

Dear Parents,

**RE: FIRST RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UNIT TO BE STUDIED IN YEAR FIVE:
We Are Called – Baptism**

In Catholic understanding whenever people engage in activities that are good for themselves, others, society and creation they are 'working'. Working, therefore, may attract a wage or it may not.

This Religious Education unit begins with wondering at the meaning of work. As people explore the meaning of work they may come to understand that through their work activities, they help care for others, creation and themselves. God sustains creation and wants people to care for creation through their work activities.

The unit explores how Jesus came to do special work: this was to draw every human being into a new and close relationship with God. Jesus shares his special work through Baptism.

The unit goes on to explore that Baptised people are called to share in the special work of Jesus in different ways such as:

- lay followers
- priests
- consecrated religious (Brothers or Sisters).

Followers of Jesus are called to teach others to keep God's Commandments, especially the Third and Seventh Commandments, as these teach important lessons about God's vision of human work.

You could help your child during this unit by, for example:

- identifying with your child the ways in which they 'work', ie. the activities they are engaged in which are good for themselves (eating healthy food), good for others (helping out around the house), good for society (joining in sporting teams) and good for creation (placing rubbish in bins)
- discussing with your child the gifts and talents they have and the vocation these may lead towards
- discussing your gifts and talents and the ways you use them in your vocation
- listing various ways family members work
- sharing your memories of your child's Baptism or the Baptism of a relative or family friend

Yours sincerely

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