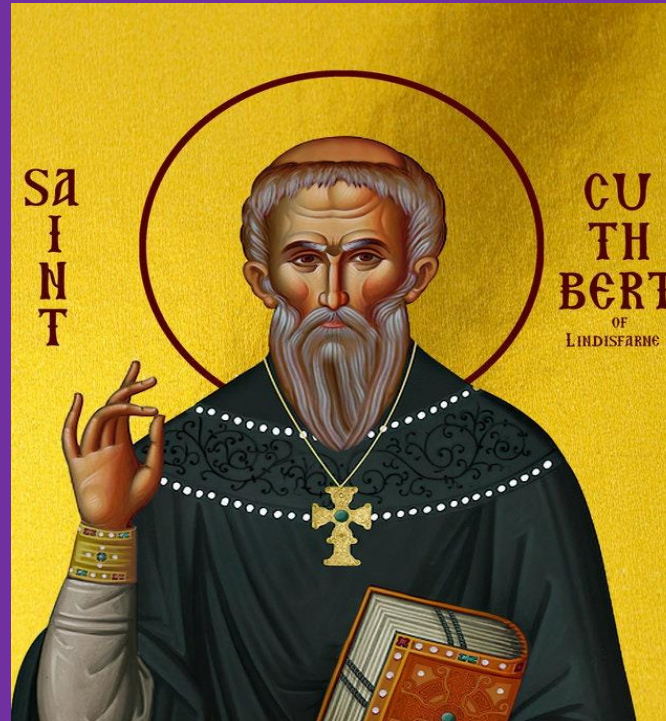


SIGN OF THE CROSS AND GATHER

Today we celebrate the feast of St Cuthbert. Cuthbert was a Northern giant who served as Bishop of Hexham and Bishop of Lindisfarne. He is buried behind the main altar in Durham cathedral.

WE LISTEN

St Cuthbert had a reputation of being a gentle person who liked to spend time in prayer and refectation. Take some time this morning to sit quietly and prepare yourself for the day ahead.



RESPONSE

Dear God,
May the example of St Cuthbert be with us this week. Allow his faith, his vocation to others and his integrity of action to inspire us when we are challenged.

Amen

MISSION

Cuthbert is the patron of our diocese and the patron of Durham House. His life was an example of **faith**, **vocation** and **integrity**. Consider the example of St Cuthbert this week in your actions.

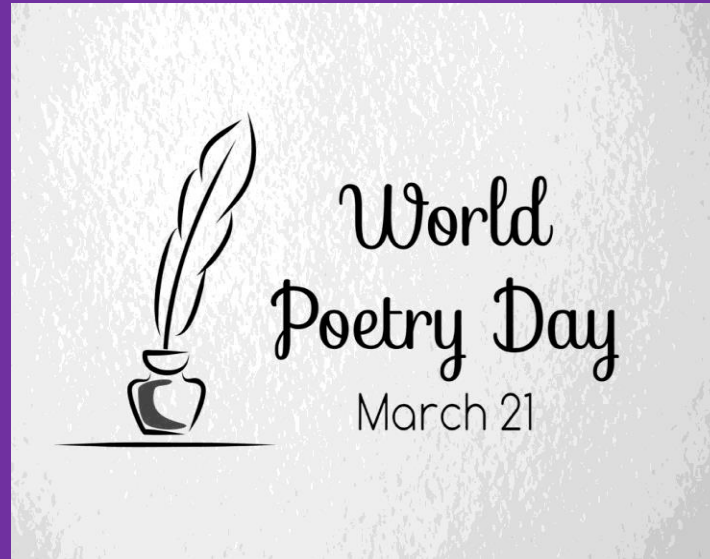
SIGN OF THE CROSS AND GATHER

Our theme this week is forgiveness and today is world poetry day. This day was created to promote the importance of reading, writing, publishing and teaching of poetry throughout the world. Poetry is a wonderful way in which people can express themselves and their feelings.

WE LISTEN

Forgiveness is the mightiest sword
Forgiveness of those you fear
Is the highest reward
When they bruise you with words
When they make you feel small
When it's hardest to take
You must do nothing at all...

Jane Eyre.



RESPONSE

Dear God, please forgive me when I allow anger and bitterness to fill my heart because I refuse to forgive someone who has hurt me. Teach me how to lay down my rights and choose to forgive in the same way You have forgiven me.

Amen

MISSION

The poem above from Jane Eyre asks us to consider the importance of **forgiveness**. Jesus taught his disciples to 'turn the other cheek'. This controversial teaching challenges people to act with love and compassion rather than anger and hatred. Try it!!

SIGN OF THE CROSS AND GATHER

Our theme this week is forgiveness. Today we will consider the story of Gee Walker whose son, Anthony was killed in a racist attack in 2005. Rather than allowing her life to be consumed by hatred she offered her son's killers forgiveness.

WE LISTEN

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God **forgave** you."

Ephesians 4:32



RESPONSE

Our Father, Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy Will be done,
on earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And **forgive** us our trespasses,
as we **forgive** those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

MISSION

Gee Walker said that until she forgave, she was carrying round hatred and anger. Could you offer forgiveness like Gee Walker? What are the benefits of forgiving others? How might showing forgiveness be good for a person?

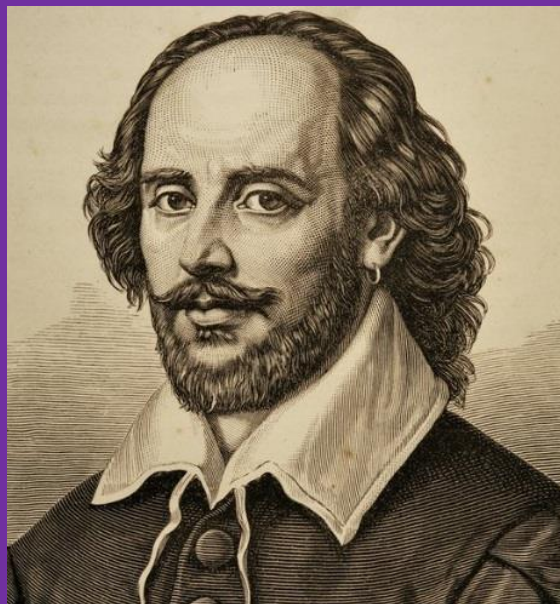
SIGN OF THE CROSS AND GATHER

This week is Shakespeare week. It was created to encourage people of all ages, but especially young people, to consider the enriching and enjoyable impact that he has had on our country.

WE LISTEN

"It is in pardoning that we are pardoned"

William Shakespeare



RESPONSE

God of forgiveness, give us hearts that are compassionate and forgiving. Make us agents of reconciliation and peace. Give us courage to make a difference, to bring justice and peace to all. Amen.

MISSION

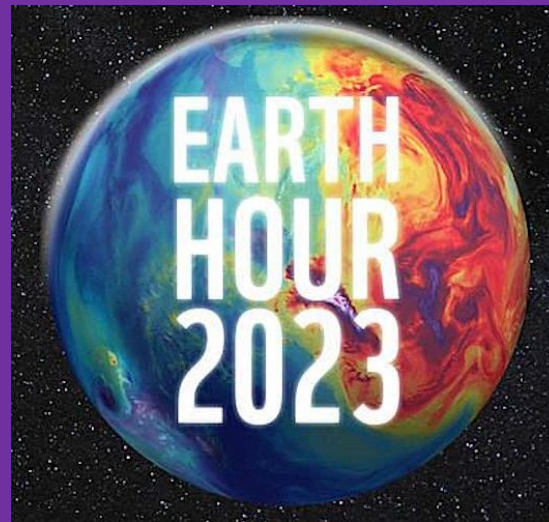
Our theme this week has been focused on forgiveness. The quote from Shakespeare above links to the teachings of Jesus and the example of Gee Walker. When we offer forgiveness we will receive it. In the parable of the unmerciful servant, Jesus showed that God will forgive those who are willing to forgive others.

SIGN OF THE CROSS AND GATHER

On Saturday 25th March, the world wildlife association asks all people across the world to take part in 'Earth Hour'. Your task is to turn off non-essential electric lights for one hour as a commitment to the planet.

WE LISTEN

In 2015, Pope Francis wrote a letter called Laudato Si. In this letter he asks all people in the world to take care of our common home. Earth Hour is one simple way in which our global community can do just that.



RESPONSE

Dear God, creation is your handiwork.
Grant us your grace that we may
Exercise wise stewardship of this Earth;
Tread lightly upon it;
And cherish its resources;
That our children may enjoy its riches,
throughout all generations,

Amen.

MISSION

Make an effort to take part in 'Earth Hour' this weekend. When we work together we can make a significant difference. Think about ways in which we, as a school, can consider our impact on the planet. Consider your approach to litter, to energy and to how we use and take care of all resources.