

Bishop Walsh  
Catholic School



Catholic Life, Mission and Prayer Life Update

*Guided by Christ, we aspire to achieve*

Wednesday 7th February 2024

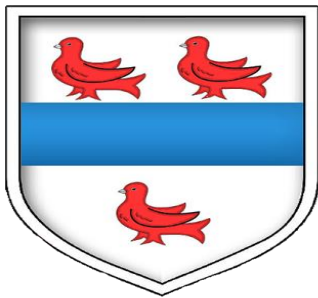


## Pupil Bereavement



It is with deep sorrow that we inform you about the passing of one of our beloved Year 10 students, Klaudia, who bravely battled illness and died during the Christmas period. Klaudia, known for her kindness, strength of faith and bravery, will forever be a part of our school community. Our collective efforts to support Klaudia's family include creating a memorial book, dedicating a bench in her name, participating in a balloon release, offering prayers together, and attending a year group Mass dedicated to Klaudia. In her memory, students have the opportunity to run the Sutton Fun Run in the school team, raising funds for Birmingham Children's Hospital. Please keep Klaudia and her family in your thoughts and prayers.





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## The Pope's Prayer Intention

Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

## Whole School Liturgies

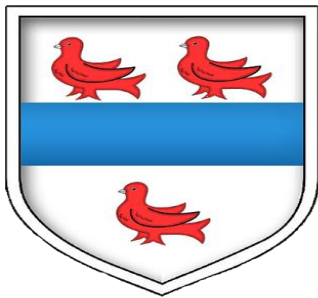
A review of our whole school liturgies in term 1 was outstanding. Pupils reported that they were "respectful, honouring, impeccable and joyful". 91% of pupils stated that they enjoyed the Advent service and 94% signalled that they have been provided with meaningful opportunities to reflect and pray. 197 pupils took part in leading the Advent service and all form groups contributed to both the Remembrance service and the Advent service.

## Charities Update

We are thrilled to announce that we successfully raised over £500 for the Royal British Legion through the Poppy Appeal. A heartfelt thank you for generously responding to our Advent appeal for clothing donations. Mrs Moakes personally delivered 10 bags of clothes to Crisis and those in need in our community. Additionally, 76 new toys were distributed to local families for Christmas, along with cards and messages to senior citizens in our parishes. We created and distributed 44 individual hampers to the SVP group at Holy Cross, St. Nicholas, and The Abbey parishes, including three family-sized hampers for families in need. Moreover, we provided 13 bags of groceries to the Hope Food Bank Charity, supporting Falcon Lodge, Erdington, and Mere Green. In collaboration with Morrison's and local business Fond Farewell, we also supplied food for families receiving Christmas hampers.



Please contact Mrs Moakes if you would like to receive support in this way.



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## SAINT

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) is based on scripture, tradition and church teaching, as given by popes, bishops and theologians. We discuss principles on a regular basis to help us think about how we should interact with others. It forms the foundation of the choices we make, and how we view creation.

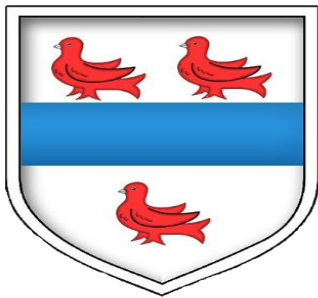
You should have recently received communication regarding pupils Relationships, Health and Sex Education sessions. Please use the links to see topics discussed and access parent discussion points. Over the coming weeks, pupils will pray for the following intentions/ feast days during SAINT sessions.

Thursday 8 February	Day for Victims of Trafficking	Sacred space dedication in form time
<b>Lent</b>		
Wednesday 14 February	Ash Wednesday	Sacred space dedication in form time
Sunday 18 February	1st Sunday of Lent	Assembly theme (First week back)
Friday 1 March	St David	News sessions
Tuesday 19 March	St Joseph	Sacred space dedication in form time

In addition to RSHE, learning PSHE and citizenship helps all pupils develop as individuals in a wider society. Pupils learn to understand themselves socially, morally, physically, emotionally and spiritually to understand their relationships with others. All pupils learn through S sessions on a weekly basis and relate discussions to character education and gospel values.

Some examples of topics covered this term are;

- *Careers – Careers in care sector (Y7), Apprenticeships (Y10)*
- *Financial literacy – What do you take home? (Y9), Taxes (Y10), Interest rates (Y12)*
- *Road and water safety – Bike safety (Y7), Water flags and signs (Y8)*
- *Cultural capital – Art classics (Y7), Poet laureates (Y9)*
- *Crime prevention – Stranger danger (Y7), Assisting an offender (Y10)*
- *The environment – Climate change mitigation and adaption (Y7), Biodiversity (Y10)*
- *Healthy mind and body– Alcohol case studies (Y11), Drink driving (Y13)*
- *Rights and responsibilities - Victims of trafficking (Y8), Voting rights worldwide(Y10)*



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## Year Group Masses

Pupils in Year 9 chose to dedicate their Mass to children caught up in war.

Pupils in Year 8 chose to pray for racial justice in their Mass.

Pupils in Year 12 chose to pray for peace.

Pupils in Year 10 prayed for Klaudia, her family and friends.

Year 7, 11 and 13 are busy planning their next Mass with the chaplaincy team.

## Lenten Charities

During Lent, every form group will be expected to contribute to charitable activities. This year, each year group will **fundraise, donate and complete acts of kindness** - spreading the way in which we show our love through charitable acts, not just through money.

Whole School Charities – Fr. Hudson's Care & CAFOD

Year group charities are as follows

Year 7 - Birmingham Children's Hospital

Year 8 - Sign Health

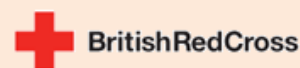
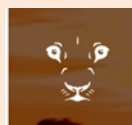
Year 9 - Cancer Research UK

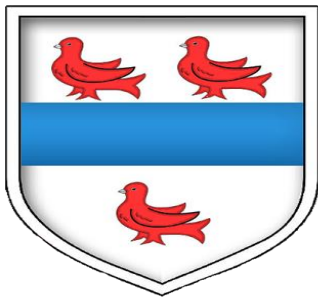
Year 10 - Birmingham Children's Hospital – In Klaudia's name

Year 11 - The Azaylia Foundation

Sixth Form - The Red Cross

Pupils are invited to join the Sutton Fun Run BWS Team for Birmingham Children's Hospital in Klaudia's name – For further information, please see Mr Marshall's letter.







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## The Big Lent Walk



Pupils in Years 7 & 8 will be taking part in The CAFOD Big Lent Walk – You can donate via the ParentMail shop after half term.

## Holy Week

All pupils will take part in a full programme of liturgies and prayer during holy week.

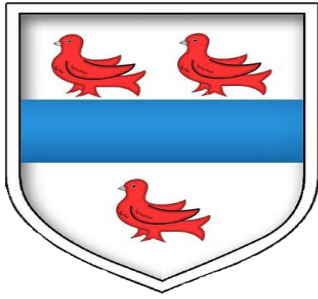
Please see an example of the week's planned activities:

Sacred space – Mustard Seed video reflections	Assembly – Holy Week	Pupil led liturgies in the Chapel	The CAFOD Big Lent Walk	MAC liturgy	Easter whole school Service	The Way of the Cross	Google classroom reflections
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## Our Lady of Lourdes

The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes is Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024. A Novena dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes can be prayed in the time leading up to the feast: [Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes](#). A Novena is a prayer that you pray every day for 9 days. Novena reminds us of the 9 days which Our Lady and the disciples spent in prayer between the Ascension and Pentecost.

This feast day is also known by the Church as the 'World Day of Prayer for the Sick'. You will find a list of names in parish bulletins who you can pray for in your local community. Each form will be making cards for those who are unwell to remind them that all of their parish family are praying for them. They can also be included in times of prayer.



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## Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024: Join as an Assisted Pilgrim Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May to Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June

If you are interested in going to Lourdes on pilgrimage, but need assistance with personal care, medication or mobility then please apply to the pilgrimage as an assisted pilgrim via the [Birmingham Diocesan Trust](#).

Should you be successful, you will be accepted into 'The Accueil' (meaning welcome) which is a purpose-built facility within the domain itself and you will have access to support from carers, nurses, doctors and physiotherapists whose purpose it is to help you during your pilgrimage week.

We will be adding a donation to the ParentMail shop for our sixth formers fundraising efforts to go to Lourdes. Please donate if you are able to, thank you!

## Links to the Local Parishes



As a school community, we are fortunate to have links to our local parishes. The parishes provide the main connection between our families and the Catholic Church. Please click below for links to the local parish websites which includes their current service times:

[Holy Trinity & Sacred Heart RC Parishes](#)

[St Nicholas RC Parish](#)

[Holy Cross and St Francis Parish](#)