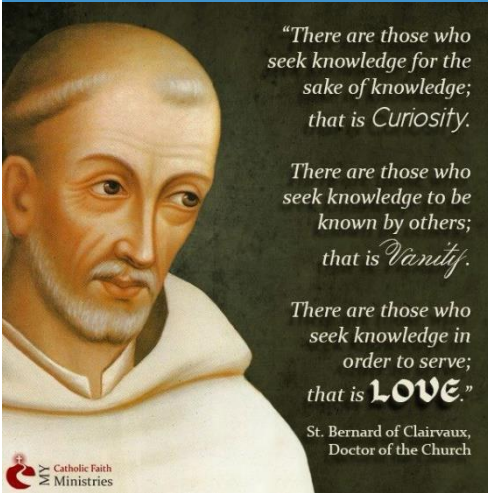


Chaplaincy News

THE RELIGIOUS LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



For all students engaged in Ministry and deepening the religious life of the School

Drawing on the words of St Bernard of Clairvaux, the Religious Life of School badge reflects his teaching on Love



START-OF-SCHOOL MASSES

In September the 2022-23 Year got off to a hectic start with the start-of-school Masses, where Form Groups, Tutors and Teachers joined St. Helen's Church parish community for Mass. This was a new venture and despite the complex logistics, it was an exciting way to begin our School year, and we received a warm welcome from the priests and congregations of St Helen's Parish.

Thank you, Fr Alex.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Year 7s and their parents attended a Mass for Harvest Festival, celebrated by Fr Brett from St George's, Shoeburyness. Prior to the Mass, Year 7s and 8s prepared their harvest banners, which were then displayed during the Mass. Fr Brett judged these, with 7R and 8R the winners. These Forms got to enjoy a nice big box of chocolates for their efforts.

Reminder: Collect your banners to display in your Form Room, they are in the Chapel

FORM MASSES

These are held every Tuesday in St Helen's Church at 10 am. Two Forms attend, and any Teacher who has a free and would like to attend is very welcome! This is a lovely Mass celebrated with St Helen's Church community, with the students undertaking the Mass Readings.

LENTEN CONFESSIONS

We will be holding individual Confessions during Lent in our Chapel.

Reconciliation Services will be led by Sixth Formers.

We owe a great deal of thanks to Fr Alex, Fr Viktor (St Helens'), Fr Brett (St George's), Fr Selvini (Our Lady of Lourdes) and Fr Fox (Rayleigh) who ensured that St Bernard's continues to be a School active in a Catholic Christian religious life.



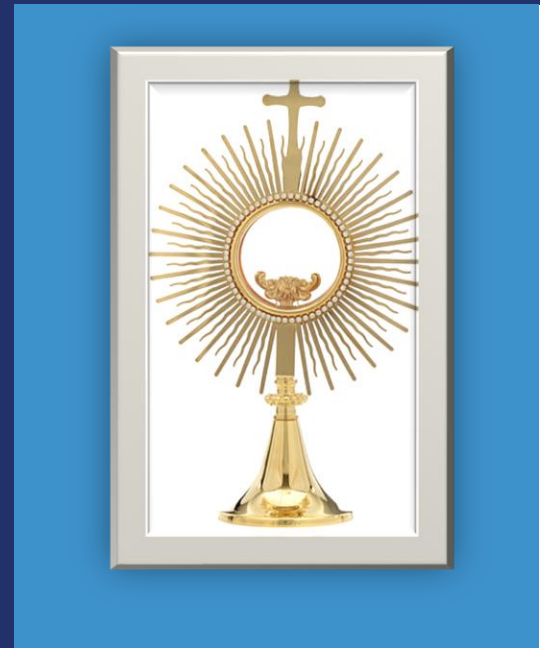
ST VINCENT'S CENTRE
Southend-On-Sea

YOUNG VICENTIANS

Our Young Vincentians group are very excited about a new initiative for an On-Going **Charity Box**. This will be situated at the bottom of the wooden staircase for donations of non-perishable food stuffs and seasonal items, such as hats, gloves, scarves (items clean and laundered). Once a month the **Charity Box** will be taken down to St Vincent's Centre. Many new initiatives will be rolled out by the **YOUNG VICENTIANS** over the next few months. *Watch this space!*

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Month of Holy Souls

In November representatives from all Form Groups attended Adoration in the Chapel. Students wrote names of relatives and friends who have passed and for whom they wished to pray. During the last Form Mass at the end of November, Fr Alex offered a special prayer for the repose of these departed souls. May they rest in peace.



READING AND ALTAR SERVING MINISTRY

Students that form part of these two Ministries have collectively enhanced the religious and sacramental life of St Bernard's. There is a Commissioning Mass for these Ministries on 26th January 2023. Training for Reading and Altar Serving Ministry is available; students are encouraged to let the Chaplain know if they would like to learn to read at Assemblies or Liturgical services.



Whole School Masses All Saints' - 1 st November Epiphany - 6 th January Commissioning Mass - 26 th January	Future Dates Pancake Races Ash Wednesday Services - 22 nd February Passion Mass - 31 st March
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Form Focus Tutor Group 7H's offerings for Christmas!

Miss Simmonds

Dear Lord, let there be peace and love around our school. Amen. Angelina
Dear Lord, we pray for everyone to be strong and have resilience. Evie
I am grateful for being able to live in an amazing community, Lucy
I hope that everyone is happy and safe this Christmas, Caitlin
Lord, please help the poor so that they are not suffering on the streets in the cold. Angeline

I try to do something different during my Religious Studies lessons and in my Tutor Group.

During Advent the class followed a Missio Advent Calendar with different activities for the students to do. They really enjoyed making and decorating paper chains to decorate and brighten up our classroom for Christmas.

With a Year 10 class we had the opportunity to demonstrate a Seder meal where they got the chance to taste some of the food eaten during a Jewish Passover meal.

Year 7 Retreat 2023

Through the month of February and some days in March, Year 7 will be making their Annual Retreat to Walsingham House, Abbotswick, a Centre for day and weekend retreats. The grounds are very lovely and the students should have an opportunity to spend some time outdoors.

At Walsingham House the Retreat Leaders, some past students of St Bernard's, will spend a day with each Year 7 Form doing various activities connected to Gospel values. Year 7 will attend these retreats with their Form Tutor and have a wonderful day out.