

# St Peter's Catholic School Newsletter

18th March 2024



## Our Faith

On the third Sunday of Lent, the Gospel tells about the only time when Jesus was angry and became really frustrated. This Gospel is about the market traders and sellers who had turned the temple into a market place. Jesus' point was good one: people had lost sight of what faith and God was all about. God's love is unconditional and what pleases the Lord is service, faithfulness, love and compassion. It doesn't make sense that the almighty would be appeased by killing the odd pigeon and placing it on the altar without doing so by honouring the lord. We can all identify with Jesus and understand where he was coming from. How often do we get frustrated when those around us are not on the same page? We can all get angry and frustrated when things don't go our way – our values of compassion and love are where the answer lies.

Last Sunday the Gospel had the profound line "For God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world be saved by him". Appropriately following this, our Assembly theme was on forgiveness. Because God does not condemn us, and we all have plenty of faults, we should extend that same principle to those around us. The Our Father does it beautifully, "Forgive us our trespasses and we forgive those who trespass against us".

Our time to pray changed last week to the words of the 'good thief' who died by Jesus on the cross on Good Friday: "Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom". He recognised Jesus as the Son of God, recognised he held the message of eternal life and we pray that as we journey towards Holy Week we understand that message in our own hearts.



- Human Dignity
- Common Good
- Solidarity
- Subsidiarity
- Participation
- Stewardship
- Preferential Option for the Poor

### Parental Voice

The English department would be grateful if any parent of a pupil at KS4 would complete this short survey. Either click the link or use the QR code to access the survey

Thank you, Mrs Patrick



[Link to the survey](#)



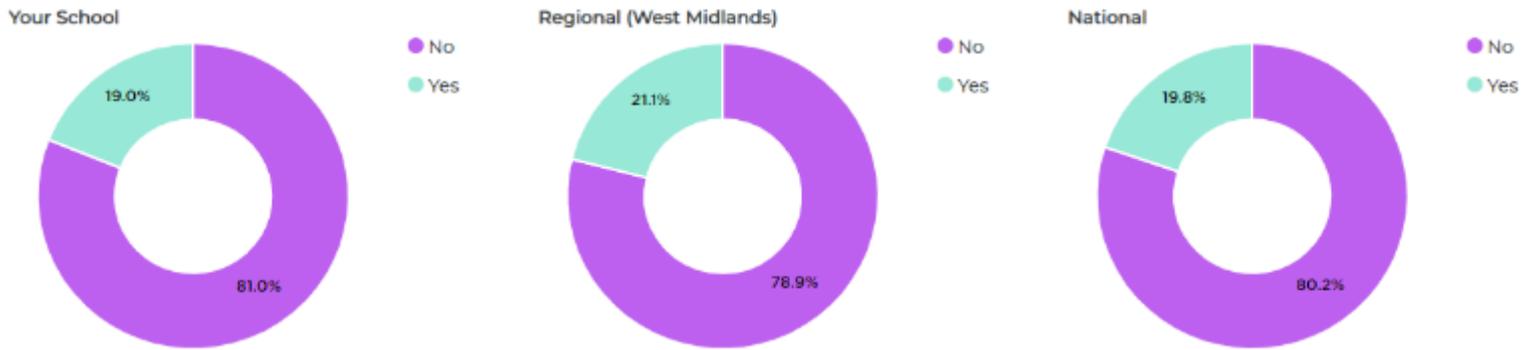


# Participation

## Votes for Schools

Mrs Shelton, Director of Learning: PSHE

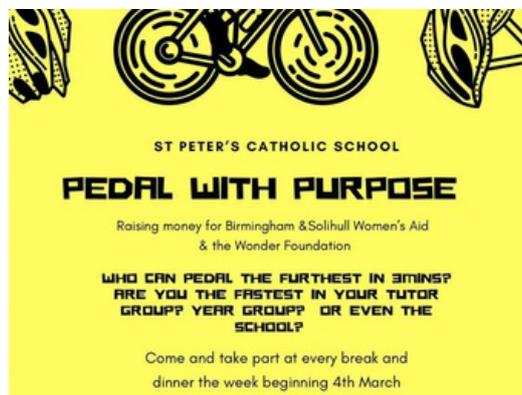
Catholic Social Teaching (CST) offers a set of principles to help us think about how we should interact with others, and it forms the foundation of the choices we make, and how we view creation. Our pupils are encouraged to refer to CST values and be discerning in their decision making when engaging with our Votes for Schools platform. This half term we have been encouraged to debate some interesting topics such as 'Will you be the first smokefree generation?', 'Are adults equipped to teach you about the online world?' and in light of changes to Scottish laws to make violence against shopworkers a specific law, 'Should violence against shop workers be made its own law across the UK'. We also linked our whole school focus on inclusion, which was the theme for 'International Women's Day' to the debate, 'Should the gender of your role models matter?' Why not ask your child how they voted on this half term's topics and why? You can let us know their thoughts or encourage them to reach out to [info@votesforschools.com](mailto:info@votesforschools.com).



What an exciting week we had as we launched our whole school charity event: Pedal with Purpose. All pupils were invited to pay £2 as they challenged themselves to see how far they could pedal in 3 minutes on an exercise bike. We were overwhelmed with the amount of enthusiasm and camaraderie amongst the pupils as they cheered each other on and supported one another. There was a real buzz around the school as staff also got on their bikes and competed with their tutor groups. The challenge was to support our International Women's Day initiatives and to raise money for a local charity, Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid, and a global charity, The Wonder Foundation, two organisations who support women. We raised over £300 and as a school collectively cycled further than the White Cliffs of Dover. Well done to all the St Peter's pupils and staff who took part.

## Pedal For Purpose

Mrs Lakin



# Compassionate

## Book Amnesty

**Mrs Ferry, Associate  
Assistant Headteacher**

Building upon the momentum of World Book Day, we extend an invitation to all pupils to contribute to a meaningful cause by bringing in any unwanted books. These books will be thoughtfully distributed to the incoming Year 7 pupils, fostering a culture of sharing and community within our school. Please hand in your donated books to your form tutor, who will ensure they reach the Sixth Form Leadership Team for collection.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Scholastic Book Fair, taking place from the 11th to the 16th of April within the school premises. This exciting event promises a diverse array of literary treasures for all ages. Keep an eye out for further details on this enriching opportunity to explore, discover, and indulge in the world of books. Let's continue to cultivate a love for reading and a spirit of generosity as we come together to support literacy initiatives within our school community.

On Tuesday 5th March, GCSE and A-level pupils, along with a select few Year 9 pupils, were treated to an enthralling performance of 'Frankenstein' by the esteemed production company Big Brum. Witnessing the transformation of Frankenstein's monster from beast to man was nothing short of fascinating, leaving the audience captivated throughout. The performance masterfully crafted a tense and looming atmosphere, keeping everyone on the edge of their seats. Despite the intensity, pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience, immersing themselves in the gripping narrative and skilled performances. 'Frankenstein' proved to be an enriching and memorable opportunity for our pupils to engage with literature in a dynamic and immersive way, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended.

## 'Frankenstein'

**Mr Newbold, Director of  
Learning: Drama**

## St Patrick's Day party for the Birmingham Irish Association

**Mrs Mchale**

Five Sixth Form pupils visited the Birmingham Irish Association based at St. Anne's in Digbeth to perform for the old people's St Patrick's Day party. Katherine performed two amazing pianist solos, Amy sang the Fields of Athenry and Connie, Kate and Mia performed a spectacular Irish Dancing set. The talents of our pupils are simply fantastic, and Mrs McHale was so proud to escort them to the event. Thank you to all our pupils who performed for the residents and to the Birmingham Irish Association for making us a part of their celebration. A wonderful day!



# Careers Convention: 21st March 2024

## Local and National Businesses:

IBM Deloitte Fortem Grp  
Hogarth's Howden Insurance  
Sertec Group JOS structures  
Morgan Parkes recruitment  
WSP Boden Group  
Galldris Group Vinci  
McCann Saint Giroud

Work

## Universities and Higher Education Institutions:

Nottingham Trent university Staffordshire University  
Uni of Worcester Lancaster University  
De Montfort University Coventry University  
University College Birmingham BIMM university  
University of Gloucestershire University of Liverpool

University

## Post-16 Education Providers

The Sixth Form College  
Solihull College  
St Peter's Sixth Form  
Stratford College  
Cadbury College  
Warwickshire College



Apprenticeships

Thursday 21st March  
6pm – 7:45pm

Years 8-13 plus Parents  
Welcome!



Future Pathway

## Representatives From:

Army NHS  
Solihull MBC  
Royal Marines and Navy  
Salutem NCS  
Marie Curie  
Make UK Redditch Utd FC  
Whale Tankers Ltd

# St Peter's Careers Convention 2024

Year 13 Science  
Musuem Trip

Mrs Morton, Teacher of  
IT

The Year 13 Computing A-level pupils travelled by tube from the Royal Courts of Justice to South Kensington, the location of the Science Museum and the Power Up exhibition. This exhibition offered an immersive gaming experience, featuring 160 consoles spanning five decades of gaming technology. Students had the opportunity to witness first-hand the advances in technology over half a century, exploring various gaming platforms and experiencing the evolution of gaming graphics and mechanics. The exhibition was not only informative but also highly enjoyable, with pupils expressing enthusiasm and excitement throughout the ninety-minute session.

Following the Power Up exhibition, pupils congregated for lunch, and milkshakes from the shake bar. Subsequently, pupils had some free time to explore a small selection of the museum's exhibitions, engaging with interactive displays and exhibits related to science, technology, and innovation. The group concluded their visit to the Science Museum and proceeded to the Old Bailey on some very busy tube journeys to re-join the remainder of the KS5 coach party.



# Loving

The 2024 Ski trip did not disappoint. 44 pupils and 5 members of staff enjoyed a fun packed exhilarating week on the slopes in the Aosta Valley in Italy. With 5 hours of skiing everyday, every pupil made huge progress in their skiing. By the end of the week all of the pupils had ventured well up the mountain and were skiing with confidence. The excitement on the coach journey through France and Italy resulted in very little sleep but this was soon forgotten when we arrived in the picturesque town of Pila. The apres ski activities meant even when we were not skiing pupils were engaged and busy, bowling, ice skating and an all you can eat pizza evening gave opportunities for relaxation and group bonding. The journey home is always a quiet one with tired pupils sleeping much of the way. Returning to school the following week and seeing the pupils talking about the trip and the lifetime of experience is wonderful. We are already looking forward to next year were we have decided to take 80 pupils! Pila 2025 here we come!

## Ski Trip 2024

**Mr Shelton,  
Headteacher**

## West Midlands Police help to keep our pupils safe

The Sixth Form pupils have received two important talks this half term from PC Andy Blyth from West Midlands Police regarding Safe Driving and Knife Crime and Joint Enterprise. We extend our gratitude to PC Blyth, who delivered insightful presentations to our Sixth Form pupils. The wealth of information and guidance was invaluable and will help educate our young individuals.

The fencing club at our school has seen a remarkable increase in attendance, with enthusiastic pupils eagerly refining their fighting stances, footwork, and manoeuvres. Led by Irina, a seasoned fencing instructor, pupils are delving into the art of fencing with dedication and passion. As they master techniques such as parries, lunges, and ripostes, participants are beginning to pave their way towards fencing qualifications. The club provides an immersive environment where pupils can experience for themselves the rich history and intricate strategies of this elegant sport. Foil, epee, and sabre are just some of the weapons pupils are learning to wield with finesse. Any pupil keen to embark on this exciting journey is encouraged to approach Mr. Mallon to enquire about joining the fencing club and embracing the world of dueling and skillful combat.

## Fencing Club

**Mr Mallon, Associate  
Assistant Headteacher**



# Faith is Our Foundation

**'A Midsummer Night's Dream', Royal Shakespeare Theatre**

**Miss Pope, Deputy Director of Learning: English**

The recent trip to see 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at the RSC with our year 7 pupils was a truly unforgettable experience. Filled with laughter, spectacular effects, and captivating performances, the production left a lasting impression on all who attended. Matthew Baynton, renowned for his roles in 'Horrible Histories', delighted audiences with his portrayal of the lovable character Bottom, adding an extra layer of excitement to the evening. The pupils were thoroughly engaged from start to finish, marvelling at the magical ambience created on stage and the incredible talent displayed by the actors. This theatrical outing provided our pupils with a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in Shakespeare's timeless comedy, igniting a newfound appreciation for the arts. As they reminisce about this extraordinary performance in the years to come, the trip will undoubtedly remain a cherished memory for our pupils, inspiring them to continue exploring the world of theatre and literature.

Four year 10 pupils recently participated in a Catholic Schools debate held at Holy Trinity School, Small Heath. Among them, Libby Mc delivered an exceptional speech, adopting the persona of Portia from Shakespeare's 'A Merchant of Venice'. In her eloquent presentation, Libby passionately argued why she believed Portia was the most significant Shakespearean character. Her insightful analysis and convincing arguments captivated the audience, showcasing her talent and dedication to the debate. We couldn't be prouder of Libby's achievements and the unwavering support provided by her team throughout the event. Their collaborative effort and commitment reflect the values of our school community, emphasising the importance of teamwork and academic excellence. Libby's outstanding performance undoubtedly contributed to the success of our school in the debate, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended.

**KS4 Catholic Schools Debate**

**Mr Mallon, Associate Assistant Headteacher**

**Year 6 Primary Events**

**Mrs Costello, Director of Learning: Primary Relations**

It has been a busy half term with a variety of different primary school events. On Friday 23rd February, Year 6 attended a Science Event where they had to use their forensic science skills to solve a murderous crime scene. On Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th February Year 5 were invited to St Peter's for an MFL and RE Event. For MFL pupils were asked to design their own menu for a restaurant whilst in RE, pupils were asked to be creative and express their views on God through artistic images. It has been so wonderful to have our feeders into St Peter's and we are looking forward to welcoming more pupils, especially Year 6, in the coming months.



# Germany & Poland Trip by Joe B (Year 13)

Our journey commenced with an early morning landing at Brandenburg Airport, a misnomer given its distance from the city it supposedly serves. Departing from London Stansted, we found ourselves in a Germany reminiscent of home – overcast, grey, and drenched by relentless rain. Passing through security without incident, we ventured into the heart of Berlin, where Mr. Williams had meticulously planned our itinerary to encompass a whirlwind of experiences.

Berlin's architectural landscape, characterized by stark 1950s brutalist style, sharply contrasted with the familiar surroundings of Solihull. Boarding a train, we traversed East Berlin's skyline dominated by hastily erected Soviet-era flats, a poignant symbol of the city's divided history. Our lunch at the station was brief before we embarked on a visit to the Reichstag, its scars from wartime conflicts a testament to Germany's tumultuous past. Climbing its famed glass dome, we beheld a panoramic view of Berlin's landmarks obscured by the sombre rain.

The following day commenced early with a train journey to Wannsee, where the infamous 1942 conference unfolded, setting in motion the Holocaust's horrors. A visit to Potsdam, steeped in historical significance from the post-war Potsdam Conference, offered a glimpse into the diplomatic manoeuvres shaping post-war Europe. Returning to Berlin, we paused for obligatory photos at Checkpoint Charlie and the Brandenburg Gate before indulging in an Indian dinner.

Sunday dawned with a visit to a cathedral-like church, a serene respite before confronting the chilling reality of a Stasi detention centre. Designed to psychologically wear down inmates, its stark interiors bore witness to the regime's ruthless control tactics.

A lengthy coach journey brought us to Krakow, Poland's cultural nucleus. The next day unfolded as a culmination of our trip, as we embarked on a solemn pilgrimage to Auschwitz. Its proximity to civilization belied the atrocities committed within its confines. Guided through the harrowing grounds, we encountered relics of suffering – discarded belongings, haunting gas chambers, and remnants of mass executions. Departing Auschwitz, we carried with us a newfound understanding of the Holocaust's magnitude and its enduring legacy.

The final leg of our journey led us to the Krakow salt mines, a testament to Poland's medieval economic prowess. Exploring its depths, we marvelled at intricate rock carvings and a subterranean chapel depicting biblical scenes. Concluding our tour with Shrove Tuesday pancakes, we boarded our return flight to England, greeted by familiar rain – a fitting end to a journey marked by solemn reflection and profound historical revelations.



# Participation

Our year 11 GCSE Drama pupils performed their final practical work of the course. To an invited audience of friends, family, and an external examiner, our pupils each performed two extracts from *One Man, Two Guvnors* and *Little Women*. The pupils' nerves evaporated under the lights as their well-rehearsed and high-quality performances came to fruition. The pupils' hard work and perseverance over the past few weeks really paid off and each performance was the best it had ever been. Now, the anxious wait for their results begins, only finding out their overall scores when the exam results are released in the summer. In the meantime, pupils have got back to work on their key text, *The Crucible*, and have watched a live performance of *Frankenstein* that they will write about in their summer exam. Well done to all those involved. We are very proud of you.

## Year 11 GCSE Drama Performance

Mr Newbold, Director of Learning: Drama

## Year 13 Criminology Trip

Miss Hall, Director of Learning: Social Sciences

In our recent A-level Year 13 criminology trip to the Royal Courts of Justice and the Old Bailey in London, our pupils had an unforgettable experience witnessing the law in action. They were immersed in the judicial process, having the unique opportunity to observe part of a real murder trial. Along the way, they actively engaged in interactive activities, deepening their understanding of criminology.

Highlighting the trip were standout performances by Malachy C and Joaquin G, who shone as prosecution barristers, ultimately securing victory in their case. Connie B showcased her expertise as an excellent pathologist, delivering insightful facts about serious assault. Additionally, James N demonstrated remarkable aptitude in his role as a judge, even presiding over the final sentence.

Overall, it was a day filled with learning, engagement, and real-world application of criminology principles. Our pupils left inspired and enriched by this hands-on experience in the heart of the legal system.



# St Augustines

Dear Parishioners,

We look forward to celebrating with you the events of Holy Week. Let us enter with devotion the Holy Week ceremonies and follow Christ with a lively faith. United with Him in His suffering on the cross may we share His Resurrection and new life.

The Times for Holy Mass and other ceremonies are as follows: -

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of The Lord:**

Public & live streamed Masses

Saturday 12.30pm

Sunday Masses- 9.00 am and 11.00 am

Palms will be distributed at the end of Mass

Monday of Holy Week: Mass -10.00 am

Live and streamed Mass

Tuesday of Holy Week: Mass - 10.00 am

Live and streamed Mass

Wednesday of Holy Week:

Public & Live streamed Mass 9.30am

**Maunder Thursday:**

The only Mass on Holy Thursday will be the

Mass of The Lord's Supper: 7.00pm

Public & live streamed Mass

Watching At the Altar of Repose until 11pm Holy Hour 8.30pm-9.30pm

**Good Friday - This is a Day of Fasting and Abstinence**

*The liturgy of Good Friday more than on any other day highlights the beauty of the cross. The cross is solemnly unveiled; we are invited devoutly to venerate it. We listen*

10am Children's Stations of the Cross

11.00am Ecumenical Walk of Witness-starting at Saint Augustines



*to The Passion from the Gospel of St. John. For John, the cross is a throne of Christ our King. It is the place of unbreakable union between God and His people, of bridal union between Christ and His Church.*

**Good Friday continued**

**3.00 pm** - Commemoration of The Lord's Passion

Public & live streamed

Confessions after Service

(There will be a Retiring Collection for the Holy Places)

**7.00 pm** - Evening Stations of the Cross

**Holy Saturday:** Confession: 11am-12.00 Noon

**The only Mass on Holy Saturday will be the**

**Easter Vigil Mass: 8.00 pm Public & live streamed**

*We listen to the Word of God and ponder all that God has done for us. We then celebrate the Liturgy of Baptism and welcome our newly baptised into the family of the Church. We all renew our baptismal promises. We continue with the Liturgy of the Eucharist.*

**Easter Sunday:**

Mass at 9.00am and 11.00 am

Public & live streamed Masses

Father Joseph, Deacon Kevin and I wish you all the Blessing of this Holy Season. Happy Easter.

The Offertory Collection at Easter will be your traditional Easter Offering to the priests of the parish.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Confession on request

Good Friday : after 3pm Service

Holy Saturday : 11am-12.00 noon

**Penance Service:**

St George & St Teresa

26<sup>th</sup> March 7.00pm



# St George & St Teresa

**Holy Week**

Mon - Wed (rosary before mass starts at 9.30am).

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday Mass 10 am

Penitential Service & Confessions at 7pm

6 priests.

**Easter Triduum**

**Maunder Thursday 28th March 7 pm** Mass of the Lord's Supper. Watching at the Altar of repose until 10pm

**Good Friday 29th March**

(Day of Fasting & Abstinence )

Children's Stations of the Cross ( check newsletter for time )

[www.catholicchurchdorridge.uk](http://www.catholicchurchdorridge.uk)

**3 pm Good Friday Service** Passion, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion.

Collection for the Holy Places

**7.30 pm Stations of the Cross**

**Holy Saturday**

Confessions: 9.15 am -9.45 am

Easter Vigil 8pm (sung mass)

Blessing of the fire, Exultet, Liturgy of the word Readings 1,3,5,7 & 9; Epistle and Gospel. Renewal of Baptismal Vows, Eucharistic, Easter Blessing.

Collection at this mass is the annual Easter gift to the clergy.

**Easter Sunday 31st March**

8.45 am; 10.30 am

**Easter Monday 10 am**

## OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE

# HOLY WEEK



## SCHEDULE

### *PALM SUNDAY - 24<sup>th</sup> March*

Sat Vigil 5.30pm Mass with Simple Blessing of Palms and Short Passion Reading.  
Sun 10.00am Mass with Solemn Procession, Blessing of Palms and Childrens Liturgy.

### *Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March*

7.00pm Joint Penitential Service at St George and Teresa Church, Dorridge, (Including the cluster parishes of Our Lady of the Wayside, Shirley, St Augustine's, Solihull and St George and Teresa, Dorridge)

## THE SACRED TRIDUUM

### *HOLY THURSDAY - 28<sup>th</sup> March*

7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper.  
Watching at the Altar of Repose until 11.00pm.  
Watching also on livestream [Our Lady of the Wayside - Day Chapel - YouTube](#)

### *GOOD FRIDAY - 29<sup>th</sup> March*

10.30am Shirley Churches Together Walk of Witness beginning at Our Lady of the Wayside.  
12noon Childrens Stations of the Cross in the School Grounds.  
3.00pm The Passion of the Lord  
7.00pm Stations of the Cross.

### *HOLY SATURDAY - 30<sup>th</sup> March*

7.00pm Easter Vigil (followed by refreshments in St Aidan's Chapel)

### *EASTER SUNDAY - 31<sup>st</sup> March*

9.00am Mass (followed by Easter Egg Hunt)  
11.00am Mass (followed by Easter Egg Hunt)

Holy Week Services available on livestream [Our Lady of the Wayside - Main Camera - YouTube](#)

# St Thomas More, Sheldon

**Maundy Thursday**

**Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00pm**

**Good Friday**

**The Passion of the Lord 3:00pm**

**Holy Saturday**

**Solemn Paschal Vigil Mass of the Resurrection 8:00pm**

**Easter Sunday**

**Holy Mass 9:00am**

**Solemn Mass 11:00am**



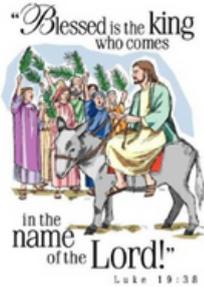
# Olton Friary

## WALK WITH ME IN HOLY WEEK

We commit ourselves with Pope Francis, the Archbishop and the people of the Diocese to a Journey of Prayer during this Holy Week, welcoming and Supporting those who walk with us.

### Palm Sunday 24th March

Masses: 9.00 am, 11.00 am (Solemn Mass, beginning in the hall with the blessing of Palms and Procession into Church), and 6.00 pm. Palms will be blessed at all Masses  
Stations of the Cross: 5.00 pm (Church)



### Monday 25th March

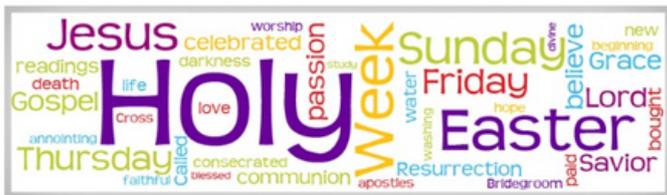
Mass 7.30 am (Day Chapel) and 10.15 am in the Church followed by  
Confessions till 11.30 am

### Tuesday 26th March

Mass 7.30 am (Day Chapel) and 10.15 am in the Church followed by  
Confessions till 11.30 am  
Exposition at 7.00pm

### Wednesday 27th March

Mass 7.30 am (Day Chapel) and 10.15 am in the Church followed by  
Confessions till 11.30 am  
Stations of the Cross at 7.30pm



## THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

### Maundy Thursday 28th March

Today we commemorate the beginning of the Holy Eucharist and Priesthood and the model of service given by Jesus at the Last Supper.  
(No Confessions here today)



### 10.15 am Morning Prayer in the Church

### 7.30 pm Solemn Mass of the Last Supper

With washing of the feet

Commissioning of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion  
Procession of the Blessed Sacrament to Lady Chapel  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until midnight at Lady Chapel

### Good Friday 29th March

Christ died that we might live and by His wounds we are healed. A day of fasting & abstinence remembering Jesus' sacrifice for us.

### 10.00 am The Inter-Church Procession— Walk of Witness and Stations of the Cross.

from St Margaret's Church, Kineton Green Road.

### 10.45 am Children's Stations of the Cross

### 3.00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

(outside, weather permitting)

The collection is for the Holy Places

### 7.30 pm Maria Desolata (Church)

(spending time with Mary in her sorrow)



### Holy Saturday 30th March

Today is a quiet day of prayer and reflection awaiting the resurrection of Jesus our Lord.

### 10.15 am Morning Prayer (Day Chapel)

### EASTER TIME

### 8.00 pm Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

with the Service of Light (starting outside)

Liturgy of the Word,

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Liturgy of the Eucharist

There isn't enough space on this poster to list all of the ways in which modern day

**parenting is hard.**

So instead,  
We want you to know what makes it easier...

**BEING**  
**seen, heard, validated**  
& **supported.**

Join Our Online

**BOOK CLUB**

Starting Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April '24

**8PM-9.15PM**

**Book:** *The Book You Wish Your Parents Had*  
Read by Philippa Perry

Hosted  
By...



Dr Maria Oviedo  
GP, Parent Coach,  
SE Trainee



Jodie Jones  
Teacher, Education  
Advisor,  
Parent Coach

£12.90  
per  
session

"This book club has made a big difference!  
Little things each week are helping me to be less  
shouty and more connected with my children."

Visit [www.nurtureinfused.com](http://www.nurtureinfused.com) to find out more!

