



# CATHOLIC LIFE & MISSION

26th March 2024



**“The tragedy of the passion brings to fulfilment our own life and the whole of human history. We can’t let Holy Week be just a kind of commemoration. It means contemplating the mystery of Jesus Christ as something which continues to work in our souls.” –Saint Josemaria Escriva**

We have almost reached the point which we have been preparing throughout Lent. Over the next few days, we will both accompany Jesus in his Passion, and meet Him in His glory on Sunday.

It has been a time of immense charity and intense prayer at All Saints as you will read in these pages. Our students have committed themselves to giving so generously, in particular with our Lent-Tin Food Drive and we are so thankful that you, our families and friends of the school have supported this initiative.

We have been preparing our souls well, too, with school Masses and prayer liturgies, frequent availability of confessions, Stations of the Cross, Bible Study and our Pray & Play Discussion sessions in the Chapel.

We are so blessed to have been supported by many visiting priests to our school over this time. Perhaps we can remember them in our prayers as they prepare to make Christ’s passion, death and resurrection present for us on the altar this weekend.

# THE LENT-TIN FOOD DRIVE

The generosity of the All Saints Community in remembering those in the greatest need in our local community has been quite astounding during this Lenten period. **In total 2921 tins were collected** and this week are being distributed to our local St Vincent de Paul group, Parish Food Banks and other local schemes to support those who are struggling.



The visual display of the tins in the main foyer of the school has kept everybody aware of the initiative, and form tutors have been instrumental in encouraging their forms to participate.

Finally, our thanks go to the Year 12 Leadership Team, Year 10 prefects and the Society of St Joseph for their weekly collection and counting of tins, and for helping to package everything up at the end of last week.



# Lent Almsgiving



Year 7 held a fantastic cake sale raising £107 for their Lent charity, CAFOD.

Also hard at work were the CAFOD young leaders from our sixth form, raising £55 with their Lent cake sale.



Year 9 gathered in Bosco Hall on Friday 15th March for Mass as their 'prayer' offering during Lent. They also held an offertory collection for their charity, The Mizen Foundation. Thank you very much to Fr. Adam for joining us and saying Mass so beautifully for us.

# Feast of St Joseph Retreat Day

The Society of St Joseph marked the feast of their patron saint with a day of virtue study, eucharistic adoration, benediction and some lovely treats.

We began in prayer in the chapel, listening to the words of the Gospel from the feast day. Following this, students from year 7, 8, 9 and 10 worked in small groups to prepare a presentation on the virtue of their year-group, and to explain how St Joseph is a model of this virtue. After enjoying a social lunch together, the groups regathered to present to each other. In the afternoon, we were delighted to be joined by Father Paschal Uche of Chelmsford Parish, and chaplain to Brentwood Catholic Youth Service.

Father Paschal led us in a wonderful holy hour in the chapel, with Eucharistic Adoration and a short reflection on the three evangelical councils of poverty, chastity and obedience, with St Joseph as a true model for us of holiness. We sang many songs together and concluded with benediction.



# St Margaret House Feast Day

St Margaret House celebrated their feast day on Friday 22nd March beginning with a Liturgy in Bosco Hall, with readings and bidding prayers from Year 12 leadership and the Society of St Joseph.

Students watched a video reflecting on the life of St Margaret Clitherow, who was martyred for her Catholic Faith and for secretly harboring Catholic priests under the reformation of Queen Elizabeth I.

Finally, the students made their way to the St John Paul II canteen to enjoy some feast day treats in each other's company.



## Lenten Reconciliation



After the assembly with Mrs McCoy this month, which took students through an examination of conscience, we were able to offer the sacrament of reconciliation in the St John Henry Newman Chapel. Our sincere thanks go to Father Adam Cyran, Father Henry Mobela and Father Joseph Cuong for visiting the school to hear student confessions during Lent.

The chaplains are always amazed at how keen the students are to receive the sacramental graces available to them.

Thank you to the students from the Society of St Joseph to help keep everything in order and maintain a space of quiet reflection outside the chapel for examination of conscience.

Photos for demonstration purpose only

# ASSEMBLY FOCUS

## House Assemblies (w/c 18th March)

Throughout the week, students have gathered in their houses in Bosco Hall for assemblies led by their respective Head of House.

There was a focus in all of the assemblies on the significance of the signs and symbols we have grown accustomed to seeing around Easter, and their links back to Christian traditions.



Mr Bonnar leads St Patrick House's Assembly

In St Francis House's Assembly, the Sixth Form Leaders, along with Mr Pauro, spoke about the Gospel reading at Mass on Sunday, reminding students that in Lent we die to ourselves, because like a seed, this is how we produce good fruit for the Kingdom of God.

AllSain's CATHOLIC SCHOOL *We are one in Christ - Nos unum sumus in Christo*

**Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.**

John 12:24

**What does this have to do with Lent and Easter? Us?**

*Monday 13th Lent, Good Friday, Holy Week, Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday*

Mr Lucraft spoke about Lenten almsgiving. He told the story of The Widows Offering from Mark's Gospel, making clear that our giving should come from a desire to be generous with what we have, but reminding students of the virtue of humility in our giving.

AllSain's CATHOLIC SCHOOL **Saint Margaret Clitheroe** **RUAH** **ALL SAINTS - OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
*In everything we do!*

Theme for this week:  
**"By his wounds you have been healed".**

March 2023

Mr Lucraft - Head of Margaret House

**BY HIS WOUNDS YOU HAVE BEEN HEALED**  
 1 PETER 2:24  
 I NEED THE LIVING WORD OF GOD

*Together we are 'One in Christ'*

# The Triduum in our Local Parishes

## Holy Family, Oxlow Lane, Dagenham

Maundy Thursday 28th March -  
Mass of the Lord's Supper - 8pm

After Mass - the watch to midnight with  
Night Prayer of the Church at 11.45pm

Good Friday 29th March -  
The Passion of the Lord

Children's Way of the Cross and Veneration  
of the Cross 12pm

The Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord 3pm

Holy Saturday 30th March - Easter Vigil 8pm

Easter Sunday 31st March - Mass of the  
Lord's Resurrection  
9am Mass  
11am Mass

Easter Monday - 1st April  
10am Mass

## St Peter's, Goresbrook Road, Dagenham

Maundy Thursday 28th March -  
Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7.30pm  
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament up to 9.30pm

Good Friday 29th March -  
The Passion of the Lord

9am - 7.30pm Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament

9am Morning Prayer

11am Children's Stations of the Cross

3pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

7.30pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday 30th March -

9am-1pm Watching of the Tomb

10am and 12 Noon Blessing of Easter Food

7.30pm Liturgy of the Paschal Vigil

Easter Sunday 31st March - Mass of the  
Lord's Resurrection

9am Mass

11am Mass

Dear brothers and sisters, Easter does not work magic. Just as the Israelites found the desert awaiting them on the far side of the Red Sea, so the Church, after the resurrection, always finds history filled with joy and hope, grief and anguish. And yet, this history is changed, it is marked by a new and eternal covenant, it is truly open to the future. For this reason, saved by hope, let us continue our pilgrimage, bearing in our hearts the song that is ancient and yet ever new: "Let us sing to the Lord: glorious his triumph!".

Pope Benedict XVI, 2010