



Our Lady's Catholic High School



A National Teaching School

Thursday, 29 March 2018

Our Prayer theme next week is **Easter**

The Triduum (the three days) is a wonderful celebration where we get to live out, virtually in real time, the final events of Jesus' mission on earth. Throughout Holy Week the Gospels play like episodes starting with celebration and leading through to suffering and despair. However, that's not how the story ends and we encourage you all to take part in the Triduum of events beginning with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday which leads on to the solemn service of Good Friday and leads us through to the shock of the empty tomb and the joy of the Resurrection of Our Lord on Easter. Please see your local parish for the timetable of events to help you celebrate the events of the next few days.



Lord, by Your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free. You are the Saviour of the world. Amen.

MESSAGE FROM MR RANSON



Easter reminds us of the greatest sacrifice that can be made on behalf of others; to give one's life. As a Christian community of faith we recognise the sacrifice of Jesus and are humbled that someone could love us so much when at times we do so little in return. I was particularly moved by the care and compassion that Pope Francis shows and encourages in his encyclical, 'Laudato Si', (Praise be to you). In chapter one he writes about our stewardship of the Earth's resources and in paragraphs 27 and 28 he speaks of the simplest of things: water:

II. The Issue of Water

Other indicators of the present situation have to do with the depletion of natural resources. We all know that it is not possible to sustain the present level of consumption in developed countries and wealthier sectors of society, where the habit of wasting and discarding has reached unprecedented levels. The exploitation of the planet has already exceeded acceptable limits and we still have not solved the problem of poverty. Fresh drinking water is an issue of primary importance, since it is indispensable for human life and for supporting terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Water poverty especially affects Africa where large sectors of the population have no access to safe drinking water or experience droughts which impede agricultural production. Some countries have areas rich in water while other endure drastic scarcity.

A sacrifice was made by God to give life to us. May we consider carefully how we use the resources of our planet so that our greed or lack of thought does not impose a sacrifice on others, especially the weak and vulnerable.

I wish for all of you a blessed and holy Easter.

MASSES AT OUR FAMILY OF CHURCHES

St Anthony's - Maundy Thursday, 7.30pm (Holy Family Church); Good Friday, 3.00pm; Holy Saturday, 8.00pm; Easter Sunday, 9.30am.

Holy Family - Maundy Thursday, 7.30pm; Good Friday, 3.00pm; Holy Saturday, 8.00pm (St Anthony's); Easter Sunday, 11.00am.

Our Lady & St Edward's - Maundy Thursday, 7.30pm; Good Friday, 3.00pm; Holy Saturday, 8.30pm; Easter Sunday, 8.30am, 10.30am.

St Mary's, Newhouse - Maundy Thursday, 7.30pm; Good Friday, 3.00pm; Holy Saturday, 8.00pm; Easter Sunday, 10.00am.

St Walburge's - Maundy Thursday, 6.00pm; Good Friday, 3.00pm; Holy Saturday, 7.00pm; Easter Sunday, 10.30am.

Parish of St John Paul II - Maundy Thursday, 6.30pm (at SS Peter & Paul's); Good Friday, 3.00pm (at Sacred Heart); Holy Saturday, 7.00pm (Sacred Heart); Easter Sunday, 9.00am (Sacred Heart), 11.00am (at SS Peter & Paul's).

SS Mary & Michael's - Maundy Thursday, 7.30pm; Good Friday, 3.00pm; Holy Saturday, 7.30pm; Easter Sunday, 10.30am.

St Francis, Hill Chapel

Maundy Thursday, 7.00pm (at St Thomas', Claughton); Good Friday, 3.00pm; Holy Saturday, 8.00pm (St Thomas', Claughton); Easter Sunday, 9.00am (at St Thomas', Claughton), 10.30am (Hill Chapel).

St Andrew's, Cottam and St Mary's, Lea Town - Maundy Thursday, 7.00pm (St Andrew's); Good Friday, 3.00pm (St Andrew's); Holy Saturday, 8.00pm (St Andrew's); Easter Sunday, 9.00am (St Andrew's), 10.30am (St Mary's), 6.00pm (St Andrew's).

St Mary's, Fernyhalgh

Maundy Thursday, 7.00pm; Good Friday, 3.00pm; Holy Saturday, 7.00pm; Easter Sunday, 10.00am.

YEAR 8 NEON PARTY

A huge thank you to all pupils, staff and parents who supported our Year 8 CAFOD Neon Party. The event was a great success and we raised a total amount of £76.67. The Year 8 pupils had a fantastic time playing games, painting each other's faces and dancing. Apologies to any parents who currently have 'glow in the dark' children - the face paint was a particular favourite!

LONDON DRAMA TRIP

45 pupils and went on an outstanding trip to London last weekend. We were congratulated in the hotel on the impeccable manners and behaviour of our pupils. They watched an evening performance of School of Rock, which was not quite up to the standard of our own performance last Summer! On Saturday they did a workshop at Pineapple studios with a professional actor and had a question and answer session with 'Patty' from School of Rock. After a lovely lunch they went to watch the matinee of Aladdin, arriving home safely despite the snow, singing tunes from Aladdin all the way.

36KM RUNNING CHALLENGE FOR CAFOD UPDATE

As you are now aware, Mrs Sewell and Mrs Armitage have been raising money this half term for CAFOD. This has been through bake sales, Easter Egg sales and an Easter Egg raffle. The winners of the raffle were:

1. Mrs Gavell (staff)
2. Abbie Maguire (10R)
3. Ellie Sumner (7R)

This brings our current total to £312.55! Thank you to all staff, pupils and parents that have supported us so far. Our JustGiving page is: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/olchsdisneychallenge>. We are looking forward to next term where we have more money raising ideas to come.

Dates to remember

Monday, 16 April – School opens
Monday, 23 April – Internal exams begin
Tuesday, 1 May – Year 7 Normandy Trip
Monday, 7 May – School closed for May Day
Friday, 25 May – School closes for half-term at 3.30 pm
Monday, 4 June – School opens
Friday, 20 July – School closes for the end of term