

COMMUNITY

WORD OF THE WEEK

Just as each of our bodies has several parts and each part has a separate function, so all of us, in union with Christ, form one body, and as parts of it we belong to each other. Our gifts differ according to the grace given us. If your gift is prophecy, then use it as your faith suggests; if administration, then use it for administration; if teaching, then use it for teaching. Let the preachers deliver sermons, the almsgivers give freely, the officials be diligent, and those who do works of mercy do them cheerfully.

Romans 12:4-12

Something to think about...

Classical icon painters believe that icons reveal something of God to those who pray with them. Andrej Rublev's icon depicts God, disguised as three travellers, visiting Abraham. (Genesis 18:1-15)

A circle is a symbol of unbroken love, therefore the figures are painted in the structure of a circle. The mystery of the Trinity is lived in love. I am invited now to be part of God's community of love. What in me responds to this call? What resists? ...

The figure on the right represents the Holy Spirit and is in blue and green, the colours of life. The Spirit leans forward as if wishing to be involved and to share with the other figures. Often I do not want to be involved, I would rather stay in my own space than reach out to the person beside me.

Spend a few seconds asking the Spirit for help to reach out to others...

Behind Jesus (middle) is a tree, symbol of the cross. His hand in the centre of the circle points towards the chalice, symbol of sacrifice, and his glance falls lovingly on the Father. Creating a community, living alongside other people, always calls for sacrifice.

Take a few moments to consider what sacrifices may be asked of you today, and to ask for help...

The Father is expectant, like the father ready to welcome home the Prodigal Son. The Father is waiting to welcome me in every moment of my life. Only He can help me to welcome others with the same acceptance. In the quiet, let the Father touch your heart with merciful love...

The circle is complete; we are called to be part of this community of perfect love.

Spend a moment praying for the world's broken communities...

Something to talk about...

- Think about the communities you are part of... what makes a healthy community?
- How can we tell if a community is not healthy?
- What can you do personally to help build up the communities around you?

Something to do

As a form, make a list of all the different communities you belong to....

sports teams, families, churches...

How do they make you grow and develop as a human being?



WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

This week our team of Year 10 Peer Supports begin their ministry, providing a drop-in session every lunchtime for anybody who needs a friendly face to talk to! You will find them in Room 2 at lunchtime, and will see them around school wearing their Peer Supporter badges. Thank you, Peer Supporters, for giving up your time and working so hard!

Prayer for the week...

Lord, give us the strength we need to live lives of love and faith, so that the world might come to know your son more and more through our actions and words, as we seek to live lives which help to build your Kingdom here on earth. Amen

