



Archdiocese of Birmingham
**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

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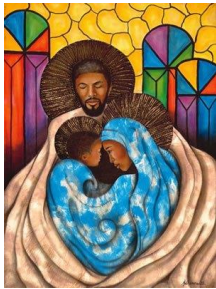
www.stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk

Headteacher: Miss H.M. Cusack M.Ed.



23rd March 2021

Dear Parent



March is dedicated to St Joseph

In this year of St Joseph, as instituted by Pope Francis, it is a good time to get to 'know' him better and his role in the life of Jesus. St Joseph was an extraordinary family man – a model for us all. We ask his prayers and protection for ourselves and for our families.

Thursday 25th March is the feast of the Annunciation and the beginning of our redemption. We ask our Y4 children to attend the 8.30am Mass. This is the day of Mary's 'YES' - can we also say 'yes' to God today? **REMEMBER – face masks required for Mass.**

HOLY WEEK



Next week is the holiest week of our year and the fact that last year we were all unable to celebrate and worship as we normally do, cannot be lost on any of us. It makes this year even more special. Our Y5 and Y6 children will attend the 8.30am Mass on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. They should arrive in school for 8.20 (with face mask) and we will register them before taking them over to church. Thank you for

supporting your child's faith journey with us.

Parent Consultations

Thank you – the appointments are running smoothly – office staff have asked to pass on their thanks too! Thank you for supporting our office staff.

Please remember not to phone into the school office to ask them to check your times for you – this clogs up our telephone system which is under strain due to 2 lines being used all day for the consultations. If you need to check your times you just need to check via your eSchools account. Thank you for your support.

National Day of Reflection

Today, 23rd March, is a national day to reflect on the anniversary of our very first lockdown. It seems quite unbelievable what this year has wrought. But, as in all times and seasons, we take the good alongside the bad. We pray for all who dedicated themselves (and continue to do so) without personal thought of their own safety to saving the sick and tending so beautifully to the dying; for all our children whose futures will be forever marked by this pandemic; for all who continue to suffer and grieve. During our minute of silence, we will especially give thanks to God as well as pray for His protection.



Please, also light a candle/shine a light at 8pm from your doorway – as requested by Bishops of England and Wales – a sign of our hope and endurance. "At 8pm, people are encouraged to create a

'beacon of remembrance' on their doorsteps by beaming phones, candles and torches into the night sky. Prominent buildings and landmarks will also be lit up across the UK."

Cardinal Nichols and Archbishop McMahon stress that prayer is an essential part of this reflection and remembrance:

"For all who live by faith in God, reflection and prayer always go hand in hand. Prayer completes reflection. Reflection informs prayer. Prayer opens our life to its true horizon.

"Without prayer we live in a foreshortened world and are more easily swamped by its clamour and tragedy. Throughout this difficult year, so many have been inspired by prayer, so much effort sustained in prayer, in every place. So, let us make the 23rd March truly a day of prayer."

A Lenten Reflection for Action...

Pope Francis

**Fast from words ... and be silent so you can
listen.**

Clothes required for St Chad's

St. Chad's Sanctuary are particularly short of small/medium men's clothing, and girls' clothing age 6-7, 7-8. If you have any items that you would like to donate, please leave them in the parent shelter. Please avoid school drop off and pick up times. Mrs Collins will arrange for delivery to St Chad's.

Have a great week and stay safe and well!

Yours sincerely,

HMcusack

Headteacher