



Generosity

Christian Value of the Half Term
Autumn 1 2023

WELCOME WORDS



We light three candles to remind us of:
God the Father, the **generous** giver,
God the Son, who gave his life for the world and
God the Holy Spirit, who inspires us to give cheerfully



- A good way to test how **generous** we are being to others is to think about whether we are being as good to them as we are being to ourselves.
- Jesus said,

“Love your neighbour as yourself.” Mark 23

One of America’s best known legends is the story of Johnny Appleseed.



- Johnny had a dream, to grow so many apples that no one would ever go hungry.
- As a young man he began his travels across America, always carrying a leather bag full of apple seeds that he collected free from cider mills after the apples had been crushed to make juice.





- As he travelled he planted the seeds in open spaces in the forests, alongside the road sides and by streams. Year after year he returned to tend trees and when they were big enough he sold them or gave them to the villagers. He wanted every villager to plant an apple tree.
- As people began to know him and look forward to his visits, no door was ever closed to him. He was a news carrier and a friend, he was the 'Appleseed' man. He lived very humbly, eating the food he found by the wayside, not worrying about new clothes or good shoes, but he did always carry his favourite book, his Bible. He told the people he met wonderful stories from the Bible about God's **generosity**.

Learning



- Look at the acrostic poem that describes **generosity**.
- **GENEROSITY** IS...
- **G**iving something we value to someone else
- **E**ncouraging the best in each other
- **N**ever selfish
- **E**njoying helping others
- **R**aising support for a good cause
- **O**ffering what we can do
- **S**haring our time and talents
- **I**nviting someone to join in
- **T**aking care of God's creation for future generations.
- **Y**ou first, me last.



Reflecting

- Talk with a partner about which line you think is the best way of describing **generosity** and why?
- Which lines do you think describe Johnny Appleseed?



Responding



- Today's prayer was written long ago by Ignatius Loyola, a 16th century Spanish knight. He was very badly wounded in a battle and while he was recovering he saw a vision of Jesus and his mother Mary. He believed that God was giving him a message through the vision, which was to stop fighting and live a life of service instead.

Let us Pray

- *Prayer of St Ignatius Loyola*
- *Dear Lord,*
- *Teach me to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost,*
- *To fight and not to heed the wounds,*
- *To toil and not to seek for rest,*
- *To labour and not to ask for reward, save that of knowing that I do your will. Amen*





Fruits from the Roots

- *In your reflection area, remember the story of Johnny Appleseed.*
- *Key Question: How generous are you with your time and talents and how are you sowing seeds for the future?*

