

Chaplaincy Newsletter

ISSUE
11
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EASTER EDITION



This half term saw the return of students to Cardinal Wiseman following a period of home learning. We also entered the Lenten season, a period of fasting, prayer and charity.

Lent offers us all a special opportunity to grow in our relationship with God and to deepen our commitment to a way of life, rooted in our baptism. In our busy world, Lent provides us with an opportunity to reflect upon our patterns, to pray more deeply, experience sorrow for what we've done and failed to do, and to be generous to those in need, both in our local communities and those further afield.

Here at the Cardinal Wiseman, our Lenten journey has enabled us to reflect and act on all the above.



Rosie and Marlon, our Year 12 Emmaus Ambassadors, worked together with other students from the Emmaus Partnership to put together and deliver an Easter Liturgy. The liturgy has been seen by all students at Cardinal Wiseman in unity with the students across the three other schools in our partnership. We thank Bishop John Sherrington for his contribution, we were delighted that he could take part.

<https://youtu.be/UqjKlc8bV-A>



Year 8 Justice and Peace

Congratulations to the Year 8 Justice and Peace group who spent many hours making beautiful handmade Easter cards to sell for their chosen charity.

The sale of the cards made an amazing £152.50 which has gone to the Catholic Children's Society's Crisis Fund.

All Things for Christ

We are very grateful to Fr Tom and Fr Liam from Our Lady of the Visitation Parish, who visited us over a period of six days to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation with both staff and students in preparation for Easter.



On Friday 26th March Fr Chris Vipers celebrated Mass in the Crypt of Westminster Cathedral for an online Diocesan Mass for Schools. It was a powerful example of our diocesan family coming together in faith after what has been an unprecedented year. To access the recording of the Mass please click the link below.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fkxsXind5DY>



National day of Reflection—23rd March 2021



Our school day started with a reflective video which helped us to think of, not just the events of the past year, but what we have to be grateful for. Thank you to everyone, students, staff and family, who contributed to our books of reflection. As a school we were blessed to be able to offer all day Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel, thank you once again to the staff who took it in turn to stay in the Chapel throughout the school day.

Please follow the link to access the reflection:

[Reflection](#)



30 members of staff, teaching and non-teaching staff, contributed to our recording of the Stations of the Cross. These were watched and prayed by the students during their RE lessons throughout Lent. To view them please click [here](#)

All Things for Christ



Year 10 students collected Easter Eggs for their Lenten charity. The eggs will be delivered to Caritas St Joseph's Pastoral Centre in Hendon where they will be distributed among the students and service users there.



Year 11 students collected craft materials. Again, this was for Caritas St Joseph's Pastoral Centre and the work that they do as part of their outreach in the parishes of Westminster.



To celebrate the Year of St Joseph, Caritas St Joseph's have created a short film about their work, values and mission which they have asked us to share with their supporters;

<https://youtu.be/9zwbjRDILIA>

Also in celebration of the Year of St Joseph, as declared by Pope Francis, we have a space dedicated to Saint Joseph in our Chapel.

Prayer to Sleeping Joseph

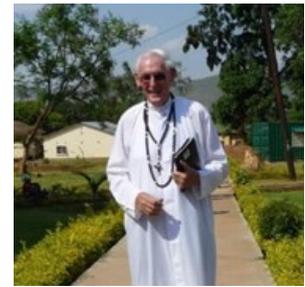
O Saint Joseph, you are a man greatly favoured by the Most High. The angel of the Lord appeared to you in dreams, while you slept, to warn you and guide you as you cared for the Holy Family. You were both silent and strong, a loyal and courageous protector.

Dear Saint Joseph, as you rest in the Lord, confident of His absolute power and goodness, look upon me. Please take my need (mention your request) into your heart, dream of it, and present it to your Son. Help me then, good Saint Joseph, to hear the voice of God, to arise, and act with love. I praise and thank God with joy. Saint Joseph, I love you. Amen.

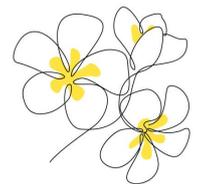
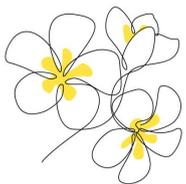
Students in years 7 to 9 were invited to send in old spectacles which will be sent to Chipata in Zambia. A small team from the Chipata St Vincent de Paul Society, under the direction of Fr David Cullen (Missionaries of Africa), will then distribute them to their Parishioners, the Hospital and Prison. Those who can financially contribute pay a small fee which goes to towards supporting the poor. Because of the ongoing need for old spectacles we have decided to continue with our collection, inviting all students to take part, and send the glasses as and when we receive them. Below is an extract from an email from Patricia, lead organiser of the Chipata SVP to Fr David:

'We also sold the other specs at a good price for us to help the needy, especially at the mother's shelter and at the SVP - The 'mothers' shelter is where the women caring for a sick person in one of the wards of the hospital sleep. They have to find their own food and wood to make a fire. Because of receiving so many clients every day, we decided to sell the other specs for us to help the needy ones with money (The spectacles are sold for seven pence, the cost in the shops would be about £10.50)

I'm praying very hard for you to receive unexpected donations so that we continue helping the poor.'



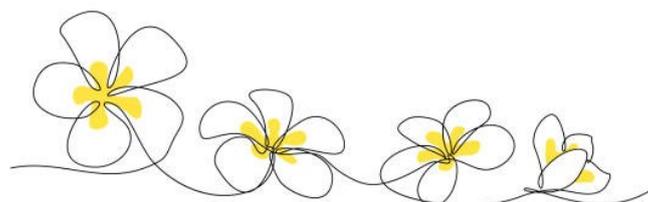
Thank you once again to Rosie who has shown great initiative and compassion by planning and organising a Year 12 and 13 Easter Egg drive for the national charity Refuge. Over 100 eggs were collected which will be distributed among the local Mother and Baby shelters in London.



Easter Prayer

May you and your family be blessed as you celebrate the true meaning of Easter, from the reflection of Good Friday to the joy of Easter Sunday and the promise of eternal life. May your lives be blessed with joy and peace.

Wishing all our students, staff and families a very blessed Easter.



All Things for Christ