

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

192, Nags Head Road, Ponders End, Enfield EN3 7AR

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Live streaming: <https://www.churchservices.tv/enfield>



For the Holy Souls



November

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

'Which is the first of all the commandments?' 'You must love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and you must love your neighbour'

How is a person to find their way in the maze of restrictions and commandments laid down by the law? That is what a scribe in all loyalty asks Jesus. His reply presents a twofold originality. From the confession of faith which every pious Jew recites twice a day, Jesus first of all retains the commandments to love God, thereby making it stand out in full relief. If God is unique beyond compare, so that nothing has value except in relationship to him, then the precept to love him above everything else is indeed the first. But Jesus also draws the scribe's attention to another commandment. Although it comes second, love of neighbour is for Jesus inseparable from the love of God. For it is by charity that man resembles God, that he participates in the very life of God; isn't that the very aim of the law? Surely, if there is an unequivocal sign which characterises the one who is not far from the kingdom, then it is the capacity to love. Not just to be a good practicing person, keeping all the observances and rules, but someone who loves, someone who is at the service of love under its two inseparable aspects of God and neighbour, acting in a way which acknowledges them both. For 'there is no commandment greater than these'; suppress them and the whole moral edifice collapses.

Weekend Mass Intentions

Sat: - 7.00am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.15am – Morning Prayer

8.30am – 1st Saturday Confessions until 10.00am

9.30am- Rosary and 15 minutes Rosary prayer

10.15am – 1st Saturday Devotions

10.30am – 1st Mass of the Holy Souls

12.30am – 2nd Mass of the Holy Souls

4.00pm – Evening Prayer & Rosary

5.00pm – 3rd Mass of the Holy Souls

Followed by Calling Names & Candles

Sun – The church opens at 7.00pm

8.00am – Daphne Sullivan - RIP

9.30am – For the Repose of the Holy Souls

11.00am – Elizabeth Akande - Anniversary

5.00pm – For the Repose of the Holy Souls

Mon – 8.15am - Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – Int. of Bernadette Agbasonu

No Adoration this morning

Tues – 8.15am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – Mary Pink - RIP

Wed - 8.15am – Church Opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – For the Repose of the Holy Souls

Thu – 8.15am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – William Reilly – Anniversary

Fri 5.00pm – Church Opens with Exposition

6.30pm – Evening Prayer & Rosary

7.30pm – For the Repose of the Holy Souls

Followed by Devotions to the Divine Mercy

Sat – 7.00am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.15am – Morning Prayer

9.30am – Salvador & Severina Fernandes - RIP

Confessions until 11.00am

5.00pm -Vincenzina Ruffini – Anniversary

Sun – Church opens at 7.00am

8.00am – Emelia & Edward Tokarscy - RIP

9.30am – Pantaleone Amato - Anniversary

11.00am – Intentions of Parishioners

5.00pm – Gloria Conway – Birthday Intention

Monday 4th – St Charles Borromeo - Bishop

Saturday 9th – Dedication of the Lateran Basilica Feast.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION CONFESSION

Saturday 2nd November from 8.30am to 10.00am

Saturday 9th November – from 10.15am to 11.00am

Please do take advantage of these times. Always a very special time of the year and so good for us to put things right with God and with ourselves. Face to face or private confessions in the sacristy.

ALL SOULS DAY

2ND November 2024

Church opens 7.00am

8.15am – Morning Prayer

8.30am – Confessions to 10.00

9.30am – Rosary & Prayer

10.15am – 1st Saturday Devotion

10.30am – Mass for Holy Souls

12.30pm – Mass for Holy Souls

4.00pm – Evening Prayer & Rosary

5.00pm – Mass for Holy Souls

Followed by Benediction with the calling of special names that you hand in as you come into church this evening.

Then you can bring forward your candles which you can leave overnight in remembrance of your departed loved ones.

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions

November 2024 – For a lost child

Let us pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and may receive peace of heart from the Spirit of God and of consolation.

AUTUMN FAITH SHARING

'Calling People of Goodwill'

The Bible and the Common Good

The common good is central to the Christian imagination – in the words of St John Chrysostom, 'it's the highest point' – because God calls people to live in relationship with him and each other peacefully. **Groups meet in Parish Hall now.**

NOVEMBER – MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

November is the month when we pray for the repose of the Holy Souls in Purgatory, and especially our own loved ones. We will offer 3 Masses on All Souls Day and 4 Masses each week of November for the repose of the Holy Souls. If you would like names of your loved ones to be offered in the intentions of those Masses please write a list and put it in one of the special envelopes together with your offering for the Masses and return it before the beginning of November. The list will be placed in front of the altar and be offered in prayer at every Mass during the month.

RETROUVAILLE

You can help your Marriage

Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue – or have you just stopped talking to each other? **Retrouvaille** helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. No group therapy or group work. 1000's of couples have been helped with difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information or to register for the next programme – residential weekend (8th – 10th November) call or text on 07887296983 or email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com

MARY'S MEALS

An appeal

Mary's Meals can make money for their work by collecting any unwanted mobiles/ipads/jewellery/watches/cameras. If you have any of these and would be willing to donate them, pop them in a bag. Mark the bag Mary's Meals and hand it in next time you are at Mass. David Chapman will pick them up and deliver them to the Mary's Meals office. Thank you for your support.

FRIDAY LUNCH

Our Friday Lunch Club is very popular but we are in desperate need of help for a short time to move heavy tables and to help unload food off the van when it is delivered – for about an hour and half from about 9.00am.

Parish Shop – October Magnificat, Rosaries, Candles, Occasional Cards, all kinds of Statues, Crucifixes, Medals, all kinds of Devotional items – have a look!

YOUNG ADULTS DEANERY MEETINGS

Ages 18 – 35

The idea is for young adults (ages 18-35) to meet up once a month at one of the parishes in the Enfield deanery on a weekday evening for a time of prayer, worship (with a talk) and a social. This will allow young adults to grow and develop in their faith with mutual support and friendship. The next meeting will be on Friday 8th November (7-9pm) at St Edmund's Church, Edmonton.. For further details please contact: annamcmullan@rcdow.org.uk

DILEXIT NOS

Pope Francis has released a new encyclical entitled "Dilexit Nos" (He Loved Us) in which he calls Catholics to rediscover the love and compassion found in the heart of Jesus Christ (the Sacred Heart). If you would like a copy, some have been ordered for the parish shop.

LEGION OF MARY

Our Lady Seat of Wisdom

Meeting on Sunday 10th November at 2.45pm

An opportunity to meet together and say our Legion prayers together and to give our reports on the work we have achieved over the past week or so.

CHOSEN – Season Four

I know that many of you have enjoyed watching the films **CHOSEN** which are based on the life of Jesus. Some of you may not have seen Season Four yet, so we are going to show it in the parish hall on **Monday 4th November** at 7.15pm for 7.30pm. Refreshments will be available. Please join us for an entertaining evening.

CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The **CCS** are a charity providing young people and children with counselling and therapy, emergency grants for families and carers and adoption and aftercare. Check out their Christmas Card brochure in porch.

Parish Shop – Open for Rosaries, Candles, Statues and Occasional Cards.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



Friday Evenings
from 5.00 – 7.15pm
Saturday Mornings
from 7.00 – 8.30am
*During this Year of Prayer,
Try and give a little
more time to Our Lord*

MASS INTENTIONS

Wanting a Mass said for a person or occasion is good but a reminder that if you wish a special date then you must hand in your request well in advance if you do not want to be disappointed. Thanks

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

last weekend we had an appeal from the ACN which is a Pontifical foundation of the Catholic Church. ACN supports more than 5000 projects helping the Church's mission internationally. ACN has stepped up its support for Christians in Lebanon in response to the deepening crisis, offering food and medicine, help with education. Last weekend you gave £553. Thank you. Any more donations – give this weekend. Thanks.

Prayers please:

Sick: Fergal Sherry, Mehil Ftoni, Agnes Robinson, Peter Thorpe, Joe Harper, Mary Conway. Suzi Modi, Agnes Guveya, Liz Freeman, Adreina Sifari, Margaret Felgate, Mark Keighrey, Marilyn Theodore. Sara Malaki, John Keighrey, Dan Heath, Geoffry Nwachukwu. Maureen Walker, Eamon Fitzpatrick. Eileen Lacey,

Recently Dead: Agatha Durowaa, Angelo D'Vito, Daphne Sullivan. Thomas Lawlor. Brid McGonagle, Kathleen Fitzsimmons, Djomou Julienne, Phyllis Robinson, Jennifer Browne, Liam Sullivan, Fr David Williamson. Rose Tonkin, Frank Sebagala, Rosemarie Warnesuriya, Elvera Nardone, Victor Saldhana, Fr Damien Crimes, Patrick Mukasa. Philomena Gomes, Peter Thorpe, Fernando Iannelli.

Anniversaries: Dennis Swanton, Stephanie Molloy, Eileen Swanton, Agnes Fernando, Sheila Saldhana, Theresa Ragbir, Marie Mendy, Vermeil Joson, Anscarina Dinha, Margaret Paul, Diane Bunker. Peggy Power.

Morning Prayer & Rosary – is said before all weekday Masses. Monday to Thursday and Saturday mornings at 8.30am and Friday evening at 6.30pm before Mass.

Legion of Mary – the next meeting of the Legion of Mary is on Sunday 1st September at 2.45pm in the hall.

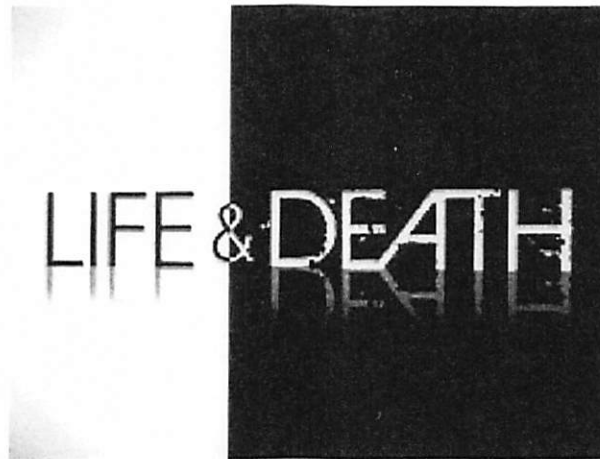
Friday Lunch – is served every Friday in the hall from 11.30am onwards – open to all comers – no cost!

Contactless Offerings to the Parish – you can find the Dona Contactless Terminal in the porch of the church for any donations you may wish to make to the parish and for payment for any purchases from the parish Repository. Not for special collections

THE YEAR OF PRAYER

Following the Year of the Council we now enter the Year of Prayer in preparation for the Jubilee Year 2025. It is a weekly resource of prayer and meditation based on Pope Francis' recent catechesis on prayer. It is compiled in 52 parts providing a reflection for each week of the year. You will find them on the table in the porch each week.

Please remember: Please take advantage of the times of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in our church. So important as a help to building a relationship with Jesus.



LIFE & DEATH

Both life and death are mysteries. We know the physical facts, but there is much that we do not understand. People, even Christian people, have different attitudes to death – ranging from terror, through fear to acceptance and even to longing expectation. Death comes to all, but Christians are able, through their faith, to meet death in a special way. Jesus, in the manner of his dying and rising again, gave a new meaning to death.

Jesus showed us that there is more to life than we experience here on earth. His words and his actions assure us of his deep love for us all – good and bad alike. We have a responsibility and opportunity to overcome the evil in us and to change and grow in goodness, so that we may become more and more like Jesus Christ. But God is not prepared to write off even the greatest sinner because he loves us all so very much.

All those who die in God's grace and friendship are assured of eternal salvation – but even they are still imperfectly cleansed of their sins and so must undergo purification so as to achieve the holiness needed to enter the joy of heaven and the presence of Christ. This final purification of God's elect is called Purgatory, and this is entirely different from the punishment of the damned.

From the beginning of the Church, prayers have been offered for the dead and their memory has been honoured by those who are still alive. These prayers are offered principally during the Mass, and the Church also commends almsgiving, indulgences and works of penance undertaken on behalf of the dead. In the Mass on All Souls' Day (2nd November) we profess that we long to be with our Father in heaven and acknowledge that we must be completely purified and free of sin if we are to enter the divine presence. We pray for those who have "gone before us marked with the sign of faith" as we ask Jesus to complete the work he began in our departed brothers and sisters at their baptism.

SUNDAY PLUS

Love matters

No greater commandment

By Sr Janet Fearn FMDM

A group of Jewish prisoners in Auschwitz knew they were about to die and asked if God had rejected his Covenant with his Chosen People and left them to the Nazis. Unable to reach a clear verdict, the prisoners decided to charge God with abandonment and put him on trial. One man, a former judge, presided, whilst others acted as God's prosecutor, defence and the jury. The trial lasted throughout the night.

God was found guilty as charged. Just as the trial concluded, prison guards forced open the door and herded the men towards the gas chamber. Although they had just declared God guilty of abandonment, each realised that he had nowhere else to turn. Unprompted, they covered their bare heads with a hand and started to pray aloud the great Jewish prayer, the *Shema*. Thus, they died.

Many years later, the screenwriter Frank Cottrell Boyce retold their story in his magnificent television drama, *God on Trial*.

In today's Gospel, Jesus repeats the *Shema*. We can imagine his listeners standing in prayerful silence, perhaps pulling their shawls over their heads, rocking backwards and forwards in God's presence even in the marketplace. "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love

the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." Certainly, this was – and is – the greatest commandment. As Jesus recited the second most important, there was also unanimity. "Love your neighbour as yourself."

Jesus added, "There is no commandment greater than these."

Sr Janet Fearn is a Franciscan Missionary of the Divine Motherhood.

Each one of us can become a living, different and original "translation", not a repetition but a living, different and original "translation" of the one Word of love that God gives us.

Pope Francis

Love in the here and now

By Paul Higginson

How do we go about loving God with all our heart and soul? The Church Fathers tell us to start with God's Creation. Pick up a pebble perhaps, or gaze at a flower or tree, and admire its shape, colour and beauty. Contemplate a bird outside or perhaps a pet and understand with gratitude what it is adding to your world. Then move to other people, with all

their faults and failings, yes – but brothers and sisters, all with the Christ light within. We love God by loving what's there in the here and now: where else would God be found? We can see God in certain holy places or "easy to love" people, or we can see him everywhere and in everyone. At first you might just catch small glimpses of God but keep looking and listening: try loving what's right in front of you today and see where this takes you.

Paul Higginson is a retired teacher and author of Doing Christianity: how religion is about what you do, not what you believe. Columba Books, Dublin, 2023.

Feast of the week

Wednesday 6 November

St Leonard

(d. AD 559)

How many visitors to St Leonards-on-Sea – or residents, for that matter – realise that the town was originally dedicated to the patron saint of prisoners (including political prisoners and prisoners of war), women in labour, farmers and horses?

According to tradition, St Leonard, a former courtier of King Clovis I, King of the Franks, was converted to Christianity and became a monk. In return for Leonard's prayers and


the safe birth of a son, Clovis promised that he would pardon every prisoner whom the monk visited – giving rise to the legend that shackles fell from prisoners as soon as he appeared on the scene and to his patronage of women in labour.

St Leonard, although he was certainly known in England during Saxon times, became increasingly popular following the Norman Conquest, especially during Medieval times. As a result, several sites around the country were dedicated to him and, centuries later, still bear his name today.

Your New Sunday Missal is available from Redemptorist Publications Visit www.rpbooks.co.uk Code: 1979 ISBN: 9780852316436 Price: £19.95



OUT NOW

Lord of my life, be the Lord of my love.  Amen.

Today:
Deuteronomy 6:2-6
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 12:28-34

Monday:
Philippians 2:1-4
Luke 14:12-14

Tuesday:
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 14:15-24

Wednesday:
Philippians 2:12-18
Luke 14:25-33

Thursday:
Philippians 3:3-8
Luke 15:1-10

Friday:
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 16:1-8

Saturday:
Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12
1 Corinthians 3:9-11, 16-17
John 2:13-22

Next Sunday:
1 Kings 17:10-16
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44

THE Wednesday
WORD



Encountering Christ
The Wednesday Prayer Custom
for Homes, Schools & Parishes

Prayerfully preparing for Sunday Mass with special prayers for our school families



Set aside 10-15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross and remain still for a minute of settling silence.



Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present. Read the Gospel, aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.

1

Read

The Gospel for Sunday 3rd November 2024

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, "Which is the first of all the commandments?" Jesus replied, "This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." The scribe said to him, "Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice." Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken said, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And after that no one dared to question him anymore.

Taken from Mark 12:28-34 The Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

2

Reflect

After reading the Gospel, did any words stand out? If they did, ponder or discuss them before proceeding with the reflection.

The basic command of Judaism, which should dominate all life, was love of God above all things. Jesus audaciously adds to this another commandment of the Old Testament, the love of neighbour. This is the only case in the gospels where a scribe positively approves Jesus. Why is this the case? The scribes were the experts in the Law and its interpretation. To stress the importance and the equality of the second commandment of love Jesus uses a technique of interpretation common and approved in Israel. If two passages of scripture have a parallel sentence structure and use similar words they may be closely associated. In these two commandments, and only here in the whole of the Bible, are the words used, 'And you shall love...' with a direct object. This enables Jesus to put the command to love neighbour on the same level as the command to love God – and the lawyer approves his interpretation. The first Letter of John puts it in this way: 'No one who fails to love the brother whom he can see can love God whom he has not seen.' This was, of course, not a new commandment; it was the equality of the two commandments of love which was new.

What sort of person do you find it most difficult to love?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

3

Respond & Request

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Thank God for any insight you may have received.

Then ask God to bless you with a spiritual gift to help you act on any resolution you have made. Perhaps: love, hope, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, patience, humility, joy, forgiveness, self-control, courage, generosity, faith or something else.

4

Pray for Families

This Wednesday's word for our school families is LOVE!

After praying for your loved ones, please remember to pray for our present and future Church, particularly for the families connected to our schools. You may want to conclude this special weekly time with a simple prayer such as:

St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church, pray for us. Mary, Star of Evangelisation, pray for us. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

WEDNESDAY WORD PLUS †

Fr Henry's reflections on the first and second readings of **Sunday 3rd November 2024**



1st Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6

**First Reading:
'Hear, O Israel'**

Moses said to the people, "If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow. Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart."



This reading is very special: it is the command which rules Israel's life, and the life of every true Christian too. The faithful Jew recites this passage morning, noon and night, and in prayer carries the text literally before the eyes, on the hands and on the doorposts of the house, so that one is always aware of the most important loyalty in life. All this is a symbol that love of God must dominate our actions and thoughts; it must be always in our minds, and must be the guide for all our deeds and for our motivations. God is a God of love and tenderness of the heart, not a God of threats or compulsion. To serve God is a joy and happiness, bringing light and colour into our lives. If God is not in our lives and thoughts, we are the poorer for it, and lack not only truth but also the warmth of an unspeakable, personal friendship. The only difference which the New Testament brings, as St Paul explains, is that for Christians there is not merely one Lord God. For us there is one God, the Father, from whom all things come, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things come.

What would life be like without God?

**The offering of
his life in loving
obedience.**



2nd Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

**The Perfect
High Priest**

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him. To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.



The pagan idea of sacrifice was to make reparation to a demanding and often angry god, to divert a capricious god from our own failings by flattery and gifts. The blood of the victim that was shed was a substitute for human blood, paying the price for a life which should have been forfeit. The Christian idea is entirely different. Christ is the perfect human being who is also divine, united to his Father in a perfect and permanent act of love. This reached its highest expression in the offering of his life in loving obedience, a loving obedience or loving embrace, accepted and vindicated by the Father in the Resurrection. It was not a barbaric act of paying a penalty which I should have paid, but a return in tender love to the Father, a return in which I may share. The Letter to the Hebrews, written for Christians of Jewish origin, makes clear that Christ's offering is the perfect fulfilment of all the objectives and devotion expressed in the rituals of the Temple.

How does our Christian understanding of sacrifice differ from a pagan understanding?

The Wednesday Word Connecting Home, School & Parish through the Word of God

**The Wednesday Word is under the patronage of St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church
Within the tradition of the Catholic Church, each Wednesday is dedicated to St Joseph**

LOVE, LISTEN AND LEARN

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/2025

Due to the fact that there are now fewer pupils in London (there is a continued decrease in the population of children) and the issues with finding affordable housing we currently have some places in our Nursery, Reception, Years 1, 2 and 3 2024/2025 year groups.

Please contact the school if you wish to apply for a place for your child.



THANK YOU PARENTS AND PARISHIONERS FOR RECOMMENDING OUR SCHOOL AND HELPING TO BUILD UP OUR PUPIL NUMBERS.

Phone Number: 020 88042396

E-mail: office@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

'Pupils are eager to come to school each morning because their teachers do their best to help them learn...Pupils learn in a calm environment. This is because the school has high expectations for pupils...Pupils conduct themselves well because they know what is right and have been taught how to behave well. Pupils achieve well across a range of subjects. They are proud to talk about their work which is presented with pride...Warm, caring relationships permeate the school... Pupils are confident that adults will listen to their worries and help them. This means they feel happy and safe...The curriculum is ambitious and well structured...Adults have secure subject knowledge...Leaders have high expectations and are ambitious for pupils...Safeguarding is a priority here.'
(OFSTED Inspection, November 2023).

'A. Classroom religious education is outstanding

- *The school has adapted and developed the themes of the Religious Education Curriculum Directory in an excellent manner to meet the learning needs of the pupils' of St Mary's.*
- *The religious education programme in use fully delivers this content and the use of De Bono system in religious education pushes pupils to develop their understanding further.*
- *After carefully analysing the needs of their pupils, the school has developed a curriculum and teaching programme that has reached outstanding achievement by the pupils in religious education.*
- *Teachers have high expectations and plan lessons that deepen pupils' religious literacy.*
- *Since the last inspection, staff confidence in recording and assessment has been demonstrably achieved with the evidence of the clarity and confidence on the part of the staff in planning imaginative lessons based on the religious education programme followed in the school.*
- *The headteacher is also the religious education curriculum coordinator and she takes the closest interest in developing the excellent teaching and learning of religious education in the school.*
- *The chair of governors is a recent appointment but with her years of experience on the governing body she is clear in her role of both support and challenge in pursuing the special responsibility of governors of a Catholic school.*

B. The Catholic life of the school is outstanding

- *The curriculum fully conforms to the classroom curriculum time of at least 10% for religious education and teaching is fully in line with the requirements of the Bishops' Conference.*
- *The previous inspection asked the school to develop pupils' understanding of Catholic Social Teaching and to help pupils understand the ethics of the market place and fair trade. The school has fully addressed these priorities, both in their classroom teaching and in the encouragement offered when choosing charities to support.*
- *The pupils of St Mary's enjoy an outstanding experience of prayer, liturgy and Catholic worship.*
- *Pupils and staff have a deep understanding of the call to 'human flourishing' and are given opportunities to develop and celebrate their gifts and talents.*
- *Partnership with the parents is excellent; they appreciate and support all that the school provides for their children.*
- *The leadership and management of the school are very effective in promoting the Catholic life of the school. The head is strong and devoted in providing both oversight and support on all aspects of Catholic life. The contribution and regular visits of the parish priest provides a strong and stable reinforcement of the foundational position of Catholicism in the life of the school'*

(OFSTED Section 48 Inspection, September 2019).