Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College



CATHOLIC LIFE NEWSLETTER



Summer Term 2023

A.M.D.G. For the Greater Glory of God

60th ANNIVERSARY MASS



With over 900 people in attendance this was a truly fitting tribute to Fr. Edward Oldcorne.



On Monday 17th June Archbishop Bernard Longley presided over our 60th Anniversary Celebration Mass.



We were also delighted to welcome the Jesuit Provincial Superior, Fr. Damian Howard SJ who concelebrated Mass.

YEAR 11 CELEBRATION MASS





On Friday 12th May our Year 11 students attended their final Mass at this college.

The Mass was a celebration of their five years at Blessed Edward's and Fr. Stephen's sermon reinforced the fact that all members of our community will continue to pray for these students as they venture out into the world.

The service was both moving and reflective and was truly enriched by several solo performances from the choir.

Mr. McClarey publicly thanked the Head of Year 11, Ms Pratty, for the selfless dedication and service that she has given to this year group during the last five years



GOOD SHEPHERD MASS AND BISHOP DAVID VISIT

The annual Good Shepherd Mass took place at St George's Church in Worcester on Friday 5th May and this gave us the opportunity to present £1000 of our Lenten fundraising money to Fr. Hudson's care, an organisation that looks after vulnerable people within our Archdiocese.







We were also delighted to welcome Bishop David Evans to our college for a visit before Mass prior to him leading the service at St. George's.

Staff at Blessed Edward Oldcorne College have coordinated this Mass since 2010 and once again our Choir led the music in this wonderful celebration. The congregation was made up of teachers and students from local catholic primary schools, as well as parishioners from St George's Church.

THE SEASON OF EASTER

Various prominent displays were visible throughout the college during the Season of Easter and Mrs Thomas led a week of assemblies on this theme, culminating with a celebration of the great Feast of Pentecost.











On the last day of the Easter term, students from all five year groups were able to experience individual Easter Services led by Mr. McCormack.

CATHOLIC LIFE GOVERNORS VISIT



On Friday 23rd June we were delighted to welcome our Catholic Life Governor, Canon Brian McGinley to school. He met with Mrs Thomas, Ms Parsons and Mr. McCormack in preparation for his report to the Governing Body.

SCHOOL ENTRANCES LITURGICAL DISPLAYS

The college continues to follow the rhythm and cycle of Church prayer with regularly updates liturgical posters both within every tutor room and around the building.







ADDITIONAL DAILY PRAYER POINT



The second college 'Prayer Point' of the day is now fully embraced with all classes saying a seasonal traditional prayer at the start of the last teaching lesson of each day.



WALKING PILGRIMAGE

Following in the footsteps of Blessed Edward Oldcorne





The pilgrimage walk took place on Saturday 8th July, starting at 8.50 am at the Edgar Tower beside Worcester Cathedral. This is where Blessed Edward Oldcorne was held before his execution, on the 7th April 1606.

At various points of the route there were opportunities for both prayer and reflection on the life of Blessed Edward and his legacy.

The route of the walk was as follows:

- 8.50 am walk begins at Edgar Tower Worcester Cathedral then on to...
- Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College, Timberdine Avenue, then on to...
- the shrine at the top of Red Hill, just off London Road, which marks the place where Blessed Edward was martyred, then on to ...
- Fort Royal Park where we will overlook the city and pray for Christian Unity and world peace, then on to...the culmination of the walk at St George's Church in Sansome Place where Mass was celebrated at 12.30 pm to honour Blessed Edward Oldcorne

STAFF WALKING WEEKEND RETREAT





From Friday 30th to Sunday 2nd July members of Blessed Edward's staff were invited to a weekend away in Wales. They enjoyed a meal together and tackled an 11-mile round trip up Fan Fawr. It was a perfect way to end a busy year by spending time with those we work closely with, making time for nature and to come back to God. Thank you to Mrs S Thomas who painstakingly planned the whole trip, and the route for the walk - once again it was a great success!

YEAR 9 SOLI HOUSE RETREAT

Between the 12th and 14th June, 38 year 9 students, led by Mr. James, went on their annual retreat to Soli House.

The theme of the retreat was once again 'Strong Towers'. The students were encouraged to think about those people who support them in their lives, with a focus on the tower of strength God's love provides for us.

They also thought about the people who they support themselves and how they could help them even more in the future.









SAINTS PETER AND PAUL FEAST DAY MASS



On Thursday 29th June, Mass was said in honour of two of the greatest leaders of the early Christian Church, St. Peter and St. Paul.

We were grateful to, and enlightened by Fr Stephen's sermon, as he reminded us about the lives of these two famous foundation saints.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS WALK OF WITNESS



LEADER: WE ADORE YOU, O CHRIST, AND WE PRAISE YOU. ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE WORLD. Mr. Long has created large A2 scale Stations of the Cross which we intend to place around the college as a Walk of Witness.

We were delighted that Archbishop Bernard was able to bless the artwork for us as part of his visit to mark the 60th Anniversary of our school.

FATHER STEPHEN - COLLEGE CHAPLAIN THANK YOU!



We finish our Summer Term 2023 Newsletter by giving an enormous vote of thanks to our school Chaplain, <u>Fr. Stephen Squires</u>.

Fr. Stephen gives of his time freely and extensively, and there is not a week that goes by when he has not been in school. He is a source of spiritual inspiration to all members of our college community.

Finally, we wish our students and staff a very relaxing and safe summer break. We hope you enjoy your time away from school ready to return refreshed in September.

