

Chaplaincy Newsletter

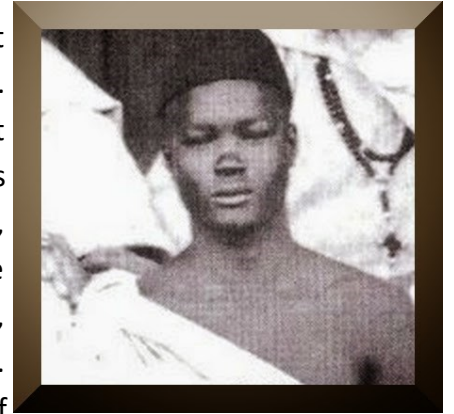
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Saintly Inspirations

St. Charles Lwanga and Companions - Feast Day June 3rd

Charles Lwanga was born on 1st January 1860. A member of the Baganda tribe, he was born in the Kingdom of Baganda, the central and southern part of modern Uganda. He served as chief of the Royal pages of King Mwangwa. He was baptised on 15th November 1885. When the king insisted that Christian converts abandon their new faith, Charles refused and was sentenced to death. He was martyred on June 3, 1886, at the age of 26, along with 12 other Catholics and 11 Anglicans, all who refused to renounce their faith and to comply with the corrupt King. Just before he was executed, Charles said to his executioner " It is as if you are pouring water on me. Please repent and become a Christian like me." Charles is the patron saint of African Catholic Youth Action, converts and torture victims.



St Antony of Padua - Feast Day June 13th

Born in 1195 in Lisbon, Portugal, Antony was born into a wealthy family and was raised in the church. He joined the Augustinian Friars in 1210. In 1220 he joined the Franciscan order, hoping to preach to and convert non Christians. On his way to Morocco, he became seriously ill and was forced to return home. However, his ship back to Portugal was blown off course and eventually landed in Sicily. Because of his continuing poor health, he was not allowed to pursue his missionary work, Instead, he taught Theology at Bologna, Italy and at Montpellier and Toulouse in southern France, winning great admiration as a preacher. He died on route to Padua, Italy on 13th June 1231, at the age of 35. St Antony is venerated all over the world as the Patron Saint for lost articles, and is credited with many miracles involving lost people and lost things.



Chaplaincy News.....

Since the start of lock down many people have struggled with feelings of isolation. Being kept apart from families, from friends, from the places where you come together as part of a community.

As a community we are being given a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Mass together. Mass will take place virtually from Our Lady of the Visitation, and will be offered for the intentions of our school community. Mass will include readings and hymns from students and staff, and we will all, Students, staff and our families, be able to receive spiritual Communion together.

You are warmly invited to join us for our school Mass on Friday 12th June at 12pm.

https://www.facebook.com/Our-Lady-of-the-Visitation-Greenford-102839814720792/?modal=admin_todo_tour



All Things for Christ

The WORD Explained

Sunday's Gospel Pentecost

John 20:19-23 *On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.*

Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.'

This Gospel begins by describing how Jesus' disciples had locked themselves in a room because they were afraid of the Jews. Imagine this scene. Here are eleven grown men locked in a fairly small room, fearful of what might happen to them. So much for Jesus' brave disciples.

Then Jesus quietly appears in their midst. Did the disciples blink their eyes wondering if something was wrong with their eyesight? Did they think they were going crazy when they saw Jesus or did they immediately recognize that this apparition really was Jesus, their beloved friend and teacher?

Jesus said to his beloved friends and disciples: "Peace be with you." I suspect that peace may not have been the primary emotion the disciples experienced when they saw Jesus. Rather, I assume that they may have experienced shock, fear, disbelief, astonishment, and perhaps hope. Did they ask themselves: How could this be? Can this be real? Is Jesus truly here with us?

Can you remember a time in your life when were fearful, sad and perhaps feeling lost? It may have been that there was a significant loss or change in your life. Or perhaps you were struggling with a painful situation. At these times, it would be a great gift if Jesus suddenly appeared before us and said: "Peace be with you." that is unlikely to happen. However, Jesus is always with us, gifting us and gracing us. We may not tangibly experience Jesus beside us, and most likely, he will not appear before us, but Jesus walks with us daily. Jesus gives us the gift of His peace every day; however, we have to open our hearts to receive His peace. If we do this every day, we may find that we are increasingly more peaceful, joyful, and relaxed.



Happy Birthday!



Pentecost is regarded as the birthday of the Christian Church, the start of the Churches mission to the world. But what actually happened on that day that should make us break out the cake and celebrate? *Fifty days after his Resurrection, the Lord sent the Holy Spirit down from heaven upon his disciples. The age of the Church began. On Pentecost the Holy Spirit transformed fearful apostles into courageous witnesses to Christ. In a very short time, thousands had themselves baptized: it was the birthday of the Church. The miracle of the languages on Pentecost shows that the Church is there for all peoples from the very beginning: She is universal and missionary. She speaks to all men, overcomes ethnic and linguistic barriers, and can be understood by all. To this day the Holy Spirit is the "soul" of the Church, the essential principle of her life. (You Cat 118)*

The Holy Spirit opens our hearts to God, He teaches us to pray and helps us be there for others. He has many names; Teacher, Counselor, Comforter and Spirit of Truth. Who is the Holy Spirit to you?



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.

All Things for Christ