



"Let us learn from the Virgin Mary, how to be bolder in obeying the word of God."

Pope Francis

Dear Parents and Carers

May has been a lovely month at St Chad's. We have had many opportunities through prayer, the Rosary and the Marian Liturgy to be close to Mary, Our Mother and to ask her to support us in our daily lives and challenges. The CAFOD club continue to amaze and inspire us, by leading the school and the country in asking our political leaders to make the world a fairer place, where injustice is reduced. They have partaken in a National Assembly and have been quoted in a CAFOD script for primary school Gospel Assemblies. Our Upper KS2 faith leaders have won 1st place in a faith quiz, at the Catholic Schools Faith Leaders Day and we have celebrated a Christian monarch's 70 years on the throne. All our families remain in our daily prayers and I ask that you keep the staff of St Chad's in yours.

God Bless Mrs Mitchener

RECONCILIATION—INTER-RELATING

(23rd May – 24th June)

Early Years	FRIENDS - Friends of Jesus
Year 1	BEING SORRY - God helps us choose well
Year 2	RULES - Reasons for rules in the Christian family
Year 3	CHOICES - Importance of examination of conscience
Year 4	BUILDING BRIDGES - Admitting wrong, being reconciled with God and each other
Year 5	FREEDOM & RESPONSIBILITY - Commandments enable Christians to be free & responsible
Year 6	HEALING - Sacrament of the Sick

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk together about times when you have forgiven and been forgiven.

Discuss the importance of saying sorry. Look for opportunities for forgiveness and reconciliation in the day to day life of the family.



Pope Francis Prayer Request for May

Faith-Filled Young People

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

Hail Holy Queen

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy;
Hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope!
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.
To thee do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this valley of tears!
Turn, then, most gracious Advocate,
thine eyes of mercy toward us,
and after this, our exile,
show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving,
O sweet Virgin Mary.
Pray for us, O holy Mother of God
That we may be worthy of the promises of Christ.

Marian Liturgy

Crowning Mary

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our lovely Marian Liturgy and crowning of Mary. We were truly blessed with the weather.



The oldest and youngest girls of our school family, had the important job of crowning Mary and they did so with love and reverence. Thank you to our Year 6 class (St Therese) for leading the Marian Liturgy, which allowed us to deepen our appreciation of Mary and learn how she can help us to become missionaries of God's love too. Thank you also to Fr Ambrose, who joined us and blessed the children, families and 70th Jubilee crosses.

Thanks also to all the children who brought in so many flowers.



Why do we crown Mary?

For centuries, Catholics around the world have set aside May as a month dedicated to Mary, Queen of Heaven. This title is afforded due to Mary's status as mother of Christ the King, and as one who through her faithfulness and perseverance, won the 'crown of righteousness'. To honour Mary in this special month, schools and churches have traditionally decorated Marian statues with Spring flowers and floral crowns, and held processions and Rosary recitals.

Pope Francis also has a great personal devotion to Our Lady, making frequent reference to Mary in his homilies and messages. To young pilgrims gathered in Brazil, Pope Francis declared: "My dear friends, we have our model... May Mary teach us by her life, what it means to be a missionary disciple."



Altar Servers



Many congratulations to Angel, Soraiya, and Joshua F, who have all completed their training to become Altar Servers. Both Soraiya and Angel have already served, during the Crowning of Mary Liturgy and I look forward to them serving God and our faith community for many years to come.

We are really proud of you all.

It is also lovely to see that our past pupil Eli, is still serving God, as an Altar Server.



The Queen's Jubilee



To celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 70th Jubilee, St Chad's School has bought each child and member of staff a beautiful Jubilee cross to symbolise her commitment to England and her strong Christian faith. Alongside her official role as head of the Church of England, the Queen expresses a personal faith in Jesus Christ. As she said in her Christmas broadcast in December 2000: 'For me the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life.'

Throughout the Queen's long reign, she has been inspired by the sacrificial life of Jesus Christ, who said of himself: he 'did not come to be served, but to serve'.

We wish Queen Elizabeth, every happiness.

St Chad's Big Battery Hunt update.....



In the last week since we started collecting, we have received 616 batteries to recycle!

Well done St Chad's - keep on collecting!

Fr Ambrose has agreed to have a battery collection box at St Chad's Church too - so you can now take your old batteries to Church as well.

Please let all your friends and neighbours know!



Plant a tree for the Jubilee

St Chad's will be taking part in the initiative, **"Plant a tree for Queen's Jubilee"**; planting trees in honour of The Queen and the legacy she has built. Our children will create a **green** legacy of their own at St Chad's, with every tree planted bringing benefits for our school, wildlife and climate, now and for the future. In fact, we will be receiving 137 trees to plant in our school grounds! By planting trees, we will start our journey to becoming a **Green Trees School**. To become a Green Trees School the children at St Chad's will need to take part in environmental projects (such as tree planting), reduce CO₂ emissions and visit woods. They will help to take action to help the environment and improve our school grounds.



THE
QUEEN'S GREEN
CANOPY

THE PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022

Tree planting season is October to March, so we will use the summer months to plan our planting and then get our wellies and spades out in the Autumn term!



For the Love of Creation



"Plant a tree for Queen's Jubilee"; links with our desire to listen to the words of Pope Francis who calls us to an ecological conversion, in which we experience the interconnectedness of our common home. Through conversion we open our hearts and are transformed by the awe and wonder of God's creation; we recognize the Divine in all things and strive to preserve and protect creation. We begin to develop the attitudes of gratitude and loving awareness (§220; *Laudato Si'*) and we begin to focus outward and engage with each other. The sacredness of life, present in nature and in all things call us into relationship.

Rosary for Laudato Si

Joyful mysteries of the Rosary for the care of creation

"Mary, the Mother who cared for Jesus, now cares with maternal affection and pain for this wounded world." (Laudato Si', 241, Pope Francis)

During the month of May, Year 6 prayed the Rosary for the care of creation. We began by recognising that, we face many challenges in caring for our common home, yet we are called to hope and joy and so we offered the joyful mysteries to nourish our commitment to care for the earth. Guided by Mary, we asked that we learn to respond with reverence for all God's creation.

Mary, Mother of all creation,
pray for us, that our meditation,
on these mysteries
may guide us into new ways
of seeing the world,
new ways of living with creation,
new ways of being global neighbours.
As we seek to build the Kingdom
to which your Son calls us.
Amen.

Faith Leaders Day

The Upper KS2 Faith Leaders participated in the Croydon Catholic Schools retreat day at Good Shepherd School, on Tuesday. Alva, Obinna, Elsie, Evelyn, Jean, Angel, Esosa and Edward met with the Faith Leaders/chaplaincy teams from the other 8 catholic schools to join together in a celebration of our faith and as a reward for their commitment to being leaders of the faith. They had the opportunity to partake in a variety of craft and Bible activities, which they thoroughly enjoyed.



There was also a Faith Leaders Day Quiz, with 36 questions about our faith. I am extremely proud to report that the children from St Chad's came **1st** with a magnificent score of **35 out of 36!**

A big well done to all of them, they were a credit to our school and excellent ambassadors of our faith.

Ascension Liturgy

St Andrew's Class led the whole school in a beautiful Ascension Liturgy. They spoke of the importance of the feast day and the message which Jesus left his disciples with. They also asked us all to go forth, living the same challenge which Jesus gave to His disciples: to love one another and to continue His mission to bring people to God.



Year 2 have also been learning about the Ascension and they made lovely Ascension models to demonstrate what happened on that special day.

CAFOD Club

This term CAFOD club has been set the challenge to **Step up to the plate!**

The children have been looking at how the food system is broken. There is enough food in the world to go around but 1 in 10 people go hungry. The club have been leading the school in challenging our government to take action and make food fair for all people in the world. The children recognise that the most vulnerable and the poorest, suffer most from this broken system and they want to persuade those in power to do something to help all our global brothers and sisters.

Our CAFOD club will be leading us in taking part in this campaign for the summer term.



Children and young people

Step up to the plate in school this term by telling the government to keep the promises they made at COP26.

[Step up to the plate campaign for children](#)

[Step up to the plate campaign for young people](#)

Step up to the plate: National assembly for primary schools



Why not share a picture on social media

Step up to the plate: National assembly for primary schools



Step Up To The Plate! Assembly for Primary Schools | CAFOD

St Edmund Campion Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Maidenhead

St Chad's Catholic Primary School, South Norwood

The club have also been leading every school in the UK in the campaign. They were part of the National Assembly for primary schools, (a video watched by thousands of school children) as well as featuring on the CAFOD website and their twitter account.

We are extremely proud of the CAFOD Club children at St Chad's, using their voices to call for an end to injustice.

Share your artwork on Twitter



Tag @CAFODSchools in your plate artwork after completing the form so we know how many of you are watching the government.

Tag us on Twitter
[Step up to the plate display wall](#)

How you can help

Please urge the UK Government to keep the promises it made at the COP26 climate talks last year. You can email the Foreign Secretary urging her to take steps to ensure that the UK government implements its COP26 commitments and backs agricultural systems that tackle the climate crisis, put local communities at the centre and protect the planet. It is easy to do, simply go on to the CAFOD website and click the button (Email the Foreign Secretary) it only take 1 min and you only need you name and email address, You do not have to write a message. Please support our CAFOD club, by taking 1 minute to help fix a broken food system, for the benefit of our global brothers and sisters.

Fix the food system

The global food system is broken. It doesn't work for those who work the hardest and it's a major driver of the climate emergency.

Will you email Liz Truss today?

[Email the Foreign Secretary](#)

Gospel Assembly

Every Monday morning, Mrs Mooney begins the school week with a whole school Gospel assembly. These assemblies are always based on the gospel reading of the previous day. They are a way of sharing the gospel message from the Sunday Mass, in a meaningful way in which the children understand. Like many catholic schools in the country, Mrs Mooney often uses the CAFOD assembly resources to enhance her assembly.

The children and staff at St Chad's were very excited on the week of Monday 16th May, when the PowerPoint and script featured the images and quotes of our very own children! We are so proud that the love, kindness and voices of our children are reaching out across the country and inspiring others to follow Jesus. We have received lovely messages from other Catholic Head teachers in Croydon, who praised us for our contributions to CAFOD.

CAFOD Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

The children in the CAFOD club at St Chad's primary school in Croydon were one group who got involved!



CAFOD Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

Mathias explains:

"In our CAFOD club we try to raise awareness in our school community and in our parish about our global neighbours who need our help, support and love."



CAFOD Catholic Agency for Overseas Development



The group also made friendship bracelets to sell to raise money and awareness, as Faith explains: "We want to try and help our global neighbours. We are all part of God's family, and all families take care of each other."



CAFOD Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

"As a school we all walked together around the school playing fields. The CAFOD club children led the school in a chant and clap as we walked around."

We had a great time and felt like we were joining in a small act of love for others."



How do you think Jasmin, Paolo and the children at St Chad's school are showing their love for others?

Their stories show us that we can all make a difference and find our own way to love one another.

Some of the slides from the National Assembly PowerPoint



Ascension Mass



Year 2 - 6 visited St Chad's Church on Thursday 26th May, for the Feast of the Ascension, which celebrates Jesus being taken up into Heaven to live in glory with God. As ever the parishioners were extremely welcoming and Fr Nicholas supported the children in understanding the importance and significance of this very special feast day.

Parish News

BISHOPS OF ENGLAND AND WALES SPRING PLENARY SESSION 2022

RETURNING TO MASS AT PENTECOST

The Bishops of England and Wales have confirmed that all Catholics should return to attending Mass in person from the Feast of Pentecost.

‘Our Catholic people and parishes have benefitted during these difficult times from the online streaming of Mass and other services. “Virtual viewing” of Mass online does not fulfil the Sunday Obligation. It may, however, be a source of continual spiritual comfort to those who cannot attend Mass in person, for example those who are elderly and sick, for whom the obligation does not apply. In this context, we recognise gratefully the ministry of those who administer Holy Communion to the elderly, sick and housebound’

‘...we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person.’



EPISCOPAL ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF MSGR JOHN MBINDA
CSSP ON SATURDAY THE 4TH OF JUNE IN LODWAR, KENYA
TIME: 10AM
ALL PARISHIONERS INVITED



Jubilee Street party on the 5th of June 2022

We welcome anyone who would like to set up a stall, and organise games/activities! As always donations of food, drink, raffle items etc. are very much appreciated. If you would like a stall, please contact Ukachi with information on what you would like to set up. Thank you.

