



Please pray for the work of Catholic Education – especially for the staff and pupils in our Catholic Schools and for their families in these difficult times.

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of time for growing and learning, and for the gift of Catholic education. Inspired by St. John Bosco, we thank you for our faith and for those who offer themselves at the service of our Catholic faith with their very lives and in their vocations. Amen.

Dear Friends

The theme for this year's Catholic Education Week is 'Jesus Christ: the Way, the Truth, the Life'. For 2020, this is a perfect theme as we try to come to terms with the challenges of a worldwide pandemic. As we face this new reality, we are reminded as Christians that the centre of all reality is God, made present and tangible for us through his Son, Jesus Christ.

It is Christ who enables us to understand our world, our place in it and our relationships with one another and with God. This is never more true than when we are tested as we all are now.

In our Catholic schools, we are as committed as ever to living out our faith through prayer, in our learning and in our actions. In his recent letter to the faithful, *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis challenges all of us to serve the common good through serving one another, especially the poor, and being good caretakers of our planet. Serving the common good has been a major theme of Catholic Social Teaching for over a century, and one which we live out in our Catholic schools in Perth and Kinross.

As we adapt to the challenges presented by COVID-19, we continue to place the teachings of Christ and his Church at the centre of what we do. We continue to strive for the common good of all, looking after one another and our families and friends. We learn about the lives of our brothers and sisters around the globe and pray for them and support them in practical ways. Through this, our children and young people become global citizens and practice the values of the Gospel in their daily lives.

Throughout this Catholic Education Week, please pray for our Catholic schools and support them in any way you can. Your prayers and your support are received gratefully as we strive to follow His Way and enable our children and young people to grow in His Grace.

God bless you and your families,

Elizabeth Hunter

Lynne Mendes

Simon McKell

Seán Hagney

Headteachers of St Dominic's Primary School,

Our Lady's Primary School, St Stephen's Primary School

and St John's Academy.

