



St Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Catholic Life Newsletter

October 2021

Hello to everyone in our St Joseph's School community, we are pleased to share with you all the wonderful things that we have been up to this half of the Advent Term.

We started off our new school year with mass at St Joseph's church, thanking God for our beautiful school community and asking

Him to guide, bless and protect us throughout this new academic year. We were reminded of our patron saint; St Joseph and we thought about how Jesus is with us in every step of our learning each day.



Macmillan Fundraising

On Friday 24th September, we were fortunate enough to have our own Macmillan cake sale for the children and families of our school community. Children bought cakes throughout the day and families were able to come and buy after the school day.

We are thrilled to announce this phenomenal total for Macmillan Cancer Support: **£739.43!**

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/louise-kearney3>

Great things are possible when we come together!

We cannot **thank you** enough for your encouragement, generosity and endless support!



Harvest

In our key stages, we celebrated our Harvest Liturgy together at St Joseph's church. Our new school chaplains led us for the first time in a beautiful and meaningful liturgy encouraging us to reflect, give thanks, praise God's creation and to think about our global brothers and sisters. As a school community, we have also collected Harvest donations for the local Padley Group to aid and care for those who need it in our community.

Our mission was to pray a novena (a nine-day prayer) to St Francis of Assisi who is the patron saint of animals and ecology. We were also asked to do one thing that helps our environment whether it is recycling, picking up litter or using less paper towels in school.

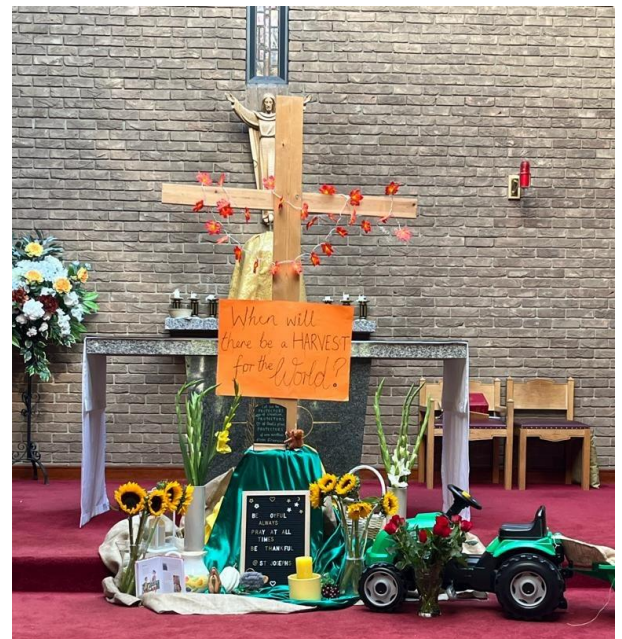
We hope this inspires you to do something too!

A Harvest Reflection

Father, as we celebrate this season of thanksgiving at Harvest, we give thanks for the blessings of food, healing and nourishment. Please grow in us a harvest for the world.

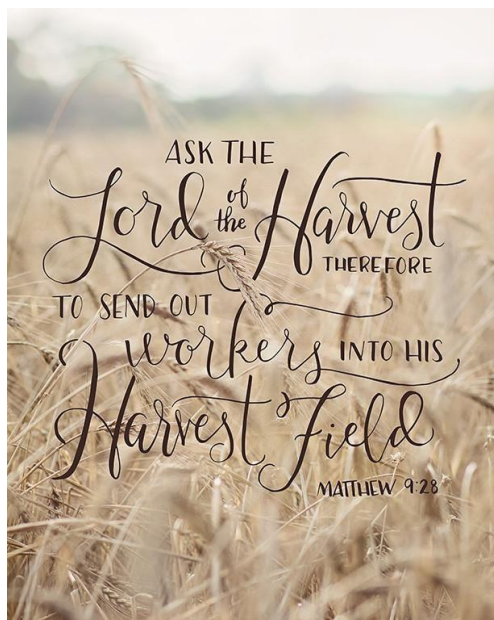


Come sow a seed of hope within us Lord, that we might produce goodness, patience and kindness in abundance. Sow a seed of peace in



our lives Lord, that we might bear the fruits of forgiveness, compassion and righteousness.

Come sow a seed of love in our hearts Lord, that others would reap the blessings of family, friendship and school community. May each seed of hope, peace and love grow within us into a harvest that can be feasted on by all, everyone is included. Amen.



October: The month of the Holy Rosary

"The Rosary is a school of prayer.

The Rosary is a school of faith"

~ Pope Francis ~

October is the month dedicated to praying the Rosary. The children have enjoyed our Rosary Liturgies and have been able to spend special time in prayer, praying the rosary and reflecting on the different mysteries with Mr Caffferky.

Our school chaplains have also led a Rosary club during lunch time for both KS1 and KS2, learning all the special prayers of the Rosary, Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be.

Each class have a Rosary and Marian themed prayer area where there is a place for prayer intentions.

You have been in our thoughts and prayers as we have prayed decades of the rosary together.

Prayer areas dedicated to Our Lady and the Holy Rosary





St Joseph's Class Charities

This year, each class has chosen a charity to support. Classes are learning, fundraising and creating more awareness for their amazing charities.

Here is a list of some of the incredible charities we are supporting throughout this year:

- Derby City Mission- <https://www.derbycitymission.org.uk/>
- Children First Derby - <https://www.childrenfirstderby.co.uk/>
- Umbrella - <https://umbrella.uk.net/>
- The Wildlife Trusts - <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/>
- Derbyshire Refugee Solidarity - <http://derbyshirerefugeesolidarity.org/>

Class liturgy photos



These are some photos of year 2 and year 5 class liturgy focal points.

Year 2 gathered in the chapel for a beautiful liturgy, all about our beautiful earth and listened to scripture from the

book of Genesis, thinking about how we are stewards of God's creation. Year 5 were also fortunate to have their liturgy in our school chapel, thinking about how we are all unique and that God created us in his image, the children reminded each other that they are 'fearfully and wonderfully made'.

Blessed Carlo Acutis

Our school chaplains wish to share with you an inspirational young (nearly) saint.

Carlo Acutis was born in London in 1991 to Italian parents. Carlo moved to Milan with his parents shortly after his birth. Carlo had a deep faith from an early age. He had pure devotion to the Eucharist, a love of praying the rosary and a routine of weekly confession. After celebrating his First Holy Communion, at the age of seven, he rarely missed an opportunity to receive the Eucharist at daily Mass. He said "By standing before the Eucharistic Christ, we become holy."



Carlo was beatified on the 10th October 2020 at the basilica in Assisi, Italy. This is the final step before sainthood and was helped when a young Brazilian sought his intercession in healing from a serious pancreatic disease.

We celebrated his memorial on 12th October, with prayer, learning more about him, his life, his mission and the legacy he has left behind. If you would like to know more about him, please watch this short animation:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZOp_3o-uMc

Prayer to Our Lady

Dear Mother Mary, Blessed Queen of Heaven,

We thank you for uniting us chaplains, during this month of October, help us to be stewards of your Holy Rosary.

We also thank you for giving us the profound role of a chaplain at St Joseph's school. Help us to show unconditional love in Your name and to be role models to the rest of our school.

Amen

A prayer written by one of our school chaplains.

God Bless,

St Joseph's Chaplaincy Team