

## **CATHOLIC LIFE & MISSION**

MAY 2023 - VOLUME 9



## **Ascension Feast Day Mass**

We are very thankful to Father Chris from La Salette Parish in Rainham for once again joining us to celebrate Holy Mass on the Feast of Ascension.

With St Francis Hall out of action due to the examinations, Father Chris offered Mass in the Chapel at 8.10am for students who wanted to fulfil their obligation on this Holy Day, and then shortly afterwards said Mass again for the whole Year 10 cohort and several staff members.

Our year 10 readers; Lewis, Donna, Julia and Nicole, and our Altar Serving team: Kacper, Matthew, Enaiho and Arthur contributed beautifully to this very prayerful liturgy.

Student behaviour and partcipation at Mass was exemplary. Both their Head of Year, Mr Frederick and the school chaplains were incredibly proud of them.

# COME HOLY SPIRIT, FILL THE HEARTS OF THY FAITHFUL!

We have reached half term and, with this, the end of Eastertide, culminating on the feast of Pentecost this coming Sunday.

We have many year 10 students being confirmed in their parishes at this time. As a school family we remember these young people, who have chosen to fulfil the the promises made on their behalf at baptism by their parents and godparents. We ask that the Holy Spirit blesses them abundantly with His gifts and fruits and pray that they go forward, boldly proclaiming their faith in Christ Jesus.

We also remember the great number of year 11 and 13 students who are in the process of sitting examinations, asking God to give them a clear mind to remember all that they have learned and wisdom to understand all they being asked.



**NEW FAITH &** 

**FELLOWSHIP** 

## Ascension Mass 2023



On Wednesday 17th May we began our first after school chaplaincy activity - Faith and Fellowship club, using videos to prompt deeper questions about life, meaning and faith. This will take place every Wednesday, Week 1 from 3.15-4.15pm. In the first week we watched Episode 1 of Alpha Youth.

Joseph (7A) tells more about it here:

"Chapel clubs are a fun and interactive way to learn more about your beliefs, get spiritually fed and deepen your relationship with God and your peers. I would recommend going to Faith and Fellowship club, as this helps deepen your understanding of faith and provides a safe space for spiritual challenge, by your peers and teachers. Thank you for reading."

Joseph Ajibade

**CLUB** 

## Liturgical Calendar

## **Sunday 28th May - Pentecost Sunday**

"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love."

#### Sunday 4th June - The Most Holy Trinity

"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, the God who is, who was, and who is to come."

### Sunday 11th June - The Most Holy Body and Blood of the Lord

"I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever."



# LOURDES 2024

Current years 9-12
Join us in France on the Lourdes &
The Pyrenees Trip.
Summer Term 2024.
Register your interest with the Chaplains.









# SAINTS OF THE MONTH



### St. Justin Martyr - 1st June

One of the most famous of the early Church martyrs, ihe remembered both for his steadfast faith in the face of death, and because he was one of the first thinkers to reconcile the faith with reason.

He made several trips to Rome, where he engaged pagan thinkers in public debate. In the end, his work was considered a threat to the empire's cultural religion, and he was arrested and ordered to sacrifice to the Roman gods. He refused and was beheaded with six other Christians (five men and one woman).



#### Saint Charles Lwanga - 3rd June

Born in 1860 in the Kingdom of Buganda in the southern part of modern Uganda, he served as a page and later as a major-domo in the court of King Mwanga II. As part of the King's effort to resist foreign colonization, he had begun to insist that Christian converts abandon their new faith, and executed many Anglicans and Catholics between 1855 and 1887. Many of those that were executed were officials in his Royal Court or otherwise very close to him. Among those executed was Charles Lwanga, and the Catholic Church recognizes him as a Ugandan Catholic Catechist martyred for his faith.

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

## Do you know someone who no longer comes to Mass?



Maybe it's a friend or family member, neighbour or colleague, or maybe it's you?



## + Bishop Alan would love to hear from you +

As we emerge from the global pandemic into a rapidly changing world, we as Church are ever more aware of our need to listen more deeply, more humbly and more widely to the experiences of all Catholics - for this is indeed where the Holy Spirit breathes and speaks.

- There are many people in Brentwood and beyond, who were baptised Catholic, but for one reason or another have lost interest in what the Catholic Church has to say. If you feel this way, then as your Bishop, I'd love to hear from you!
- On the other hand, you may feel that you are still interested and are attracted to the Church, but you don't have time for Sunday Mass. Or perhaps you find Church boring, or your local parish unfriendly; or maybe you haven't returned to the Church since the Covid pandemic. If this is you, I'd love to hear from you.
- Sadly, there are some who feel alienated from the Church because it has harmed or rejected them in some way. Again, if this is you, I would very much like to hear from you.

This survey provides a space for the story and experience of you, your family and friends to be shared and heard, and seriously listened to by me as your Bishop and our wider diocesan Church.

Click on the link, or snap the QR code - it should take no more than 10-15 mins to complete

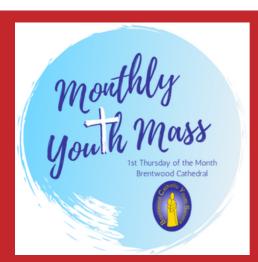


https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\_9Gn08WXvvKfwJts



PLEASE ASK your friends or family, your neighbours and colleagues who no longer come to Church to complete the survey so that we might hear from as many people as possible.

"Thank you for taking the time to share your story and experience, and allowing me the chance to listen once more." **Bishop Alan** 



## First Thursday of the Month from 6pm

We know that so many of you will be in the middle, or nearing the end, of exams during June and so we invite you to join us in the Cathedral for a time of quiet prayer, music and reflection to rest and revitalise your mind.

Join us for as long or short a time as you wish to enjoy the peace of the Cathedral before we celebrate Mass at 7:30pm.

# 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



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## NEXTISSUE...

June is dedicated by the Church as the the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

We also look forward to celebrating Mass on the Feast of St Peter and Paul on the 29th June.

