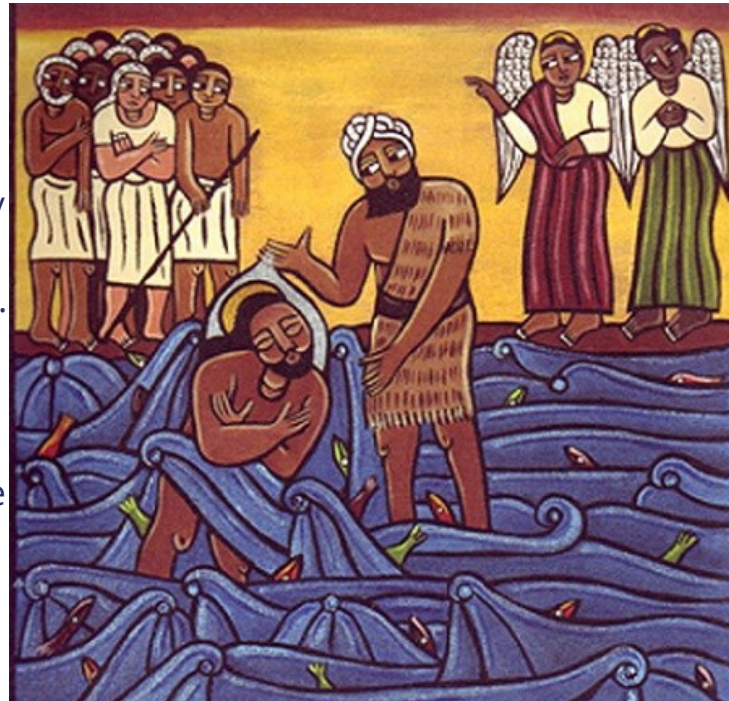


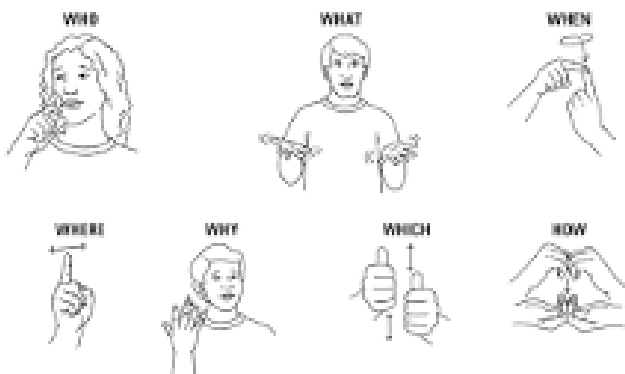
ST COLUMBA'S FAMILIES NEWSLETTER

HI FAMILIES OF ST COLUMBA'S,

In last week's Families Newsletter, we talked about Jesus' baptism and how when Jesus was baptised in the Jordan by his cousin, John, he heard a voice from heaven saying, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." At his baptism, God told Jesus how much he loved him. Similarly, at any baptism we believe God is saying the same to the one being baptised. "You are my beloved daughter. You are my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased." What we do is a sign of what we believe.



In the Church of Scotland tradition, we say we have two sacraments/signs – baptism and holy communion, sometimes called the Lord's Supper (the reminder of Jesus' last meal with his closet friends before his arrest and crucifixion.) The definition of a sacrament is: "An outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace." Catechism, The Book of Common Prayer (1662)



In recent times we have become more familiar with signing: from Scotland's, First Minister's briefings through the Covid pandemic, to Rose Ayling Ellis on Strictly Come Dancing. These signers share a wonderful gift of communication and use that talent to the benefit of others.

At our best, Christians are signers of God's love. When we are kind or helpful to others. When we look out for someone in school who seems worried; when we look after someone who might be poorly or visit someone who is lonely, we are signing that we care – signing that we love.



Dates for the Diary

Remember, Sunday School will meet at church, at 11am on the following dates. We very much hope you can be part of that.

Sunday 6th February

Sunday 6th March

Sunday 3rd April

Preparations for Lent 2022

Last year one of the really lovely contributions to our collective, congregational journey through Lent, towards Easter, were the recordings made by some of our St Columba's families for the church website <https://www.stcolumbas.org.uk/scripture-and-music-for-lent/>

We aim to do the same this year. Please let Angus know if you would like to record a reading and a prayer. It is very simple to do, with the resources provided for you. Seeing church families offer these moments really encourages others and is much appreciated. Do be in touch!

In the meantime, stay happy and healthy. And for those of you who may be poorly at the moment, get well soon.

Keep smiling!

Angus and the Sunday School Team