

A HOLY HOUR OF REPARATION

Thursday 2nd January 2025

Our Lord's Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane

8.00am—Morning Prayer

Followed by a Holy Hour of Reparation

9.30am—Mass in Honour of the Agony in the Garden

**Our Lord's request is that we stay awake with Him
and that we spend time in prayer with him**



FIRST FRIDAY & DEVOTIONS

NOVENA TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Friday 3rd January 2025



5.30pm—First Friday Confessions & Exposition until 7.15pm

6.30pm—Evening Prayer & Rosary

7.30—Mass

Followed by First Friday Devotions

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

DEVOTIONS TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Saturday 4th January 2025

for five consecutive First Saturdays

Receiving Communion worthily each First Saturday, going to Confession each First Saturday, making a Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, saying the Rosary with a short quiet Rosary meditation provides us with an Indulgence

8.00am—Church opens for Silent Prayer 8.15am—Morning Prayer

Followed by First Saturday Confessions until 10.00am

9.30am—Rosary with Rosary Meditation until 10.00am

10.15am—First Saturday Devotions to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

10.30am—Mass for the Conversion of Sinners



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

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

Tel: 020 8804 2149 Email: pondersend@rcdow.org.uk Parish Priest – Fr John Shewring

Parish Admin – Dorothy Eribankya Catechetical Coordinator – Arianne Phagoo 020 8443 4069

or 07784186406

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



The Holy Name of Jesus



January

Weekend Mass Intentions

Sat – 7.00am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – Anna & Gerry Spagniollo – 60th Wed Anniv

Followed by Confessions until 11.00am

5.00pm - Intentions of Shirley, Brendan & Gillian

Sun – The church opens at 7.00pm

8.00am – For the Intentions of Parishioners

9.30am – RIP Members & Friends of Amato Family

11.00am – Intentions of Arianne Phagoo

5.00pm – Ngozi Nwogu – Birthday Intention

Mon – 8.15am - Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – Kathleen & Miles Robb – Intentions

No Exposition Today

Tues – 8.15am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – Josephine Yawe – Anniversary

10.00pm – **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

10.30pm – **Service of Readings & Benediction**

12. 00 Midnight – **New Year's Eve Mass**

Wednesday -NEW YEAR'S DAY

12.00 noon – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Followed by a Buffet lunch for everyone in the Hall

Thu – 7.45am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.00am – Morning Prayer

Followed by a Holy Hour of Reparation

9.30am – Isabelle Hull - Recovery

Fri – 5.00pm – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

6.00pm – First Friday Confessions until 7.15pm

6.30pm – Evening Prayer & Rosary

7.30pm – Pat Molloy - RIP

Sat – 7.00am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.15am – Morning Prayer

8.30am – **1st Saturday Confessions until 10.00am**

9.30am – **Rosary & 15mins Quiet Rosary Prayer**

10.15am – **1st Saturday Devotions**

10.15am – For the Conversion of Sinners

5.00pm – Intentions of Liz Freeman

Sun – Church opens at 7.00am

8.00am – Rosario Salustro - Anniversary

9.30am – Achila & Susantha - Thanksgiving

11.00am – Intentions of Rita Cox

5.00pm – **No Evening Mass Today**

Friday 3rd Jan – The most Holy Name of Jesus

SOLEMNITY OF THE HOLY FAMILY

“Why were you looking for me. Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs”

We celebrate the mystery of the child Jesus living with his parents. The tone of the celebration is a meditation wholly centred on Christ, from which all Christian families can learn. Where does the Messiah come from? – asked the contemporaries of Jesus of Nazareth. They knew nothing of his birth in Bethlehem or Juda and they were amazed at the one who claimed to be the Messiah should come from Galilee (Jn 1:46). This is why Matthew goes over the journeyings of Jesus while a child: his career as a displaced person. As a result of the menace of Herod were forced to take refuge in Egypt where Jesus re-enacted the history of the chosen people. Afterwards the family settled in Nazareth – hence the surname ‘Nazarene’ (Year A). from the time of his birth, Jesus was under the shadow of the cross. The account of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple (Year B), and of his being found, again in the Temple, after his first Passover at Jerusalem at Jerusalem (Year C), both underline the ‘growth in wisdom’ of a child dedicated to his mission from his tender years. In this way also, Luke proclaims his vocation to suffering and to glory. Jesus will be a sign of contradiction - but he will also be the light of the Gentiles and the glory of his people Israel.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION CONFESSION

Saturday 28th December from after Mass until 11.00am

Saturday 4th January from 8.30am until 10.00am

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.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Wednesday 1st January 2025



Our parish, here in Ponders End is dedicated to Mary, Mother of God and so this celebration is our Patronal Feast Day. Sung Mass will be at 12 noon and will be followed by a Buffet Lunch for everyone in the parish hall. You are welcome – so please come.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions

January 2025 – For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and join with many people worldwide for praying for this intention each month. The Holy Father has entrusted these intentions in a particular way to the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, an organisation that works to encourage Christians to respond to the Pope's appeal and to deepen their daily prayer

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE 2025

with trips to Mostar & Surmanci

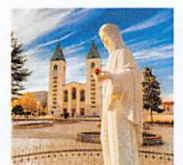
29th April to 7th May 2025

9 days/8 nights – half-board

Price – Approx £850

Departing from Luton airport. Twin room sharing. Check in luggage 23kg + hand carry. Included are flights, transfer, entrance fees as per itinerary. Single room supplement £225. Not included – travel insurance, lunches; tips & gratuities will be added to invoice. **Prices will increase at the end of December so book early!**

Always a wonderful spiritual experience Do join us for a very special time. Our first pilgrimage together for some time.



PARISH GIVING

If you use Planned Giving Envelopes please do try to keep up with your giving. The parish relies on a regular income from these envelopes each week. If you are away or do not attend church please make up your giving and that is what **Planned Giving** means. Please, if you can, take out a Standing Order to the parish. Our bank account details are **HSBC Bank plc**. To credit our account: WRCDT – Mary Mother of God Ponders End: 81308432, Sort Code: 40-05-20. Add surname and first name as a reference. Thanks.

NEW YEAR'S DAY – 1st January 2025

Is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God the parish Patronal Feast. Mass will be at 12 noon followed by a buffet lunch in the parish hall for all parishioners.

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.

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.

MAGNIFICAT

Because of the change of translation the cost of Magnificat has increased in price from £4.99 to £6.50. Sorry!

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 13th December (7-9pm) at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, New Southgate. For further details please contact: annamcmullan@rcdow.org.uk

THE PRICE OF VOTIVE CANDLES

For quite some time we have been subsidising the price of votive candles in our church. The cost of these candles has increased and so we going to have to raise the price of the candles. We cannot afford to lose income any more so the cost of these candles will increase to £1 each.

LEGION OF MARY

Our Lady Seat of Wisdom

Meeting on Thursday 9th January 2025 at 7.00pm in parish hall

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

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. There will be a collection box in the church Crib for any offerings you might like to make

Parish Shop – Cribs, Christmas Cards, Cane Calendars, Statues, Rosaries and gifts.

CHRISTMAS QUIET TIMES

Advent is a serious time of preparation and so we really need times of peacefulness and quiet to come before God in prayer. These are times when the church is open for quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament:

Mon 23rd: 5.00pm – 7.00pm – night prayer

Mon 30th: 5.00pm – 7.00pm – night prayer

In addition to those mentioned below.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



Friday Evenings

from 5.00 – 7.15pm

Saturday Mornings

from 7.00 – 8.30am

As we approach the Jubilee Year do 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

Introductory Sessions for Parishioners

Anna Dupelycz from the Agency will be visiting the parish talking on 3 subjects

5th Dec – A look at Liturgy

Understanding the Liturgical year

16th Jan – Reflecting on the Eucharist

Understanding the Sacrament of the Eucharist

13th Feb – Reflecting on Reconciliation

Understanding the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Evenings will run from 7.00pm to 9.00pm

Prayers please:

Sick: 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, 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, John Charlery.

Anniversaries: Dennis Swanton, Solomis & Eleni Djerkallis, Surujnath Ragbir, 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 12th January 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

Junior Carol Concert
The Junior Classes from St Mary's School will be presenting their Carol Concert in the church on Tuesday 10th December at 5.00pm. You are very welcome to come along.

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.

Nightingale Hospice & School of Joy: These are two charities that we support every year at this time – the **NH** a local charity, and the **S of J** a school for children with learning difficulties in Bethlehem – a special collection this Sunday at all Masses.

SUNDAY PLUS

Families of hope

Every family has its own dynamic: in Nazareth, one could imagine, Joseph the carpenter's family would be well-known and respected. But nothing special is recorded of them by the Evangelist, apart from this dramatic story of their beloved son Jesus getting lost for three days on the annual Passover trip to Jerusalem.

If you've ever lost a child for even a few minutes you will know how desperate a feeling that is. No doubt Mary and Joseph had been lulled into a false sense of security by the habits of preceding years: he was obviously in the company of friends and neighbours.

People travelled in caravans for safety through this Roman-occupied territory with its possible dangers from robbers or wild beasts. Jerusalem, also, was a crowded city, full of visitors for the Passover. Mary and Joseph must have been sick at heart.

Except that when they eventually found him, intelligently discussing

Family dynamics

By Mary Bell



the Scriptures with the learned doctors in the Temple, he did not immediately show remorse but, with the recognisable confidence of a teenager, asked why they were looking for him, as if they should know his mission.

If anyone ever doubted the humanity of Jesus this incident confirms it. Although he feels the pressure of his calling, he is not yet a mature adult. However, he returns with them obediently to Nazareth and is obviously a good and diligent son.

And Mary waits in hope, storing away all that she knows about her son, Jesus the Messiah, as he grows to manhood

Following many years in the classroom, retired teacher and Head of RE, Mary Bell now has time to enjoy the beauties of the natural world around her.

Rooted in love

By Natalie Claveria

The coming together of families at Christmas can bring both delight and despair. Of course, families are made up of all different characters and personalities, some that gel like wine and cheese and others like oil and water. But each of these experiences provides us with the rich tapestry of family life. As St Teresa of Calcutta commented, "If you want to bring happiness to the whole world, go home and love your family." Eloquently, Mother Teresa reminds us of the importance of our family and that this

coming together is a smaller version of our church, our local community, our world. To love our family truly and sincerely is an act we can all make today, and one that can change the world. All families are rooted in love, a divine love that ties us together through life's up and downs. We are all reminded today we are children of God. We belong to God's family, alongside Mary, Joseph and Jesus. As we grow together with our own family and in God's, we become, like Jesus, filled with wisdom and understanding.

In addition to being a busy mum and active in her parish, Natalie Claveria is also the Head of Sales, Distribution & Customer Experience for Redemptorist Publications.

The family remains the basic unit of society and the first school in which children learn the human, spiritual and moral values which enable them to be a beacon of goodness, integrity and justice in our communities."

Pope Francis

May our house shelter our life.
When we come home here,
May all the weight of the world
Fall from our shoulders.
May our hearts be tranquil here,
Blessed by peace the world cannot give.

John O'Donohue



Jubilee 2025

Jubilees in history

In ancient Judaism, the Jubilee Year was celebrated every fifty years, and was a time of particular religious devotion and rest. The Mosaic Law prescribed that slaves should be freed and land returned to its former owners. The first Christian Jubilee was instigated by Pope Boniface VIII in 1300. Since then, the frequency of jubilee celebrations has ranged from every 100 years to today's practice of every 25.

Jubilee 2025 is the twenty-seventh Holy Year and the second jubilee to be declared by Pope Francis. The first celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the end of Vatican II and was dedicated to mercy.

"For the first time a 'door of mercy' was opened in the world's cathedrals, sanctuaries, hospitals and prisons. For the occasion, the Pope established a group of priests known as Missionaries of Mercy to whom he entrusted the power to forgive sins usually reserved to the Holy Father."

(www.iubilaem2025.va)

Today:
1 Samuel 1: 20-22, 24-28
1 John 3: 1-2, 21-24
Luke 2: 41-52

Monday:
1 John 2:12-17
Luke 2:36-40

Tuesday:
1 John 2:18-21
John 1: 1-18

Wednesday:
Numbers 6:22-27
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:16-21

Thursday:
1 John 2:29 - 3:6
John 1:29-34

Friday:
1 John 3:7-10
John 1:35-42

Saturday:
1 John 3:11-16
John 1:43-51

Next Sunday:
Isaiah 60:1-6
Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6



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 29th December 2024

THE CHILD JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere. Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, "My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you." "Why were you looking for me?" he replied. "Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs." But they did not understand what he meant. He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

Taken from Luke 2:41-52 The Feast of the Holy Family, Year C

2

Reflect

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

After spending a few minutes considering this Gospel, continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

This little incident, the only one told of Jesus' youth, has two attractive lessons for us. Firstly, it is a joy to see Jesus behaving just like any other twelve-year-old. He was a real child, and a child of that age goes off exploring, adventuring, unhesitatingly sure that the all-powerful, all-knowing parents will know where he or she has gone; parents, meanwhile, worry themselves sick at the unexplained disappearance of their child. Mary, the young mother, knows her son and the ways of the twelve-year-old. She does not scold or expostulate, but just accepts what he says with love and relief. Secondly, Jesus' reply gives us a glimpse of his relationship to the Father. The phrase 'with my Father's affairs' may equally well be translated 'in my Father's house', but either translation indicates Jesus' total absorption with his Father. What does it mean to be "busy with my Father's affairs"? What changes would this make in your life?

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 **WISDOM**!

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 29th December 2024**



1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6. 12-14

Honour Your Father & Your Mother

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins; he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune. Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own; he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father; he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord. My son, support your father in his old age; do not grieve him during his life. Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy; do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.



The Book of Ecclesiasticus is a collection of wise instructions on how to behave in accordance with the Law. The author must have been an expert in the Law, living in Jerusalem. He sees the Law not as a tiresome set of rules to be obeyed but as God's loving gift to his People, to show them how they should act to keep close to God. The Law is therefore to be treasured, a guide of inestimable value. The reading for today is a meditation and expansion on the commandment, 'Honour your father and your mother', explaining just how this should be put into practice. And what was Jesus' relationship like with his parents? What was he like as a baby? Did he cry? He must have done, to make his baby feelings known. Did he bawl and howl? Did he cry when he scraped the skin off his knees? Did he fall out of trees and break his arm? Did he make mistakes? Did he play pranks? He must have made jokes. He must have been a wonderful joy to his parents – loving, delightful company, full of the devastatingly simple wisdom of children. And they must have been loving, *wonderful company for him too, an anchor of affection and security.*

What would it mean in our society today to truly "honour" our parents and those who are elderly?



2nd Reading: Colossians 3:12-21

The Overcoat of Love

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful. Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

In an incredibly short space the Letter to the Colossians gives a whole series of instructions on living in community: compassion, forgiveness, love and peace – not to mention gratitude. Love is a sort of overcoat, holding all the other qualities together. If we reflect on these qualities and put them into practice there can be no rivalry or hostility in the Christian community – even within a family, where the strains of Christmas may at times make love grow thin! However, a loving family is the model for the different relationships of a loving Christian community. God's loving parenting is the model for human parentage, and Christ's devotion to his body, the Church, is the model for the devotion of spouses to one another. Today's reading begins with an inspiring reminder that we form the chosen people of God; God's choice of us leaves us little alternative other than to behave as God's people. The Letter also counsels us to do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus; Christians are those over whom the name of the Lord Jesus has been called, making us members of his company and putting us under his power. This is the challenge: that we really act as God's people.

How are we to live fully as a Christian community?

**This is the challenge:
that we really act as
God's people.**

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).

LOVE, LISTEN AND LEARN

'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).