



# Bishop Challoner

## Catholic Secondary School

Diocese of Portsmouth

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## Newsletter

Autumn 2, 2019.

Dear parents, carers and friends,

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October saw Pope Francis canonize Cardinal John Henry Newman at an open-air ceremony at the Vatican. Ten of thousands of pilgrims, including Bishop Philip were present.

The Prince of Wales also joined the Mass in St. Peter's Square. He gave an interview to the Vatican newspaper, saying, "Whatever our own beliefs, and no matter what our own tradition may be, we can only be grateful to Newman for the gifts, rooted in his Catholic faith, which he shared with wider society". Prince Charles, who will become head of the Church of England when he becomes king praised Newman as "this great Briton, this great churchman and, as we can now say, this great saint".



Please, if you can join us in this prayer - *The Mission of My Life* (Saint JH Newman)

God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good; I shall do His work. I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it if I do but keep His commandments. Therefore, I will trust Him, whatever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him, in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him. If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him. He does nothing in vain. He knows what He is about. He may take away my friends. He may throw me among strangers. He may make me feel desolate, make my spirits sink, hide my future from me. Still, He knows what He is about.

## Year 7 Pilgrimage and Retreat

A wonderful time was had by all as the traditional double-dose of Chaplaincy / RE trips were enjoyed by our new Y7 students. An important part of their induction into the Catholic Christian life of our community, their trip was made up of two parts.

One aspect was a retreat day at St. Andrew's Methodist Church, where Y7 created superheros, affirmed one-another and found out what they all had in common. They took part in a reflective reconciliation service and played games to help them to relax and get to know each other better.



The second aspect took them on a coach to the Mother Church of our Diocese, to the Cathedral of St John the Evangelist in Portsmouth. They were welcomed by a familiar face, Fr Emmanuel, who had been a priest at St. Joseph's and then they embarked on a trail around the cathedral.

The trail led them to explore the beliefs and meanings behind many statues, objects and treasures. A number of students had a lovely experience of prayer in the Eucharistic Adoration room and we all celebrated Mass with the local community.

It was great to see Y7 and Y11 student leaders getting involved with readings, bidding prayers, the Offertory and serving on the altar. They were all a credit to our school and a number of parishioners commented on their prayerfulness during Mass.

A big thank you to Mary, our chaplain for all the hours of thought and planning that she put into making these days such a success.

At the Cathedral...



Just before Mass

Investigating the Sacred Heart statue



Outside, by the statue of St. John the Evangelist

## Challoner *Brightens Up* for the CAFOD Harvest Fast Day!



On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October, our staff and students literally brightened up our school as they showed their support for CAFOD's harvest fundraising day. Before the day, students found out all about Fabiano in Uganda and heard the call for all of us to make life better and brighter for many living with challenges similar to Fabiano's. Some girls from 8 St Gregory had the great idea of using the most brightly coloured sweets, Skittles, to raise that much more – with a 'Guess how many sweets there are in the jar competition.' Next year, I think we need to have some awards for the brightest mixture of colours, as there were some fantastic appearances. Overall Teacher prize, would have to be awarded to Mr Lewis!



Mrs Cripps

## Bishop Philip's Visitation to St Joseph's Parish, 23-24 November 2019



Bishop Philip's forthcoming Visitation has been timed to coincide with the parish's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations over the weekend of 23-24 November, the Feast of Christ the King. As part of the parish, Bishop Challoner School has been invited to take a prominent role in the 11 am Sunday Mass on 24 November. The parish stresses that students and their families would, however, be most welcome at any of the three Masses over the weekend – 6 pm on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> and 9 am on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>, being the other two options. Altar servers

will be able to sign up in St Joseph's sacristy in due course to serve at one of the Masses.

The Feast of Christ the King is also National Youth Sunday, so it is particularly fitting that Cecilia Sound, the Pastoral Area Youth Band, will be leading the music at the 11 am Mass. Several of our students are members of the band. The parish has also asked the school to lead the psalm and a choral piece at Communion.



A number of our students will be playing various other roles in the Mass and we would appreciate them wearing school uniform on this occasion as they will be representing the school. It would be lovely if the Bishop could identify a sea of Challoner students in the body of the church, so we hope that students and their families will make an effort to come to the 11 am Mass to support the school and the Parish in its 60<sup>th</sup> celebrations.

If you are able to attend and if you would like to help in some way, please let Mary Lee know in the first instance. Many thanks.

## Youth SVP – launch of a new KS3 after-school group



**“Dear young people, do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things!”**

*Pope Francis*

On 8 November, we shall be launching a Youth SVP Group in school , which will meet fortnightly after school from 3.45 pm to 4.45 pm on a Friday for any students in Y7-Y9 who are interested in turning concern into action!

The St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), inspired by Christ’s message to love our neighbour as ourselves, has a vision for individuals and families who are in any form of need to have hope, together with a sense of dignity, worth, well-being and peace of mind.

Youth SVP is one of the four apostolates for young people within the SVP, where they are encouraged to develop their faith and spirituality, in order to put their faith into action in service to the disadvantaged and vulnerable, by getting active in their local communities, doing simple voluntary work – eg helping out with tea parties at John Eddie Court or making things for charity sales. St Mother Teresa of Calcutta said: “Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.”

If you are interested in getting involved with offering help to each other, whenever and wherever there might be even a small need, whilst having fun along the way, pick up a parental consent form from Mary Lee and join us on Friday 8 November to find out more about it and help set the agenda for this term’s activities. We look forward to seeing you there!

Mary Lee



## Sophie's One Million Step Challenge

Sophie G recently took part in the Diabetes UK 'One Million Step Challenge'. Starting on the 1<sup>st</sup> July, she persevered through to the end of September to clock up and complete the one million steps – that's around 19 marathons!

She has done amazingly well with her sponsorship and has to date raised £1,224.59. She is currently Diabetes UK 15th top fundraiser! Her donation page is open until the end of October, so it's possible to increase donations before it closes. Here is a link to her page if you would like to look at her progress.

<https://step.diabetes.org.uk/pages/sophie-gee>

## Help our NHS

Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust needs cotton over the shoulder bags for their Palliative Care Team. These bags are used by patients to carry their syringe drivers and the team needs around 35 – 40 bags per week. Mrs Ferris is setting up an after-school club to make some bags to donate. To initiate this the school is looking for donations of unused brightly coloured and patterned cotton fabric. If students are interested in joining the club, they need to speak to Mrs Ferris in Art 2.

## Careers news

This week saw Year 11 take part in their mock interviews. Each of the students applied for a job and were interviewed by external interviewers.



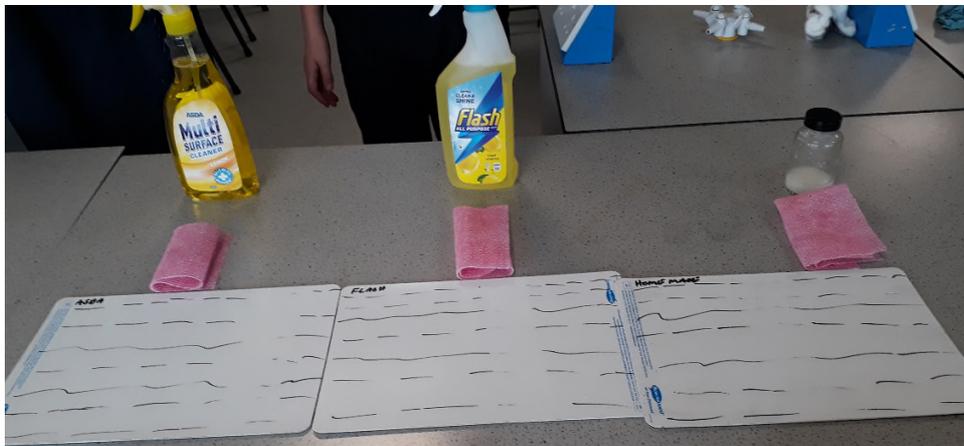
The students were a credit to the school, with one interviewer stating: *'It was clear that pupils understood the expectations as they were well presented and achieved well in the sessions. Most pupils who I spoke to achieved mainly A's for their interview. The range of jobs and time put into organising this event was clear'*.



Year 7 have also started their careers journey in school. With an assembly about careers after they leave Bishop Challoner. In tutor time they are completing an interest form, which looks at their favourite subjects and some ideas about what type of job they are interested in. We will be using these to help link the students to opportunities within school.

## STEM club

Our young scientists have been investigating the best product to clean surfaces with, and (drum roll please) 'Flash' has come out top. It faced stiff competition, with our home-made recipe doing a very good job of cleaning, only being hampered by the smell of vinegar, which was a bit too much!



We have set up the agar plates to look at which product is the best at killing bacteria. Results will be in next week!



Mrs Roberts

## Sports Desk

The U16 Rugby team played their second match in the County Cup campaign against Toynbee School, Chandlers Ford. It was a very physical, competitive encounter but played in the spirit of the game. Toynbee took an early lead then Challoner pegged them back. At half time Challoner were leading 14-5 after two very well worked tries. Discipline let us down in the second half and constant infringements let Toynbee back into the game. With a few minutes to go we were one score ahead 27-20 with Toynbee pushing hard for another score. With moments left and some fortuitous mistakes by the opposition Challoner killed the game off with a final score winning 34-20. The team was led very well by Jim R. Great performances by DT F, Harvey C and some sublime kicking from the tee by Josh O'S.

Mr Sheers.

### Year 10 & 11 Netball

We are thrilled to announce that our Year 10 and Year 11 A teams are the 2019 Basingstoke District Netball Champions! They have been unbeaten this half term securing the following results.

Year 11 A	Players Player	Year 11 B	Players Player
Challoner A (22) v Challoner B (3)	K.Crow	Challoner B (3) v Challoner A (22)	E.Cheng
Challoner A (11) v Costello (9)	K.Curran	Challoner B (3) v Costello (23)	C.McGrath
Challoner A v Aldworth	No game	Challoner B v Aldworth	No game
Challoner A (24) BHCS (1)	G.Ndluvo	Challoner B v BHCS	Not yet played
Challoner A (21) v The Vyne (8)	K.Crow	Challoner B () v The Vyne ()	Not yet played
Challoner A (25) v The Hurst (4)	K.Crow	Challoner B (4) v The Hurst (10)	E.Cheng

Year 10 A	Players Player	Year 10 B	Players Player
Challoner A (19) v Challoner B (3)	C.Jackson	Challoner B (4) v Aldworth (6)	I.Barrett
Challoner A (23) v Aldworth (5)	A.Sow	Challoner B (12) v Everest (5)	G.Andrew
Challoner A (10) v Costello (7)	A.Sow	Challoner B (7) v Cranbourne (8)	G.Andrew
Challoner A (18) v The Vyne (4)	G.Della Savina	Challoner B v The Vyne	Not yet played

Challoner A (15) v Cranbourne (5)	G.Della Savina	Challoner B (0) v Costello (11)	S.Pavey
Challoner A (23) v The Hurst (4)	E.Blackburn	Challoner B (7) v The Hurst (10)	A.Coombs
Challoner A (26) v Everest (2)	E.Blackburn	Challoner B (3) v Challoner A (19)	A.Coombs
Challoner A (24) v BHCS (3)	G.Della Savina	Challoner B v BHCS	Not yet played

We are also pleased to say that we have again been the only school in the borough to have entered a B team in both year 10 and 11. All four teams have played extremely well, been a credit to the School and should be very proud of their efforts.

Year 11, well done and thank you on your commitment in representing the School over the last 5 years. We will miss you and hope that you continue playing Netball in the future.

#### Year 9/10 Girls Rugby

We travelled down to Southampton RFC on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October, along with 23 other schools had a fantastic day of rugby competition hosted by Hampshire RFU. For the first time we entered the competent competition and had a great deal of success. In the morning we played in a pool against The Priory (Won), Perins (Lost) and Priestlands Schools (Lost). In the afternoon we went onto play against Eggars (Won), Mountbatten (Lost), The Priory (Won) and Noadswood (Won). Our girls put in a brave and consistent effort, making excellent tackles, scoring super tries and grew a lot as a team.

We hope to put in some extra training between now and the next festival in March and play with a greater understanding of the game.

#### Year 8 & 9 Girls Football

This year we entered the Hampshire Schools County Cup and drew against Bayhouse Community School (Gosport). In the run up to the game the team played a friendly against Cranbourne, trained and participated in the round robin tournament at QMC. The Cup game was played in the wind and rain and ended in a win to Bayhouse - Players player H.Taldadhas. The girls enjoyed the experience of playing full sided matches on grass and we hope to continue to develop Girls football next year.

Mrs Cooper.

## Challoner Association invites Year 7 to a Disco in the School Hall

**Thursday 7 November 2019**  
**6.00pm - 8.00pm (collection from 7.45pm please)**  
**Cost: £8.00 including disco and meal**

Music will be provided by Y11s. If you would like to attend this fun evening, please complete and return the application form, along with your payment, in a sealed envelope. Please hand into the main office **by the end of school on Thursday 24 October** as the food order needs to be placed during half term. Early application is advised as places are limited.



## Christmas!

Although this may seem a long way away, the Music Department will be gearing up for Christmas straight after half term! Amongst other things, students will be needed for the Carol Service on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm. We're planning to have a **Year 7 Choir** as part of this, so please put this date in your diaries now – it's always a lovely way to celebrate the Christmas season. Regular choir will also be needed for our annual participation in the *Light Up a Life* carol service at St. Mary's Old Basing – the date is yet to be confirmed on this, but it's likely to be Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.

Mrs Smith.

**PTA 'Save the Date' – Christmas Shopping Extravaganza  
– Wednesday 4 December**