

St. Anthony's Religious Education Newsletter Including Mark Ten Mission and Wellbeing Challenge Tuesday 29th April 2025





POPE FRANCIS

We continue to keep Pope Francis in our prayers. Our liturgies and assemblies throughout the week will be dedicated to his life and example.

PRAYER LIFE

Month of May

Thursday is the 1st May. May is the month dedicated to Our Lady our chapel will reflect this.

On Thursday 22nd May (weather permitting) we will gather on the Key Stage Playground at 9.15 for our annual Crowning of Mary.



All the children and family members, who can attend, will gather in a circle as the Chaplaincy Team processes from the chapel to the centre of the circle with Mary's statue. Each child will then place a flower around the statue finishing with Mary's crowning by representatives of the oldest and youngest classes. The morning will be accompanied by music and singing from the different year groups and key stages.

We ask that you provide your child with a flower to lay at Mary's statue for this special occasion.

You are welcome to join us on the Key Stage 2 playground on Thursday 22nd May at 9.15 for the Crowning of Mary.

Pope Francis' passing will make this year's event especially poignant.



With Easter being last week, the church marks St. George's Day on April 28th.

Fr. Tim has written about St. George in his message below.

FROM FR. TIM

Saint George is the object of a vast amount of imagination. There is every reason to believe that he was a real martyr, who kept the faith and died for it at Lydda in Palestine, probably before the time of Constantine around 303 AD. Perhaps the most famous association with St George concerns him slaying a dragon, while this is a 12th-century Italian fable, there is a spiritual meaning behind it.

In short, a dragon was terrorising the local neighbourhood in Libya, North Africa by eating many of its folks men and women. Even its breath was poisonous and deadly and so to be near the dragon was life-threatening. The people offered sheep to the dragon and when



this was no longer an option, they began to offer children to appease it. One day the turn fell on the king's daughter, Princess Sabra, a girl of fourteen, sometimes called Cleodolinda. Dressed in her most splendid clothes, as for her wedding. The poor girl was taken outside the city walls, while she was waiting for the dragon, weeping, St George, the tribune came up mounting his white horse. On hearing the story, he decided to put an end to that tragedy, and decided to kill the dragon. "Fair girl" he said, "do not be afraid for I will save your life with the aid of my Lord Jesus Christ". When the dragon appeared St George engaged with the wild beast in combat, wounding it fatally with his lance. There in the market-place, St George cut off its head and the people of the whole town were baptized and became Christians.

Well it's a rather fascinating story, but what is really going on?

Well...the real meaning is Saint George defeating the devil depicted by the dragon, and the lance is the cross of Jesus Christ. The princess in her wedding garments is "Holy Mother Church/ the Bride of Christ" of whom in reality St George defended her by his martyrdom and unwavering faith and whose legend, courage and witness has won countless souls for Christ.

St George is patron saint of England, Georgia, Portugal, Germany, Aragon, Catalonia, Genoa, Milan and Bologna.

Fr. Tim

CATHOLIC LIFE

Correction to last week's total amount.

In last week's update, there was an error in our published final amount raised for the Catholic Children's Society from our Walk of Faith just before Easter. The actual amount raised was £584.11.

Thank you on behalf of the Catholic Children's Society.

FOODBANK

Once again, we thank you for your contributions to the Watford Foodbank which were gratefully received by the Foodbank collectors on Tuesday.



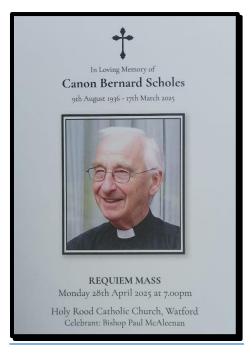
PARISH LINKS TO HOLY ROOD CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford/wp-content/uploads/sites/103/2025/04/Newsletter-27.04.2025.pdf

PARISH LINK TO ST. BEDE'S CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/croxleygreen/wp-content/uploads/sites/95/2025/04/NEWSLETTER-2025-27th-April-.pdf

CANON BERNARD SCHOLES



On Monday evening at Holy Rood Church, there was a huge gathering of current and former St. Anthony's family members for the Requiem Mass of Canon Bernard Scholes. Bishop Paul returned to Holy Rood Church to celebrate the mass. There were many people there with St. Anthony's connections who wanted to pay their respects to Canon Scholes. A priest in the Holy Rood parish during the 1980s, Canon Scholes was always a great support to St. Anthony's School and was so highly regarded and respected by everyone.

The mass was a fitting tribute to him. May he rest in peace.



LITURGICAL COLOURS WORN AT MASS

White for Easter

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We can now confirm that Year 5 will be visiting the Al-Zahra Centre to learn more about another faith tradition on Tuesday 20th May. This visit was due to take place in March but had to postponed due to building work at the centre. We look forward to meeting our friends at the centre again to further our understanding of Islam.

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE WEEKLY REFLECTION

THANKGIVING PRAYER FOR POPE FRANCIS

Thank you, God, for the life of Pope Francis.

He was a kind and loving leader. Please help us to follow his example by being kind and loving to others.

May he rest in peace.

Amen



LOOK AFTER YOUR WELLBEING THIS WEEK



TAKE NOTICE

Take notice of the different displays around our school. What do the displays tell us?

What do they help us to learn?

Do you notice any words and phrases that you might find in the Bible?



Mark Ten Mission

