



CHAPLAINCY



*An update from
Chaplaincy at
Our Lady's*



Savio House Retreat

YEAR 7'S FIRST TASTE OF A
RETREAT!

From 11-13th March, we took a group of year 7s to Savio House for their first taste of retreats at Our Lady's. The theme of the retreat was "Bridges" and we looked at repairing and building bridges in the four areas of our lives St. John Bosco encourages us to focus on: home, friends, school (or work for those of us of a certain age!), and God. We explored this by taking part in lots of team-building activities and games, walking up a hill, small group reflection sessions, an examination of conscience prayer, a reconciliation service, and Holy Mass, finishing our final night with a disco and karaoke!

As you can see, we had an amazing time and we were really sad to leave - many of our students have already been asking when the next retreat is because they enjoyed it so much! Please keep them in your prayers, that their time on retreat will be fruitful and a blessing in their lives.



*"Peter said,
'Lord, how often
shall my brother
sin against me,
and I forgive
him? As many as
seven times?'
Jesus said to him,
'I do not say to
you seven times,
but seventy times
seven.'"*

MATTHEW 18:21-22

A Visit from the Bishop!

A SPECIAL VISITOR TO OUR
UGANDA PROJECT MEETING

We were delighted to welcome Bishop Paul Swarbrick to one of our Uganda Project meetings this half term to listen to him share his experiences of living in Zambia.

We really appreciated hearing what he had to say and his advice for how to approach our trip and experiencing a culture that is vastly different to ours here in the UK. Although there would be some challenges, he said, they are far outweighed by the joy and richness we find on offer to us in these experiences. As Pope Francis says: "For me this word is very important. Encounter with others. Why? Because faith is an encounter with Jesus, and we must do what Jesus does: encounter others..."

We also shared with Bishop Paul about our own motivations for being involved with the project and what we hoped to bring back as a result of this encounter. It was a wonderful opportunity for us and we thank him very much for giving his time to come and visit us!



Parish Visits

OUR UGANDA PROJECT GROUP GO
OUT AND ABOUT!

Over many weekends this academic year, students and staff from our Uganda Project Group have been out and about in our local (and some not so local!) parishes, all the way from Yealand down to Chorley!

As staff, we've been so impressed at how well each of our students have spoken, at times in front of quite large congregations! It's very clear that their soft skills are improving greatly and they're becoming more confident.

We've also been amazed at the warmth and generosity of every parish we've visited. The welcome we've had from everyone has been great and we really appreciate it! We'd love to thank everyone who donated to the appeal as well, thanks to your generosity, we have now raised over £15,000, which is just astounding! The difference this money will make to the communities we are partnered with in Uganda is incredible and every single person from these communities would wish us to say a huge thank you on their behalf for your support and your kindness.



*"You are my rock
and my fortress;
for your name's
sake lead me and
guide me, take me
out of the net that
is hidden for me,
for you are my
refuge. Into your
hand I commit
my spirit; you
have redeemed
me, O Lord,
faithful God."*

PSALM 31:3-5

CHAPLAINCY WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday

GIFT Team (Form Time)
Breaktime Games in the
Covered Courtyard
Lunchtime drop-in

Tuesday

Adoration (8:10-8:30)
Breaktime drop-in
Holy Mass (8am on first
Tuesday of the month, 15:15
on last Tuesday of the month,
lunchtime every other
Tuesday)

Wednesday

Breaktime drop-in
Sacrament Preparation
(lunchtime)
Faith in Action

Thursday

Breaktime Games on the
Netball Courts

Friday

Rosary (8:10-8:30)
Breaktime drop-in
Faith in Action (lunch)

What Is Love?

OUR HOLY WEEK SERVICES

During Holy Week, all year groups had a Holy Week service, delivered by Ben, Mrs. Holbrook and the GIFT Team. The theme was “What is Love?” - what do you think of when you hear that question? With the help of many people around school, we produced a video looking at what love is to them, and then we considered all the ways Jesus showed us His love and a different way to love. We reflected on how Jesus went through His suffering out of love for each one of us personally. Have you ever considered that Jesus would go through His Passion again, even if it was just for you? Have you ever considered that when Jesus said “Today you will be with me in paradise” (Luke 23:43), that it’s His invitation to you personally?



“Why did you suffer for me, dear Jesus? For love! The nails... the crown, the cross...all for the love of me!”

ST. GEMMA GALGANI



International Women’s Day

CELEBRATING WOMEN IN OUR COMMUNITY AND THE CHURCH

On Friday 8th March, we marked International Women’s Day by preparing flowers and cards to give out in town to passers by! A big thanks goes to members of the GIFT Team and our year 10 helpers who gave up their lunchtime to prepare the flowers and cards and give them out. As Catholics, we can also use this day to look back at our amazing heritage of incredible women in the Church. We’re very fortunate to have St. Catherine of Siena as one of our “Heroes of Faith”, maybe you could look her up and find out more about this wonderful woman!



“I would like to remind everyone, especially governments engaged in boosting the world's economic and social assets, that the primary capital to be safeguarded and valued is man, the human person in his or her integrity”

POPE BENEDICT XVI

Fairtrade Fortnight

ADVOCATING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND THE DIGNITY OF WORKERS

Even though Fairtrade Fortnight was moved to later on this year, we still celebrated the original fortnight at OLCC! We did this by selling smoothies made from (some) Fairtrade ingredients, the proceeds of which were donated to the Fairtrade Foundation. A big thanks goes to Mrs. Edet, the GIFT Team, and our Sixth Form Chaplaincy Team, who helped make and sell them! We also looked at the Catholic Social Teaching underpinning our support for fairer trading and how Fairtrade works to protect the “Dignity of the Worker”, and the GIFT Team helped create a form prayer to explore this. Congratulations to those who won Fairtrade chocolate with their outstanding Fairtrade knowledge in the Fairtrade Quiz too!





Year 8 Day with a Difference

EXPLORING RECONCILIATION

One of the key themes of Lent is reconciliation, so our year 8s spent a day off-timetable exploring the idea of reconciliation and how we can apply it in our own lives.

We were very privileged to welcome Marcus Mosey and Jonny Bayes into school for a captivating interview session about how Marcus lost his sister in the

Lockerbie bombings and then came to forgive the perpetrators. We also had activity workshops looking at how we can show forgiveness in different areas of our lives: friendship bracelets for our friends, planting flowers for those at home, having box relay races to demonstrate how sin weighs us down! We finished the day off with a reconciliation service, reflecting on the Prodigal Son and how God has already come out to meet us and offer us His forgiveness, before we've even reached Him!

“And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, la’ma sabach-tha’ni?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?””

MATTHEW 27:46

Things to Watch Out For...

SOME KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

- **29th March: Good Friday** - This is the day Our Lord died for love of us, the greatest gift we could ever receive. It's a day of fasting and abstinence for Catholics, meaning that you can have a maximum of one full meal plus two snacks that don't equal a full meal, and no meat! Also, check out your local parish for service times to participate in this amazing day in Jesus' Passion, as well as the other Easter Triduum services - they're worth it!
- **31st March: Easter Sunday** - He is Risen!! Again, find out when your local church is celebrating Mass and join them for the most important and joyful feast of the year!
- **19th April: OLCC Charity Concert** - Our Uganda Project Group will be hosting a charity concert in aid of our Ugandan partner communities and St. John's Hospice at 19:00 on Friday 19th April. Come along for an evening of great fun and entertainment!
- **23rd April: St. George's Day** - It's the feast day of our national patron saint! Keep your eyes peeled for what's going on in school to celebrate his feast day.
- **9th May: Feast of the Ascension** - This is a Holy Day of Obligation for Catholics, so we will be celebrating Holy Mass in school, so make sure you sign up!
- **17th May: Year 7 Day with a Difference** - Our year 7s will be off-timetable for the day, participating in workshops and activities exploring how we, as Catholics, can build and contribute to our communities.
- **19th May: Pentecost Sunday** - This feast celebrates Jesus giving the Holy Spirit to His disciples and His Church, the incredible gift of the third Person of the Trinity is given to all of us! Why not pray that the Holy Spirit is poured out upon your life too? Invite Him in!



“A single tear shed at the remembrance of the Passion of Jesus is worth more than a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, or a year of fasting on bread and water.”

ST. AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO

CHECK OUT OUR CHAPLAINCY INSTAGRAM TOO!!



@olcc_chaplaincy

God bless and have a blessed, joyful Easter! We look forward to seeing you all again soon!

