandoned  
and forgotten of this earth,  
so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,  
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,  
that we may sow beauty,  
not pollution and destruction.  
Touch the hearts  
of those who look only for gain  
at the expense of the poor and the earth.  
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,  
to be filled with awe and contemplation,  
to recognize that we are profoundly united  
with every creature  
as we journey towards your infinite light.  
We thank you for being with us each day.  
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle,  
for justice, love and peace.

**inspirati a christo**  
**which means Inspired by Christ**



**St John the Apostle & Evangelist,  
pray for us.**



# 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

# DISCIPLE

What it means  
to truly  
follow Jesus



# THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL READING – 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke 14: 25-33

Great crowds were travelling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, “If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. **Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.**

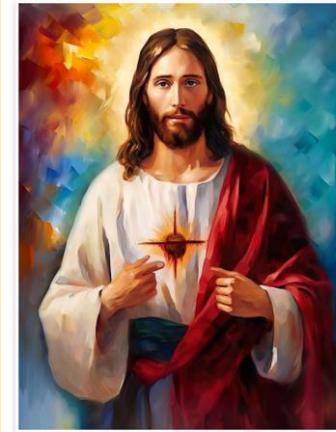
Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? Otherwise, after laying the foundation and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him and say, ‘This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.’

Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms.

In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.”

Reader = the Gospel of the Lord.

**RESPONSE = Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**



“...whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.”  
~ Luke 14:27



# Explanation of this week's Gospel reading



In the gospel this week, there are THREE key messages for us to consider.

- 1. The cost of discipleship:** Jesus reminds us that following Him requires sacrifice. We must be willing to put Him above all else, even when it is difficult.
- 2. Carrying the cross:** Jesus speaks about the need to carry our crosses. This means accepting struggles and hardships with trust in Him.
- 3. Detachment from possessions:** The Gospel challenges us to let go of material things. True discipleship means not being controlled by wealth or possessions.

## REFLECTION TASK

The gospel reading this week reminds us that following Jesus requires prioritising him above all personal relationships and possessions, emphasizing the need to consider the sacrifices involved, much like planning a construction or a battle. This is the true cost of becoming a disciple.

Reflect on the Word of the Week (next slide) and think about how you can become a true disciple.

Remember our school mission is: Be Inspired by Christ, Service to Others, and Excellence for All. Being a part of this mission will help to make you a true disciple of Jesus.

# WORD OF THE WEEK

“...whoever does not  
carry their cross and  
follow me cannot be  
my disciple.”

~ Luke 14:27

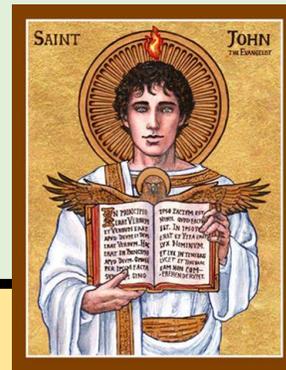


# St John's School Prayer

God our Father,  
You have revealed to us, Your Word through St. John the beloved disciple.  
We thank you LORD for our school community.  
You have formed our diversity into one family that is Inspired by Christ.  
At St. John's School, we seek to journey together,

Help us today to achieve our mission of Excellence and Service to Others.  
We ask you LORD to increase our knowledge and understanding today.  
May we become the people you have called us to be.  
Keep us growing every day in kindness and in respect for one another.  
We ask for your guidance so that we may do our best, and embrace all  
opportunities that you grant us today.

**St. John the Apostle & Evangelist, Pray for us.**  
**Amen**



**inspirati a christo**  
**which means Inspired by Christ**