



CHAPLAINCY



*An update from
Chaplaincy at
Our Lady's*



Year 10 Retreat

A TRIP TO CASTLERIGG WITH YEAR 10...

In April, we had the privilege of taking a group of year 10 students for a retreat at Castlerigg Manor in Keswick.

We were blessed with some beautiful weather, meaning we managed to get out into the Lake District for some walks and activities. We also played team-building games, enjoyed some practical prayer and craft sessions, celebrated Mass, and some free time in which we discovered some amazing hidden talents!

The theme of our retreat was looking at "Salvation History", which fitted in very well with the beginning of Eastertide in the Church's year. We looked at those God had made promises with through history: Noah, Abraham, David, and finally looking at Jesus as the fulfilment of God's promise of salvation to humanity.

We explored the accounts of these various chapters of salvation history by engaging in some fun activities.

It was great to have a fun, engaging week with the students and a big thank you to all who attended and those who helped too!



"The Lord has risen indeed and has appeared to Simon!"

- Luke 24:34



NISCU Prayer Journey

WALKING IN PRAYER

On the 2nd and 3rd of May, Jonny Bayes from NISCU (Northern Inter-Schools Christian Union) completed a 30-mile walk as part of their "Week of Vision and Prayer". This was in order to join all of the Christian schools from Overton to Slyne-with-Hest; from Scotforth to Caton, in prayer together, particularly for the intention of building stronger links between schools and their associated churches. Jonny visited and prayed at 27 locations in total,

meaning there was a lot of prayer involved! So, let us continue that prayer, that we will grow ever closer with our associated parish of St. Joseph's and with our feeder schools and their churches too.



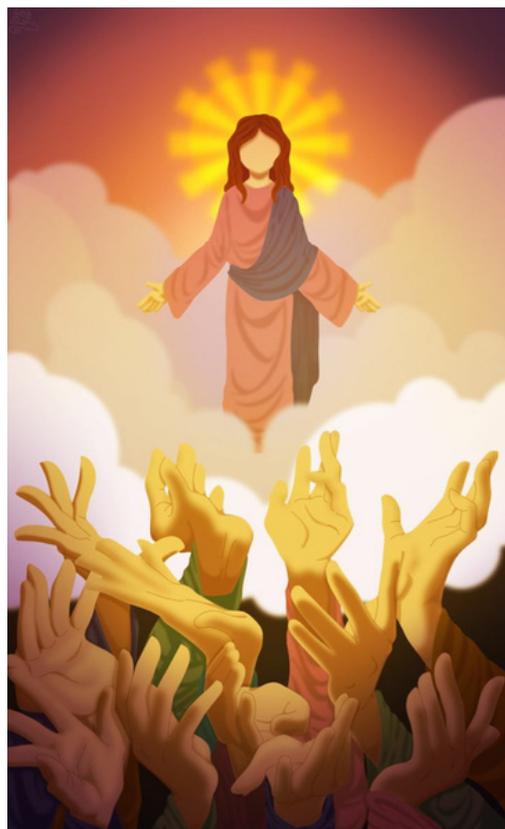
churches is suggested. Therefore, several pupils from Mr. Eidsorth's RE class and Faith in Action Group are visiting St. Walburge's Church in Preston (pictured above) and Ladywell Shrine to help understand more about Catholic churches and forms of expression. Whilst on the trip, which will include guided tours of the significant local Catholic sites, and the opportunity to participate in May devotions to Our Lady at the Ladywell Shrine.

Ascension Mass

CELEBRATING CHRIST'S ENTRY INTO HEAVEN

On Thursday 18th May, we celebrated Mass for the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. This feast day marks the day when Jesus' earthly life came to an end and He ascended into heaven. This day is filled with great joy and anticipation, as Jesus promises in the Gospel: "I am with you always" and that He will send us the Holy Spirit!

Mass well attended, with about 250 students coming along. A big thanks to Fr. John-Paul for celebrating Mass, and to Charlotte Smith (who left us last year), for the brilliant artwork she produced for this feast, pictured to the right!



Catholic Young Writers Award

CELEBRATING OUR TALENT

Three students in Mr. Eidsorth's class are entering the Young Catholic Writers Award, for which a visit to and experience of Catholic

"We are the Easter people, and alleluia is our song!"

ST. JOHN PAUL II



WHAT'S ON IN THE CHAPLAINCY

Mondays
GIFT Team (Form Time)
Breaktime drop-in
Lunchtime drop-in

Tuesdays
Faith in Action

Wednesdays
Faith in Action

Thursdays
Breaktime drop-in
Sacrament Preparation Group

Fridays
Breaktime drop-in
Lunchtime Mass

Coming Soon in the Chaplaincy...

SOME KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

- **Sunday 28th May: Pentecost!** - as a Church, we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and disciples, just as Jesus promised. It would be great if you made it to Mass to celebrate this wonderful feast of hope and renewal!
- **Monday 5th June: St. Bernadette's Faith Enrichment Day** - We will be taking members of our GIFT Team, Faith in Action Group and School Choir to St. Bernadette's to help them with their Faith Enrichment Day with the theme of "Creation".
- **Friday 16th June: Y7 Day with a Difference** - a fun day off timetable for our year 7s, exploring Catholic Social Teaching on issues surrounding the theme of "Community".
- **Sunday 18th June: Sacraments at St. Joseph's** - the five pupils that have been participating in the sacrament preparation programme at school will be receiving their sacraments at St. Joseph's at 10:00 Mass. Please pray for them and their preparation, as well as the life of faith ahead of them! And if you can make it along to show your support, that would be amazing!
- **Wednesday 21st June: Y12 Day with a Difference** - a day with the Columban Missionaries looking at the virtue of solidarity, particularly focusing on refugees.
- **Thursday 29th June: the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul** - as this feast is a Holy Day of Obligation in the Catholic Church, we will be celebrating Mass together as a whole school community - an occasion sure to be filled with joy!

Spotlight on: the Sacred Heart...

In the Catholic Church, the month of June is traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. A devotion is where we focus our prayer (usually for a specific period of time) on one aspect of our faith, in this case it is Jesus' Sacred Heart, which was physically pierced on Calvary by a lance, but was also pierced spiritually because He loved us so much, it hurt for Him to see humanity reject God through sin.

In 1673, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a French nun, received visions of Jesus which continued for 18 months. Jesus told her to encourage a devotion to His Sacred Heart, which He said "is so passionately in love with humanity that it can no longer contain within itself the flames of its ardent love. It must pour them out through [you], and manifest itself to them with its precious treasures, which contain all the graces which they need to be saved." Jesus also asked that a day be dedicated to celebrating the Sacred Heart, which is the Friday after the Feast of Corpus Christi (Friday 16th June this year). So then, let us spend this June trying and praying to grow closer to Jesus and His Sacred Heart!



Lastly... Happy Half Term!!

From all of us here in the Chaplaincy, we wish you a happy and restful half-term break and we look forward to seeing you again happy and healthy in the next half term. God bless!



*Come, O Holy Spirit,
come! From Your bright
and blissful Home Rays of
healing light impart.
Come, Father of the poor,
Source of gifts that will
endure Light of every
human heart.*

*You of all consolers best,
Of the soul most kindly
Guest, Quickening courage
do bestow...*

*...O most blessed Light
divine, Let Your radiance
in us shine, And our
inmost being fill...*

*...Bend the stubborn heart
and will, Melt the frozen,
warm the chill, Guide the
steps that go astray.*

*On the faithful who in
You, Trust with childlike
piety, Deign Your
sevenfold gift to send.*

*Give them virtue's rich
increase, Saving grace to
die in peace, Give them
joys that never end. Amen.
Alleluia!*

FROM THE PENTECOST
SEQUENCE

