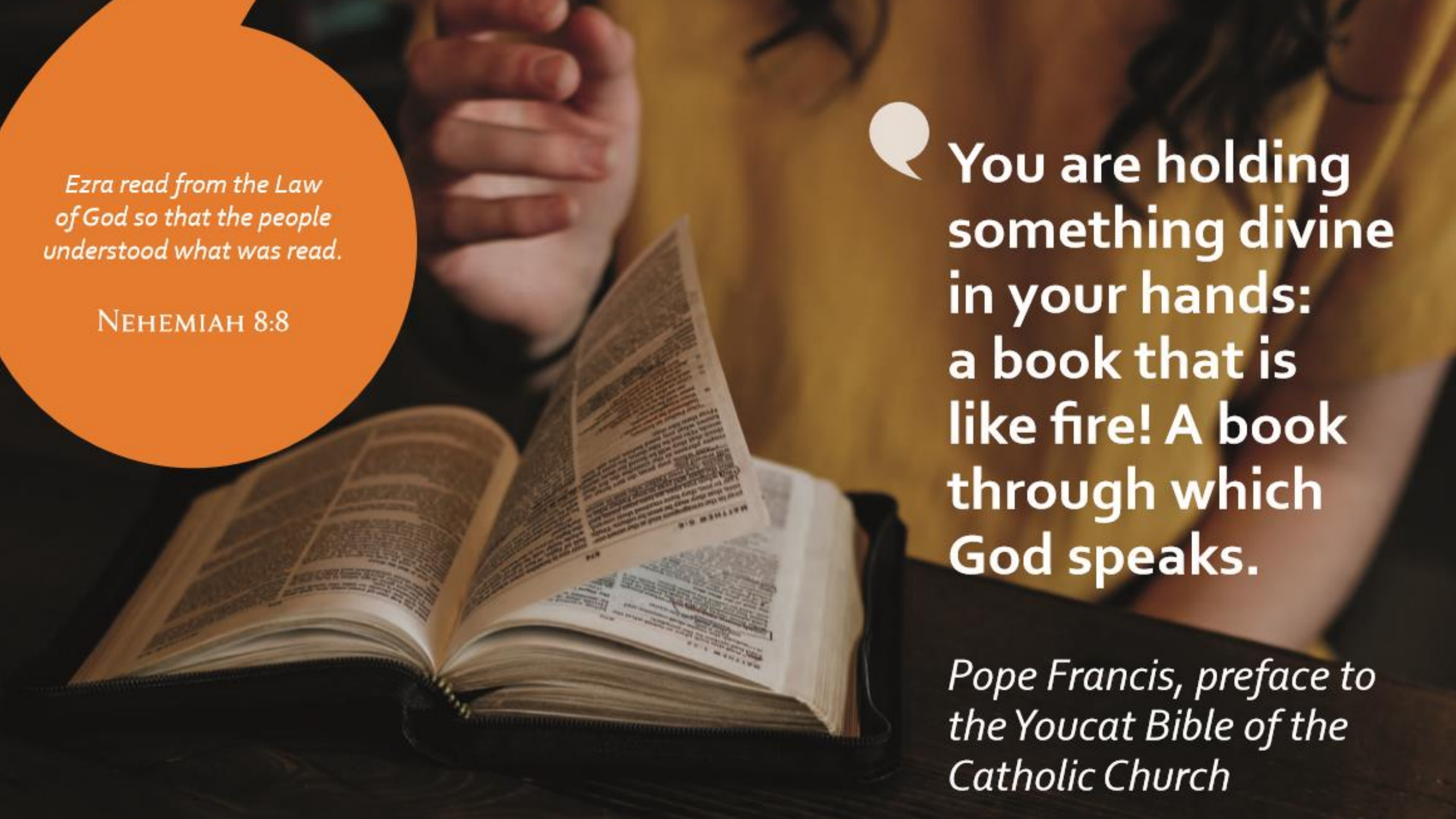


THE GOD WHO SPEAKS: THE YEAR OF THE WORD

30th September 2019 – 31st December 2020

Diocese of Westminster Education Service





*Ezra read from the Law
of God so that the people
understood what was read.*

NEHEMIAH 8:8

**You are holding
something divine
in your hands:
a book that is
like fire! A book
through which
God speaks.**

*Pope Francis, preface to
the Youcat Bible of the
Catholic Church*

‘Scripture is at the centre of everything the Church does. The Word of God shapes our prayer and worship. The Bible shows us how to understand the world, how we are called to live and relate to each other.’



A Partnership...

In partnership with the Bible Society, 'The God Who Speaks: The Year of the Word' focuses on celebrating, living and sharing God's word throughout the Catholic Church in England and Wales.



THE YEAR OF THE WORD
in the Catholic Church in England and Wales

2020

This coming academic year the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have designated as '**The God Who Speaks - A Year of the Word**' to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Verbum Domini - Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord', and the 1600th anniversary of the death of St Jerome, who translated the Bible into Latin. In keeping with the Church's three year cycle there will also be a specific focus on St Matthew's Gospel.



The Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales has created a website that is dedicated to 'The God Who Speaks - A Year of the Word.' This can be found using this link - <http://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/the-god-who-speaks/>



The website contains a wide variety of resources that you can use in school, including various posters (see right) and a 'Bible Basics' section in which Fr. Stephen Wang provides a whole host of thought-provoking ideas and Bible-related information.

THE
GOD
WHO
SPEAKS

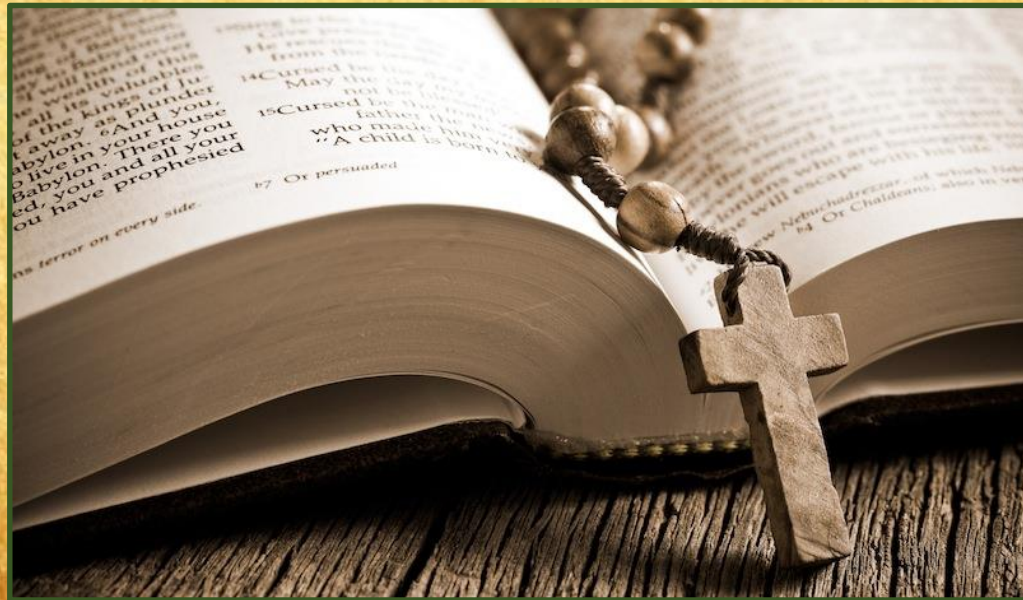
The Christian faith is not a 'religion of the book'. Christianity is the religion of the 'Word of God', a word which is 'not a written and mute word, but the Word is incarnate and living'.

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, 108



The aim of The God Who Speaks - A Year of the
Word is:

‘Celebrating, Living and Sharing
God’s Word.’





[» Events » The God Who Speaks » Key Dates](#)

2019

30 September

Feast of St Jerome – official launch of 'The God who Speaks'.

1 December

First Sunday of Advent – the beginning of the campaign year.

2020

Jan – Dec

Celebrating God's Word

Whenever we celebrate the liturgy, the Scriptures are proclaimed.



Living God's Word

We not only need to hear and receive God's word, we also need to put that word into practice.



Bible Basics

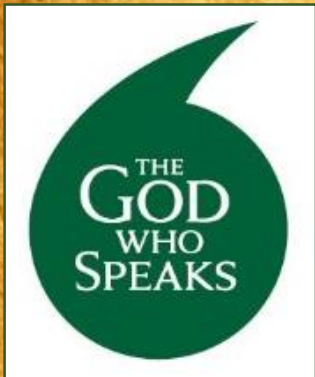
Bible basics providing information, articles and inspiration



Sharing God's Word

With a renewed love of Scripture comes both the opportunity and desire to share it with others.





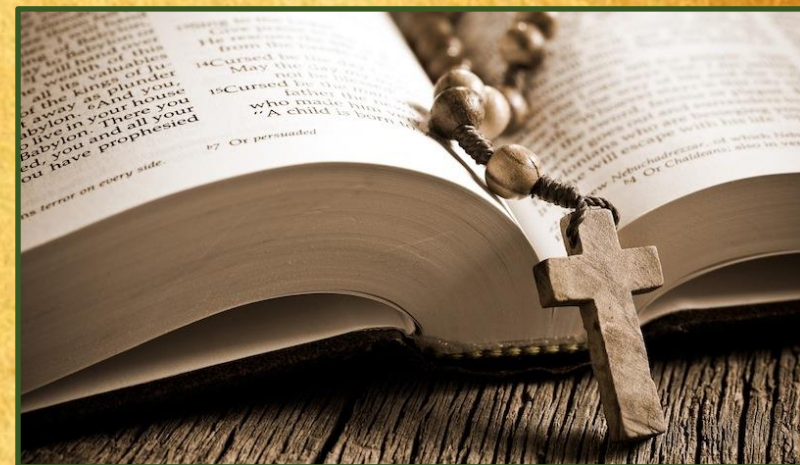
Celebrating



Living



Sharing





Celebrating God's Word

enriching our worshipping and spiritual community.

In discovering and renewing a genuine love for the word of God, we nurture our relationship with Christ. Through the Bible, we meet Christ who is alive in his word. We can listen to him speaking to us and guiding us in our daily lives.



Living God's Word

enriching our social action and outreach.

Scripture teaches us how to live in society, to respect the wonder of creation, especially each human being and to work towards the common good. The Scriptures inspire us to put faith into action, living God's word and doing God's word.



Sharing God's Word

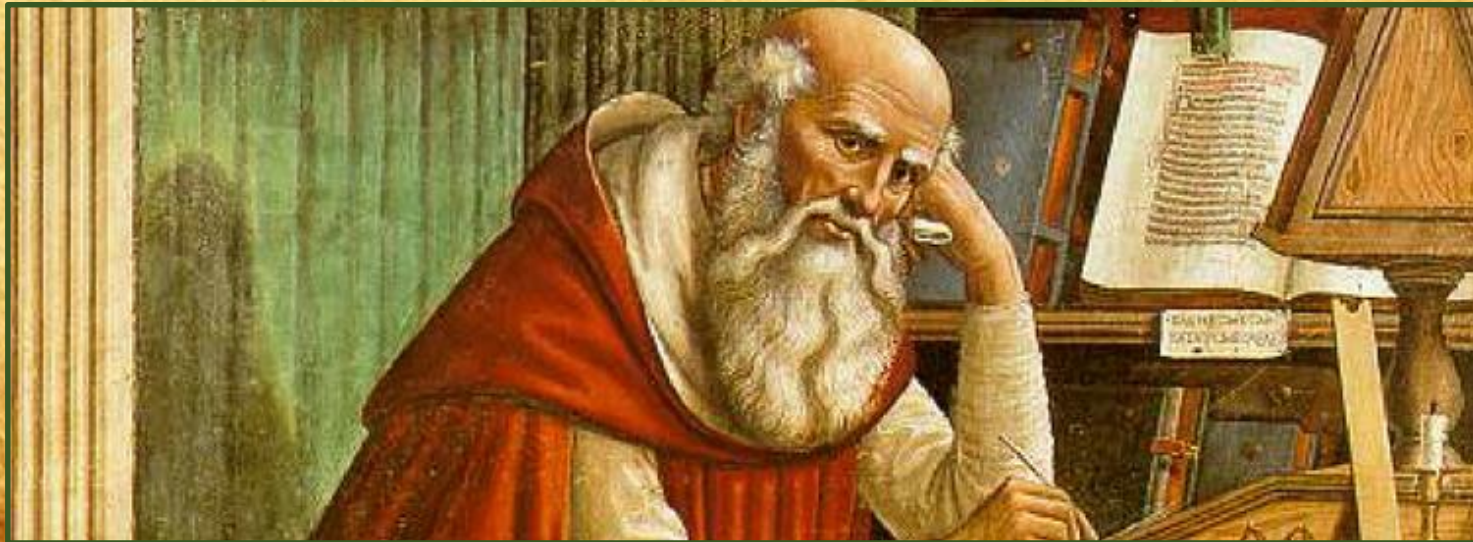
enriching our formation, proclamation and evangelisation.

The Bible has inspired, and continues to inspire, learning, culture, art, music and literature. It enables science and faith to build up mutual understanding through dialogue. It challenges technology and social media to open up new ways to encounter and share Christ in the world.

The Official Launch

Monday 30th September marks the official launch of The God Who Speaks – The Year of the Word with Cardinal Nichols video in the National Gallery on the feast of St. Jerome.

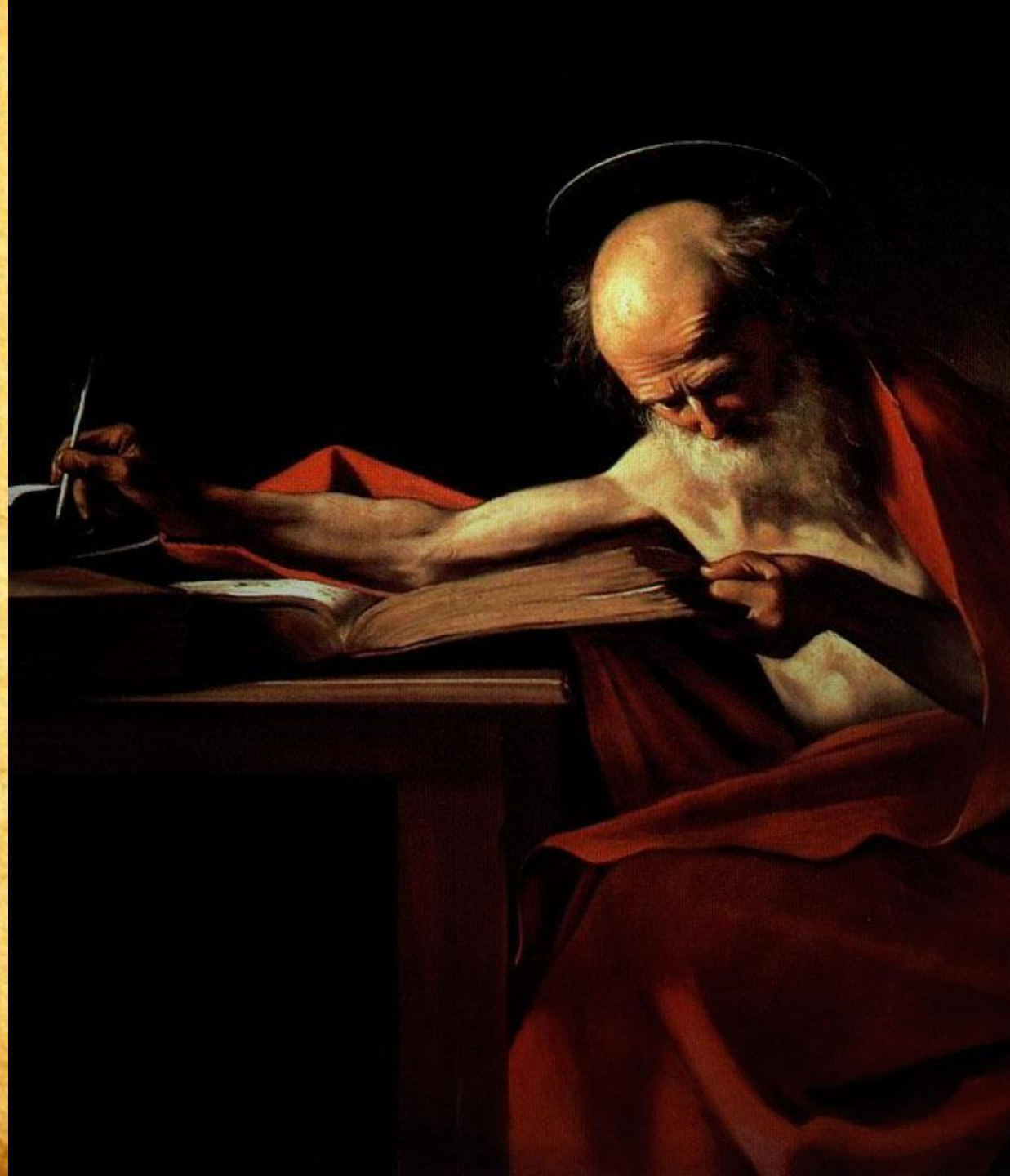
The Campaign Year will start on **Sunday 1st December 2019**, the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the Church's Liturgical Year.



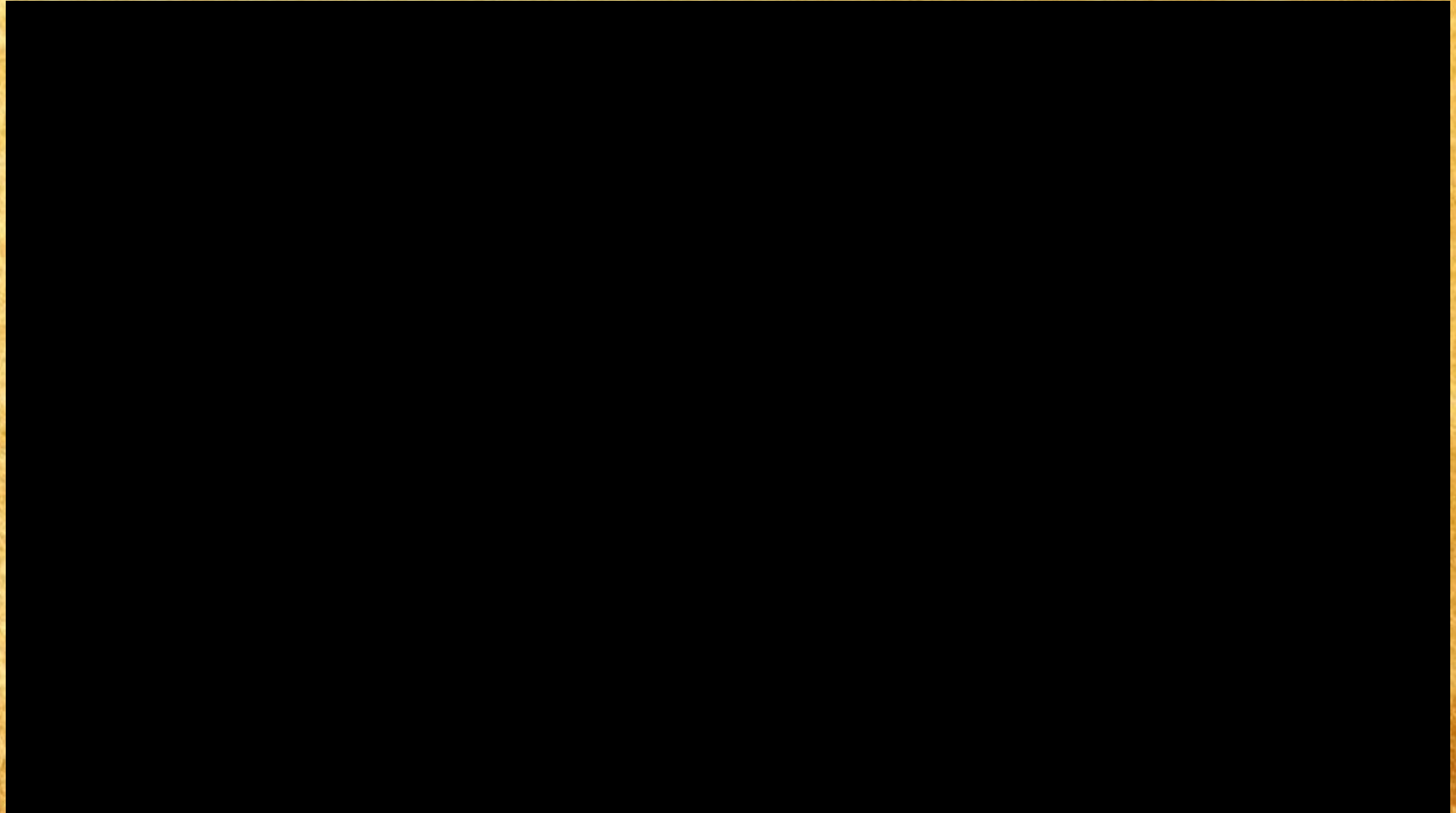
Why St. Jerome?

Patron of archaeologists,
Biblical scholars, librarians,
students and translators

Of all the things that made
Jerome famous, nothing was so
legendary as his translation of
the Bible; he spent his entire life
translating the scriptures from
Hebrew and Old Latin.



The Life of St. Jerome



OFFICIAL PRAYER FOR THE YEAR

Living God,
you walk alongside us and
speak to us throughout the Scriptures.

Your Son, Jesus Christ,
listens to our hopes and fears
and shows us how to live for one another.

Send us the Holy Spirit
to open our hearts and minds
so that we may be your witnesses
throughout the world.

AMEN

V. Your word is our path and your truth is our light.
R. This day and every day.

Our Lady of the Annunciation PRAY FOR US. St Matthew PRAY FOR US. St Jerome PRAY FOR US.

THE
GOD
WHO
SPEAKS

godwhospeaks.uk

The Year Ahead



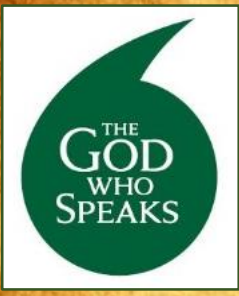
Following the official launch of the Year of the Word, we will focus on the following elements each term:

Term	Focus
Autumn 2019	Celebrating God's Word
Spring 2020	Matthew The Gospel Writer
Summer 2020	Living God's Word
Autumn 2020	Sharing God's Word

Term	Focus
Autumn 2019	Celebrating God's Word
Spring 2020	Matthew The Gospel Writer
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Autumn 2020	Sharing God's Word

Initial plans for each term are outlined in the following slides; these will be added to once further resources/information are made available. Schools are of course welcome to use their own ideas which they are also encouraged to share with others.

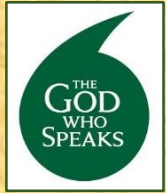




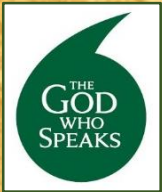
Autumn 2019

Celebrating God's Word

Proposed activities for this term:



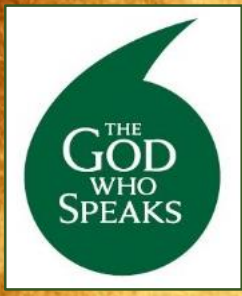
Introduce the YOTW to staff/pupils



Organise/prepare communal display for the
Year of the Word



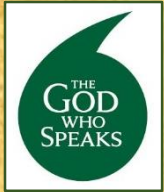
Prepare for the full launch on 1st December
2019 (further resources will become available)



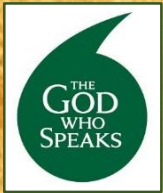
Autumn 2019

Celebrating God's Word

Proposed activities for this term:



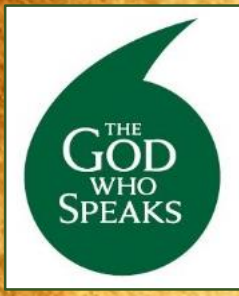
Appoint and train Scripture Champions



Encourage pupils to take a more active role in their parish by becoming readers



Use of autism-friendly resources to share the Christmas story.



Spring 2020

Matthew the Gospel Writer

**THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**
BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES



[The Bishops](#) [Safeguarding](#) [The Church](#) [CBCEW](#) [Our Work](#) [Dioceses](#) [News and Media](#) [What's On](#) **God Who Speaks**  

GOD WHO SPEAKS

Everyday Matthew – you didn't know you knew

Tuesday, September 3rd, 2019 @ 2:20 pm

Fr Joseph O'Hanlon takes us through the Gospel of St Matthew to reveal a surprising number of quotes we use in our daily lives.





RELATED



A journey of Mindfulness with St Matthew

A journey of mindfulness with St Matthew



Thy Kingdom Come

Matthew's Gospel is the Gospel of the kingdom of heaven





The Prologue and Jesus' Birth and Significance

CHAPTER 1:18-25
The Nativity

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel.

Three Wise Men
CHAPTER 2:7-12

CHAPTER 3:13-17
John Baptises Jesus

Always treat others as you would like them to treat you.

Simon Peter, Andrew, James & John
CHAPTER 4:18-22

The Kingdom of Heaven is Announced

CHAPTER 5:3-12
Sermon on the Mount
The Beatitudes

The Lord's Prayer
CHAPTER 6:9-15

CHAPTER 7:7-12
The Golden Rule

Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me.

Miracle of the Gadarene Pigs
CHAPTER 8:28-34

Signs of the Kingdom

CHAPTER 9:27-31
Jesus Heals the Blind Men

Jesus Sends His Disciples
CHAPTER 10:5-15

The Mystery of the Kingdom of Heaven

I speak to you in parables.

Parable of the Mustard Seed
CHAPTER 13:31-33

Death & Resurrection
CHAPTER 12:40-42

Come To Me All Who Are Weary
CHAPTER 11:28-30

The Church, the first fruits of the Kingdom of Heaven

CHAPTER 18:10-14
The Lost Sheep

CHAPTER 17:1-8
Jesus is Transfigured

Jesus Asks the Disciples
Who do you say I am?
CHAPTER 16:15-20

CHAPTER 15:22-28
The Daughter is Healed

Feeding the Five Thousand
CHAPTER 14:13-21

Where two or three gather in my name, there I am with them.

The Coming of the Kingdom of Heaven

Love God and love your neighbour as yourself.

CHAPTER 19:13-15
Jesus Blesses the Little Children

Mother of the Sons of Zebedee
CHAPTER 20:20-28

CHAPTER 21:1-11
The Entry into Jerusalem

CHAPTER 22:1-14
Parable of the Wedding Feast

Jesus Denounces the Hypocrites
Who do you say I am?
CHAPTER 23:13-36

CHAPTER 24:29-31
The Coming of the Son of Man

Parable of the Bridesmaids
CHAPTER 25:1-13

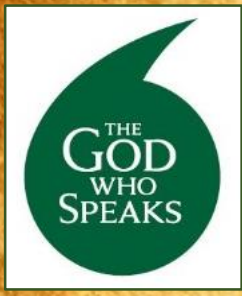
CHAPTER 26:26-29
Jesus and the Eucharist

Jesus is Crucified and Buried
CHAPTER 27:32-44

The Passion and Resurrection

CHAPTER 28:1-10
Women Find the Empty Tomb

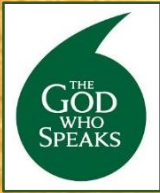
JOURNEY WITH MATTHEW



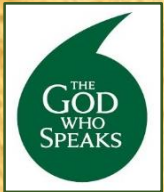
Spring 2020

Matthew the Gospel Writer

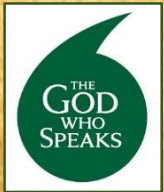
Proposed activities for this term:



Introduce 'Matthew the Gospel Writer' using diocesan prepared resources

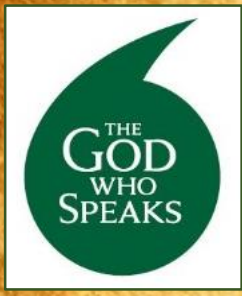


World Book Day – Bible character theme



'Moses and the Burning Bush' recording
(Cardinal Nichols)



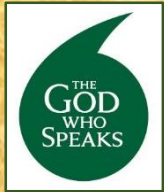


Spring 2020

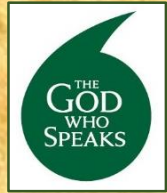


Matthew the Gospel Writer

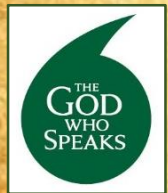
Proposed activities for this term:



Parents/pupils to share favourite scripture passages in first language



Passion Play based on Matthew's Gospel



Use of autism-friendly resources to share the Easter story.

THE Wednesday WORD

Make 2020 a special year for
your primary school.

A weekly scriptural leaflet bringing
families together around the Word of God.

I am pleased to offer a word of encouragement and endorsement for
The Wednesday Word.

Each Wednesday the materials supplied can help to:

- Develop a habit of prayer and reflection on the Word of God within the family
- Form hearts and minds to hear and understand the Word of God the following Sunday
- Put the Word of God into the home of every child in a Catholic school

I offer my prayers and encouragement not only to those who provide
The Wednesday Word but also to all those who use it.

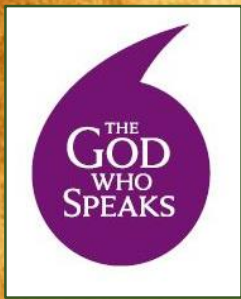
Cardinal Vincent Nichols

2020: The Wednesday Word connecting Home, School & Parish through Scripture

Find out more at wednesdayword.org & godwhospeaks.uk

The Wednesday Word Trust is a registered Catholic Charity supplying scriptural resources
for parishes and primary schools.



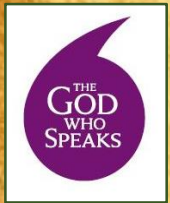


Summer 2020

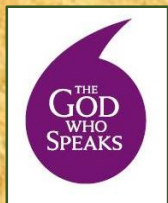
Living God's Word



Proposed activities for this term:



Bible reflections led by pupils who have received the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation



‘Scripture in our School’ review: what is its presence and how could it be improved?

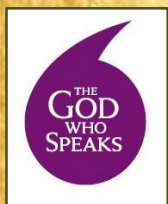


Summer 2020

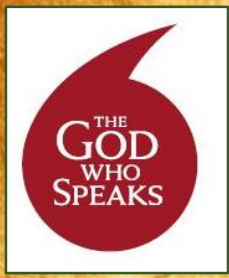
Living God's Word



Proposed activities for this term:



Bible presentations (or Matthew's Gospel – The Bible Society) to those pupils leaving their schools as they transition and move onto the next chapter of their educational journey/lives.

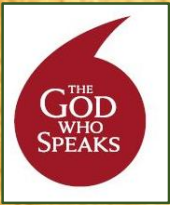


Autumn 2020

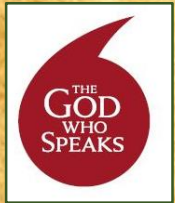


Sharing God's Word

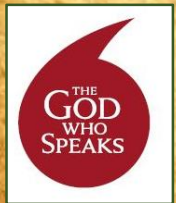
Proposed activities for this term:



30th September: St. Jerome assembly on the
1600th anniversary of his death



Use of autism-friendly resources to share the
Christmas story



Review of the impact of the Year of the Word
in your school.

There Is Money Available!

There are a small number of Year of the Word grants available in the following streams.

Stream A: Engaging Disabled Catholics

This stream of grant funding offers £1,000 for Scripture-based projects that equip and enable disabled Catholics to engage with the Bible.

Stream B: Creative Scriptural Projects

This stream offers funding to dioceses for Scripture-based projects that encourage an exploration of the Scriptures in a creative, innovative and sustainable way.

In particular, projects will be expected to:

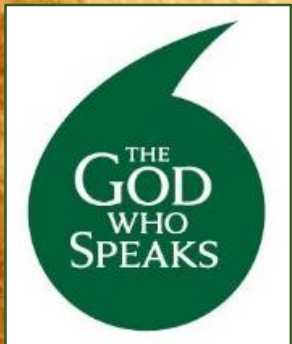
- Reflect one of our 3 themes: Celebrating God's Word, Living God's Word or Sharing God's Word
- Respond to the particular need of a definable group or network of Catholics in your diocese
- Explore how this group or network is currently being supported in their Scriptural engagement
- Be rooted in Scripture, with engagement with the Bible at its heart, whilst being fresh and innovative

Grant Applications

If you have an innovative project which will inspire your pupils and the wider school community to engage more fully with scripture, the application window is open from:

1st October 2019 – 6th March 2020.

You can visit godwhospeaks.uk for more information about grant applications.



PILGRIM PRAYER FOR THE YEAR

Pilgrim God, you walk alongside us and speak to us throughout the Scriptures:
in the message of the prophets, the songs of David and the vision of Paul.

Your Son, Jesus Christ, listens to our hopes and fears and shows us how to live:
in our love of neighbour, our desire for justice, and in our dying and rising each day.

Send us the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds so that we may be your witnesses throughout the world:
in our protection of the vulnerable, our words and actions and in our communion with the earth.

AMEN

V. Your word is our path and your truth is our light.

R. This day and every day.

Our Lady of the Annunciation PRAY FOR US.

St Matthew PRAY FOR US.

St Jerome PRAY FOR US.



Please contact one of your Year of the Word
diocesan advisers if you require further help
or support.

claireoneill@rcdow.org.uk

tonygorton@rcdow.org.uk



A rustic, handmade card made of brown cardboard with the words "Thank you!" written in a black, cursive script. The card is placed on a light-colored, textured surface, possibly sand or gravel. To the right of the card is a large, white daisy with a bright yellow center. In the background, two more daisies are visible but out of focus. A dark, thin object, possibly a piece of twine or a stick, is visible on the left side of the card.

Thank
you!

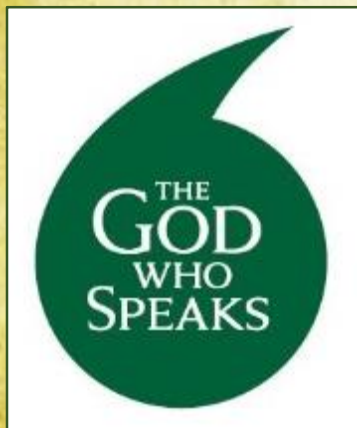


THE
GOD
WHO
SPEAKS

The study of the sacred Scriptures must be a door opened to every believer. It is essential that the revealed word radically enrich our catechesis and all our efforts to pass on the faith...

EVANGELII GAUDIUM, 2013

Celebrating Living Sharing



The Old Testament



The New Testament

