

WEEK 5**Starting:****2nd October 2017****WORD OF THE WEEK...**

*“Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your ways.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: For you are God my saviour.”
(Ps 24:4-9) ~ from Sunday’s readings*

- *This week, as we mark the CAFOD Harvest Day on Friday, we pray for CAFOD and all other charities, that their work to help transform the circumstances of families and communities around the world will be most successful.*
- *We also pray for all Nigerians on the anniversary of their Independence Day. May the Lord bless the good people of Nigeria with peace and prosperity.*
- *Let us also specially pray for our Deanery Mass, which takes place here at St Paul’s Academy on this Wednesday at 4.30pm*

Monday, 2nd October

One of the straplines CAFOD uses for its campaigns is: **Aspire not to have more, but be more.**” This is a quote from the late Archbishop of El Salvador, Blessed Oscar Romero, who was murdered for speaking out against the injustices and inequalities against the poor people of his country.

Let us pray:

God of peace, we pray for peace around the world. Where there is hatred, sow seeds of calm. Where there is destruction, help us to rebuild. Where children are crying, bring an end to tears. Shelter your peoples and protect them. Guide them and keep them from harm. Amen.

Tuesday, 3rd October

Saint Teresa of Lisieux, in northern France, was a young Carmelite Sister who died at the age of 24. She said: *“Love can do all things. Our Lord does not look so much at the greatness of our actions – or even at their difficulty – as the love with which we do them.”*

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, I ask for the power of your Spirit that I may remain positive throughout all that is ordinary in my daily life. Amen

Wednesday, 4th October (Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi)

Saint Francis of Assisi, a patron of animals and the environment is remembered for his generosity to the poor, and his willingness to minister to the lepers. He is also remembered for his love for animals and nature. On this day, special services are held to bless animals.

Let us pray:

Lord, make us instruments of your peace, where there is hatred, let your love increase.

Where there is blindness, give us sight, and where there is darkness, let your light shine. Amen (adapted from a prayer by St Francis of Assisi)

Thursday, 5th October

The Harvest is great and the labourers are few, so pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.

Let us pray:

We pray for young people to be open to hear the voice of God inviting them to help others for the wellbeing of our society. Amen.

Friday, 6th October CAFOD Harvest Day

CAFOD has worked alongside many poor communities to improve their conditions. This Harvest Day, we join the effort of CAFOD as they continue their great work with the people of El Salvador.

Let us pray:

Loving God, help us to work together with CAFOD to build a brighter world, where each of us can become the best person we can be. Let us learn from communities around the world, who are working hard to grow their way out of poverty. We pray we may share generously all you have given us. Amen.