



ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Be it known...

7TH FEBRUARY 2020

Dear Parents & Carers

In assemblies this week for The Presentation of the Lord, we heard Malachi tell of the Lord announcing a messenger to ready the world for the coming of his son, with St Paul's letter detailing to the Hebrews Christ's sharing of our body and blood.

God knew his message could not be conveyed from afar, decreed from on high. He knew that to invert and upturn the order of the world as was his plan, his son must become one of us, living among, beside, within and as one of us so that we too could each in our own way become like him. Simeon in the Gospel gazes upon the infant Christ, and seeing his salvation is prepared to embrace death. In Christ alone do we witness the salvation promised by his Passion.

For many it is uncomfortable to accept the concept of our being flawed, in need of purification and refining. We are encouraged to take pride in self-sufficiency, to be our own gods, to reject guidance, bold in the knowledge that we are best placed to determine our own lives. Rare would be the person free of this most human of flaws.

To accept we need God is to make ourselves vulnerable, the antithesis of all our increasingly secular age most reveres. It has been said by those who lose faith after years of belief that they experience a sense of liberation, a freeing of chains. I wonder what God they have followed and loved. Not the constant guide and companion familiar to our community, in the sacrifice of whose son we receive salvation and the promise of eternal life. We pray that we may lead lives that bring us close to being worthy. Only say the word.

Our Year 7 superstar leaders demonstrated fantastic leadership on Tuesday having been selected to assist with a local sports festival for over three hundred primary school children, while yesterday over 120 students participated in the intermediary maths challenge, a national competition encouraging innovative approaches to problem solving. Students can achieve bronze, silver & gold certificates, and may be selected to progress to the regional rounds. We thank Mr Acton for arranging the opportunity.

We look forward to welcoming Onatti, a visiting theatre company, to perform French drama to students in Years 9-13 next Tuesday afternoon. Thank you to Mr Bellworthy for organising what is sure to be an enriching accompaniment to our MFL curriculum.

Year 8 Retreats to Walsingham House begin next week, and we look forward to welcoming parents & carers of Year 9 students on Thursday evening for conversations that will help to inform students selecting their Key Stage 4 option preferences. Thomas Coen, Headteacher

SJP is a proud Teacher Training Partnership School to Billericay Education Consortium and West Essex Teacher Training School Alliance. Please contact us if you are interested in a career in teaching and/or work experience.

SUNDAY 9TH GOSPEL, MATTHEW 5: 13-16



Brentwood Catholic Children's Society's Annual Charity Ball is at The Rayleigh Club, Hullbridge, Saturday 7th March from 7pm to midnight. £55 per person, including drinks reception and three course dinner with entertainment. Tables of 12 make it the perfect opportunity for a fantastic evening with friends, family or colleagues whilst raising vital funds for our work supporting children's emotional health and wellbeing.

Contact Julie 01268 784544/
07912277413 / jabbott@bccs.org.uk

60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION MASS

FRIDAY 19TH JUNE 7.00 P.M.

ACTIVITIES SATURDAY 20TH

OFFERS OF SUPPORT TO

MISS COOK



HOUSE POINTS

AUGUSTINIANS	6251
BENEDICTINES	5973
CARMELITES	6352
DOMINICANS	5915
FRANCISCANS	6890
SERVITES	7713

The Full Governing Body has voted in favour of the motion that St. John Payne Catholic School will engage in discussion with the Diocese of Brentwood and members of the proposed Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) to influence the final structure and determine whether in the view of the Full Governing Body it is in the best interests of the school to join the MAT. Governors



...to all who enter here that Christ is the reason for this school.

