

Chaplaincy Newsletter

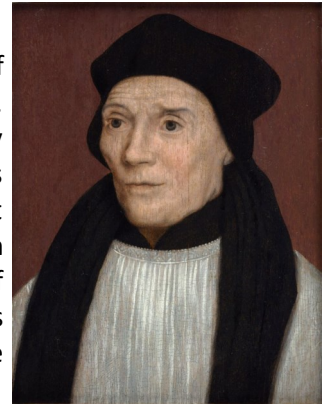
ISSUE 4



Saintly Inspirations

St. John Fisher - Feast Day June 22nd

John Fisher was born on 19th October 1469 in Beverley, Yorkshire. The eldest son of Robert Fisher, a merchant of Beverley, and Agnes, his wife. He was one of four children. His father died when John was eight. His mother remarried and had five more children by her second husband, William White. Fisher seems to have had close contacts with his extended family all his life. Fisher was an academic and theologian, taking Holy Orders at the early age of 22 years. John was executed by order of Henry VIII during the English Reformation for refusing to accept the king as the Supreme Head of the Church of England and for upholding the Catholic Church's doctrine of papal supremacy. He was named a cardinal shortly before his death. He is honoured as a martyr and saint by the Catholic Church.



St Thomas More - Feast Day June 22nd

Born in London, on 7th February 1478, Thomas More was the son of Sir John More, a successful lawyer and judge, and his wife Agnes. He was the second of six children. More was educated at St Anthony's School, then considered one of London's best schools, before beginning his further studies at Oxford in 1492. He then became a lawyer in 1502. According to his good friend and theologian Desiderius Erasmus, Thomas seriously considered abandoning his career in law to become a monk but ultimately decided to remain a layman and get married. Thomas strongly opposed the reformation. He also opposed the annulment of the king's marriage to Catherine of Aragon and refused to acknowledge Henry as Supreme Head of the Church of England. After refusing to take the Oath of Supremacy, he was convicted of treason and executed on July 6th 1535. On his execution, he was reported to have said: "I die the king's good servant, and God's first". Thomas More is now the patron Saint of adopted children, civil servants, court clerks, difficult marriages, large families, lawyers, politicians, statesmen, step-parents and widowers.



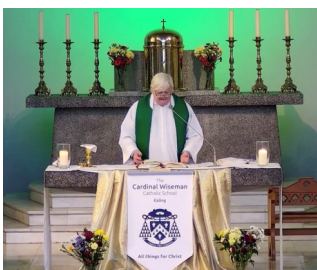
Chaplaincy News.....

Black Lives Matter

"My Friends, we cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life." These are the words of Pope Francis in an address following the death of George Floyd. As a community and as a church we have a moral duty to condemn racism and make our voices heard.

Below is a link to a Parish Priests Pastoral response, shared by Bishop John Wilson, Archbishop of Southwark. In the clip Fr. Victor voices clearly our Christian obligation in response to racism and exclusion of any kind.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=tekaYoKdmY0>



A big thank you to Fr Eugene and Our Lady of the Visitation Parish, to those who read, sang and played, and to those who managed the technology and made it possible for us to come together as a community for our school Mass on Friday. We understand that there were some technical issues with accessing mass online. These issues have now been addressed and we look forward to celebrating mass together again soon.

If you were unable to join us, you can still watch the Mass by following the link below.

<https://www.facebook.com/100048697941700/videos/159703012329629/>

All Things for Christ

John 6:51-58 'I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live for ever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.' Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?'

Jesus said to them, 'Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live for ever.'

On Sunday we celebrated the feast of Corpus Christi, the mystery of the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The Eucharist is everything. It is all things, the fullness of life, mercy and grace, it is eternal salvation and happiness. Why is the Eucharist all this and so much more? Simply put, the Eucharist IS God. Therefore, the Eucharist is all that God is.

This statement of faith reveals that when we worship before the Eucharist, we worship God Himself hidden under the appearance of bread and wine. I have said several times how blessed we are as a school community, to have not just a chapel, but a tabernacle, containing the Blessed Sacrament, the physical presence of Christ. At our school Mass, Fr Eugene consecrated a host for our tabernacle which, due to the closure of schools and churches, has been empty since Good Friday. We can now rejoice that the real physical presence of Christ is at the very heart of our school once more.

'In the Eucharist we learn again and again what it is to be truly human, what it is that makes us great, what it is that gives us hope. We learn again, that Jesus is our Way, Truth, and as he promises so clearly today, our Life.'

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Feast of Corpus Christi 2020



**O Sacrament most
Holy,
O Sacrament Divine,
All praise and all
thanksgiving,
Be every moment
Thine.**

News from the Deanery

The following Parishes are open for private Prayer from Monday 15th June. Times will be reviewed as the weeks progress.

Greenford: 9:15 am to 11.30 am & 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm Monday to Sunday.

Ealing Abbey : 10.30 am to 1.30 pm Monday to Sunday

Northfields: 11am to 2pm Monday to Saturday;

11am to 3pm Sunday

Perivale: 11am to 1pm and 5pm to 7pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday;

5pm to 7pm Saturday;

10.30am to 12.30pm Sunday

closed on Wednesday

West Acton: 12.30pm to 1.30pm; 6.30pm to 7.30pm Monday

10.30am to 11.30 and 6.30pm to 7.30pm Sunday (morning only), Tuesday, Thursday, Friday;

closed on Wednesday