

## **CATHOLIC LIFE & MISSION**

#### SEPTEMBER 2023 - VOLUME 1



# WE ARE ONE IN CHRIST

A very warm welcome back to all of our staff, students, parents and carers in our All Saints Family.

It has been a very busy first fortnight in school, with our new Year 7 students settling in to the rhythm of secondary school life, well supported by our older students, helping them to find their way around the site, what to do at lunchtime etc.

This gets to the heart of what it is to be a part of the All Saints Family. In his letter to the Corinthians, St Paul Reminds us,

"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ... God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. **If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.**"

During their time with us at All Saints, we want the students to understand that these small actions to support each other are actually leading us on our path to holiness: to sainthood!

In this edition of Catholic Life and Mission, you will find our student chaplaincy team; the Society of St Joseph back in action, our new Year 12's given a warm welcome with the celebration of Holy Mass and lots and lots of praising God through song!

## Theme of the Week : Forgiveness

This week, Mr Bonnar led year 7-11 in assembly. He spoke of the life of Corrie ten Boom, a concentration camp survivor, who, by the power of prayer was able to forgive a man who was responsible for the death of many people, including her own sister.

The students heard of some concrete ways in which to find the power to choose to forgive others and live with peace in their hearts. They learned that we can read about the power of mercy in the Old Testament, find the words we need to cry out in pain when we have been wronged in the Psalms, and use the concrete example of the life of Christ in the New Testament to understand why we need to forgive, and how do really go about this like Jesus did.

# YEAR 12 WELCOME MASS

On Tuesday 5th September, we were delighted to be joined by Father Jean-Laurent of Holy Family Parish, who celebrated Mass for our new Year 12 students.

This was a Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit, using readings and psalms that might often be heard at a



confirmation Mass, or at Pentecost. We invoked the Holy Spirit to guide the students and to empower them in their studies over the next two years with the grace of his gifts.

Thank you to our Year 13 student leadership team, who joined the Mass to pray with their fellow students and to read the scripture (see our Head Boy Amiel and Listening Table Officer Jayden photographed above).

### Liturgical Calendar

#### Sunday 17th September - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life."

#### Sunday 24th September - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Blessings of the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace be in heaven and glory in the highest heaven."

#### Sunday 1st October - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him."



## JOIN US AT MASS

We continue to be blessed by the service of Father Chris of La Salette Parish in Rainham, who offers Mass in our chapel every Friday at 8.10am. All are welcome!



# LOURDES 2024

Current years 10-13 Join us in France on the Lourdes & The Pyrenees Trip. Summer Term 2024. Register your interest with the Chaplains.





# SAINTS OF THE MONTH



#### St. Vincent de Paul - 27th September

St Vincent was the founder of the Congregation of the Mission (Lazarists, or Vincentians) for preaching missions to the peasantry and for educating and training a pastoral clergy. The patron saint of charitable societies, St. Vincent de Paul is primarily recognized for his charity and compassion for the poor, though he is also known for his reform of the clergy and for his early role in opposing the heresy of Jansenism.



#### Saint Therese of Lisieux - 1st October

St Therese was a Carmelite nun whose service to her Roman Catholic order, although outwardly unremarkable, was later recognized for its exemplary spiritual accomplishments. She was named a doctor of the church by Pope John Paul II in 1997. She is a patron saint of missions and of florists.

#### Prayer by Saint Bridget for Our Lady of Sorrows (15th September)

O Blessed Virgin Mary, Immaculate Mother of God, who didst endure a martyrdom of love and grief, beholding the sufferings and sorrows of Jesus! Thou didst co-operate in the benefit of my redemption by thy innumerable afflictions and by offering to the Eternal Father His only-begotten Son as a holocaust and victim of propitiation for my sins. I thank thee for the unspeakable love which led thee to deprive thyself of the Fruit of thy womb, Jesus, true God and true Man, to save me, a sinner. Oh! make use of the unfailing intercession of thy sorrows with the Father and the Son, that I may steadfastly amend my life and never again crucify my loving Redeemer by new sins; arid that, persevering till death in His grace, I may obtain eternal life through the merits of His Cross and Passion.

Amen.

Mother of love, of sorrow, and of mercy, pray for us.

## SPOTLIGHT ON RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION

At All Saints Catholic School we are committed to promoting the personal and social development and health and wellbeing of all the students within our community. We believe that high quality Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) is a fundamental part of this.

There is an opportunity for parents to engage with the teaching and deepen the experience for your child by logging on to our provider's parent portal, where you can see exactly what your child will be learning in RSE.

www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal School Username: opp-allsaints-8 School Password: rse-parent-white

