



Archdiocese of Birmingham

# St. Joseph's News

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2019



## Dear Parents and Carers...

“I am Judas who betrayed him, I am the soldier that nailed him to the cross,  
I am Peter who denied him, and I am Thomas who doubted him.

He said ‘God forgive them, for they know not what they do.

He gave up his life for me... AND LOVE WON.

This Easter, change me Jesus into who you made me to be.”

## Dates for your Diary

|                                       |   |        |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------|
| Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> April       | Y3 & Y4 Stations of the Cross   | 9.30am |
| <b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April</b> | <b>School closes at 1.00pm</b>  |        |
| Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May          | Wear Rainbow Colours in memory of Mrs Baines – more details to follow |        |
| Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May          | School Photographer in – more details to follow                       |        |
| Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June        | Father’s Day INSPIRE  |        |

## Term Dates

|   |   |        |
|---|---|--------|
| Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> April                 | School closes for <b>ONE WEEK</b> * Easter break    | 1.00pm |
| Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April                   | Return to school                                    | 8.55am |
| Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May                      | <i>School closed</i> – May Day Bank Holiday         |        |
| Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> May | Y6 SATs Week  |        |
| Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May                     | School closes for <b>TWO WEEK</b> * half-term break | 3.15pm |
| Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June                     | Return to school                                    | 8.55am |
| Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June                    | <i>School Closed</i> - INSET day                    |        |
| Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July                    | <i>School Closed</i> - INSET day                    |        |
| Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July                  | School closes for Summer                            | 1.00pm |

- *Please note that our Easter and May holiday dates are different to the City Council dates. We will be having just one week’s holiday in April and two weeks in May.*

Just a reminder that school finishes early tomorrow at 1.00pm for one week’s holiday. Please ensure that you are here promptly to collect your children as staff will be leaving the site too. Thank you!

## School Mass – Crowning of Mary

Our School Mass during the first week back takes place on **Wednesday at 9.30am** for the feast of St. Joseph the Worker. We will also be celebrating the Crowning of Mary on this day. This is a very special day for us, and we will have a procession after Mass, so please come along and join us. You are all very welcome to attend – you do not have to be Catholic to come to Mass.



## School Meals

The cost of school meals will be going up after Easter by 5p per day, bringing the weekly cost to £11.75. This is a decision made by the City Council, who provide our school meals.

## 'Wear Rainbow Colours for Mrs Baines' Non-Uniform Day – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

When we come back to school after Easter, we will be holding a 'Wear Rainbow for Mrs Baines' Non-Uniform day. This is an event being held across a number of schools that Mrs Baines was involved in during her years of service to Catholic education in Birmingham. The money that we raise together will be used to fund a place on a HCPT pilgrimage to Lourdes for a disabled young person, in memory of Mrs Baines.

HCPT is a registered Catholic charity, who since 1975, have offered life changing pilgrimages to Lourdes for disabled and disadvantaged people of all ages, but particularly young people. Every year over 1,000 disabled and disadvantaged children enjoy a fun and safe week in Lourdes, staying in hotels with their volunteer helpers. The emphasis of the pilgrimage is very much on ensuring that all the children have a wonderful fun-filled week, and it is a spiritually and emotionally enriching experience for the people that attend.



Across the schools, we are hoping to raise £850, and so we would ask if you would kindly support this non-uniform day as generously as you can. Our suggested donation for this day is £1 per child. Thank you in anticipation of your usual kindness.



### Y6 SATs

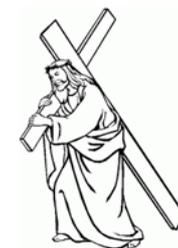
SATs week will be from 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May. All Year Six children must be in school for the whole of this week. As the Year 6 tests will be starting early, it is really important that **all children are in on time every day**. To help with this, there will be a free Breakfast Club available for Y6 during SATs week. Research has shown that a good, healthy breakfast improves brain function and helps children to function better in their lessons!

## Time Out Club Easter Playscheme.

Time Out Club (based at the Nechells Methodist Church on Nechells Park Road) are running an Easter playscheme from Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April. It runs from 9.30am – 3.30pm and costs £5 per day. If your child would like to attend, please contact Time Out Club on 0121 328 3399 or [timeoutafterschoolclub@hotmail.com](mailto:timeoutafterschoolclub@hotmail.com)

## 2019 Good Friday Walk of Witness, Nechells

Churches Together in Nechells invite you to join them for the annual Good Friday 'Walk of Witness' procession. They are meeting St Joseph's Church -Thimble Mill Lane at 9.15am and will finish with a service inside Nechells Outreach Centre at 11.00am, followed by refreshments

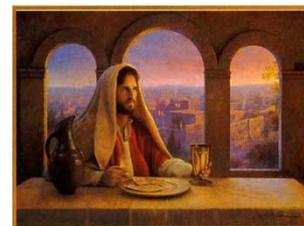


## Holy Week/Easter

**Tomorrow is Holy or Maundy Thursday**, which marks the second special day in Holy Week, the most important week in the Church year. Holy Week is the week leading up to Jesus' death, and resurrection on Easter Day. There are five special days in Holy Week on which Christians go to church; Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday. These days remember special events in the Easter story.

**Maundy Thursday** is the day on which Jesus shared the Last Supper with his disciples.

It was the Jewish feast of Passover, and Jesus broke bread and shared wine with the disciples. This is an important event for the church, as it was the first celebration of the Mass, where Jesus told the disciples (and us) 'Do this in memory of me'. Jesus told the disciples that when they did, the bread would become his body and the wine would become his blood; the sacrifice which he was going to make. Jesus also washed the disciples' feet, to show them that he was the 'servant of mankind'. If you go to Mass tonight, you will see Father Stephen washing the feet of people in the congregation to remember this act. Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray on Holy Thursday, and it was here that Judas (one of the disciples) betrayed Jesus by bringing the soldiers to arrest him. At the Maundy Thursday Mass, the Eucharist (communion) is taken from the altar and taken to a side chapel. Everything is removed from the altar in preparation for Good Friday, which is a day of mourning in the church. People sometimes stay after the service to pray, as Jesus asked the disciples to pray with him in the garden. **Mass is at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Church**



*If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact one of the safeguarding team;  
Mrs Treadwell, Miss Price, Mrs Pattinson, Mr Caffrey and Miss Collins.*

**Good Friday** was the day on which Jesus was crucified. Good Friday is a day of mourning in church, and traditionally, people choose to fast or not eat certain food and drink. This is where the tradition of 'Hot Cross Buns' came from, as people would eat these on Good Friday as a simple alternative to other foods, the cross on



the bun representing the cross on which Jesus died. We do not have Mass on Good Friday, but we go to a solemn, simple service, which is traditionally held at 3.00pm. This is the time that Jesus is believed to have died. If you go to church on this day, you will see Father Stephen holding the cross for people to kiss. This is called 'veneration', which means to worship, and it is done as a symbol of adoration and honour for Jesus and what he did for us. On Good Friday, Jesus was questioned by the Jews after his arrest, who believed that Jesus was a troublemaker and a sinner, as he claimed to be the Son of God. They wanted Jesus to be punished, but were not allowed to do it themselves, so they handed him over to the Romans. Despite giving the crowd many opportunities to free Jesus, Pilate, who was the Governor of Rome, eventually gave in and sent Jesus to be flogged and crucified. The Gospels tell us that Jesus was mocked and given a purple robe to wear (the colour of Kings and royalty) and a crown of thorns. This is because they said that Jesus claimed to be the King of the Jews. Jesus carried his own cross to the place where he was crucified, known as 'Golgotha' or 'the place of the skull'. After Jesus died and was taken from the cross, he was placed into the tomb. **The Good Friday service takes place at 3.00pm in Sacred Heart Church**

On **Holy Saturday**, we celebrate the 'Easter Vigil'. This is the first Mass of Easter. The word vigil means to keep watch and wait, as we are awaiting the resurrection of Jesus, the light of the world. The resurrection was a miracle, a triumph of good over evil, light over darkness. Jesus died to save us from sin. When he rose again, which we celebrate on Easter Sunday, he brought new light and hope into the world, showing us that we can be forgiven and free from sin (darkness). At the Easter Vigil Mass, Fr. Stephen lights a special fire. He blesses the fire and lights the new Paschal Candle from it. The Paschal Candle represents Christ as the light of the world, conquering the darkness of sin. It is lit every week throughout the season of Easter, up until Pentecost Sunday. It is also lit at special times throughout the year, such as funerals and baptisms. If you go to Mass on this day, you will also see the veils being removed from the statues and crucifixes in the church, and the Eucharist being brought back to the altar. You will also notice that we use the 'Alleluia' again, which you will remember that we buried at the beginning of Lent. This is a time of great joy and celebration; the most important day in the year of the church. **The Easter Vigil Mass takes place at 8.30pm at Sacred Heart Church. On Easter Sunday there will be a Mass at Sacred Heart at 10.00am**



## Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday this week and over the holiday to Aiden (Reception), Neveah (Year One) and Daniel (Year Three)



## Attendance – week ending 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Well done to Year Two who achieved 96% attendance for last week. The full attendance figures are as follows:

|           |     |           |     |          |     |            |     |
|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|----------|-----|------------|-----|
| Rec       | 94% | Year One  | 93% | Year Two | 96% | Year Three | 89% |
| Year Four | 93% | Year Five | 93% | Year Six | 95% |            |     |

This gives a whole school attendance of 93%

Many thanks,

**A. Treadwell**

Head Teacher

*If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact one of the safeguarding team;  
Mrs Treadwell, Miss Price, Mrs Pattinson, Mr Caffrey and Miss Collins.*