

# THE BECKET SCHOOL'S GOOD NEWS



be inspirational

HE SAID TO THEM, "GO THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE WORLD AND PREACH THE **GOOD NEWS** TO ALL PEOPLE."  
MARK 16:15

Welcome back to the third edition of The Becket School's Good News! A place to celebrate all the different ways we have been putting our faith into action as a school community to serve God, our neighbours and our common home.

HAPPY EASTER! We hope your holidays and Holy Week were prayerful, enjoyable and we wish you and your families a very happy and joyful Easter season! We are now in the season of Eastertide which means that we can say the word that we don't use during Lent – Alleluia! The word simply means "praise the Lord" and it is a reminder that at this time of year we should be rejoicing and celebrating Jesus' resurrection!

Before the holidays, our year 8s were working hard to create our Easter House boards for the chapel which are finally up and are helping us to celebrate the joy of Eastertide!

## FOLLOW BECKET CHAPLAINCY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Keep up to date with the latest Chaplaincy News at The Becket School and within The Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust via The Be Inspirational Website and Be Inspirational YouTube channel:



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[Be Inspirational YouTube](#)  
(don't forget to click subscribe!):

You can also follow us on social media!



Twitter: @tbschaplaincy



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## EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES TO BE HAD...

**ARE YOU IN YEAR 13 AND ABOVE AND INTERESTED IN WORKING ON A ONE YEAR GAP YEAR PROGRAMME IN YOUTH MINISTRY?** Why not apply to work on The Briars Team 2022-2023?! Join a vibrant, progressive and outward looking youth service...NDCYS provides powerful opportunities for young people to encounter Christ; on retreat, on the road and online! If your child/children is in year 13 or above and would be interested in learning more about the opportunity to be a part of The Briars Team 2022-2023 you can contact your school Chaplains – Joe and Ruth, or Tom Baptist, Director of NDCYS ([director@ndcys.com](mailto:director@ndcys.com)), or fill in an online application form straight away [HERE](#)

Learn more about the opportunity to work at The Briars [HERE](#)

## FANCY A RELAXING COUNTRY ESCAPE IN THE PEAK DISTRICT?

The Briars have been working hard to embark on a new adventure called 'Saints' Meadow'. This amazing opportunity to stay in custom built retreat cabins in the Derbyshire Peak District is one of the most enjoyable ways to support the work of the Nottingham Diocesan Catholic Youth Service at The Briars. All of the profits from your stay go to helping further the work of NDCYS!

Learn more and book now, [HERE](#)

Visit the new website for The Catholic Diocese of Nottingham for the latest news and upcoming events in the Diocese, including "Christus Vivit", a young adult's event for people aged 18-35 years. Christus Vivit is an opportunity to meet other young adults with faith, hear input from guest speakers, have time for discussion, opportunities for prayer, followed by social time at The Sir John Borlase Warren.

Welcome to the Nottingham Diocese [HERE](#)

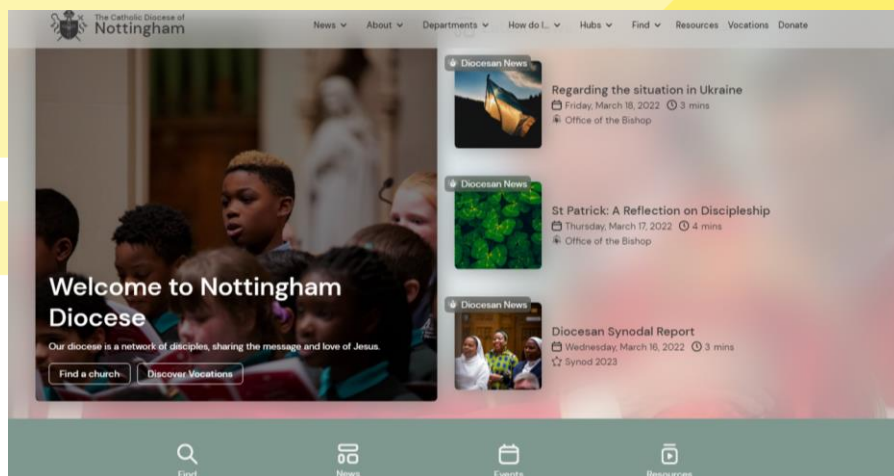


**Join a vibrant, progressive and outward looking youth service**

NDCYS continues to push the boundaries and explore new ways of delivering engaging and accessible Catholic Youth Ministry to the young people it serves.

NDCYS provides powerful opportunities for young people to encounter Christ; on retreat, on the road or online and we'd love you to be part of the team!

EMAIL [DIRECTOR@NDCYS.COM](mailto:DIRECTOR@NDCYS.COM) TO ENQUIRE NOW





## LOOKING BACK ON 2022 SO FAR...

### FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY MASS

At the start of the year 2022, on the 6th January, we celebrated the feast of the Epiphany with a whole school Mass. The word 'epiphany' means 'showing' and on this special feast we rejoice that the glory of God was revealed through Jesus Christ to the magi who travelled afar from the East. We had a very joyful celebration of Mass and we were able to sing some hymn classics, including We Three Kings, thanks to our wonderful musicians - Miss Magee and Mr Ryder!

### YEAR 7 EPIPHANY LITURGICAL WORKSHOP

We continued our Epiphany celebrations on the Friday during our year 7 retreat afternoon, where we searched for the stars in an Epiphany scavenger hunt and used the chalk that was blessed by Fr Michael in our Epiphany Mass to make blessing inscriptions for our classrooms around the school. The inscription tradition reads  $20+C+M+B+22$ , which translates to May Christ bless this home.

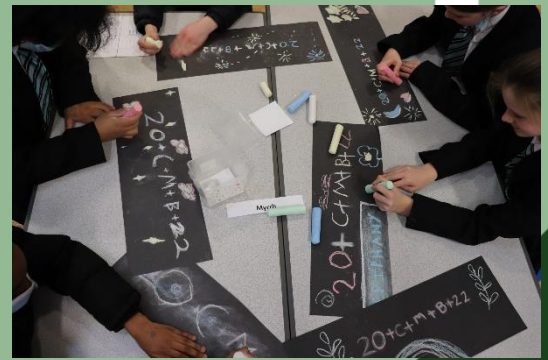
To find out more about the building blessing tradition click [HERE](#)

### INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK PANEL

During the first week of February, we celebrated World Interfaith Harmony Week. On Tuesday, Year 9 were able to participate in our very first interfaith question and answer panel! Our guest speakers included representatives from the Catholic, Pentecostal, Humanist, Buddhist, Muslim and Anglican communities and our brilliant questions were put forward by our students. We learnt about the favourite and the challenging aspects of different people's faith; whether they believe in God and what God looks like to them; we reflected on the role we have to play in the environmental issues today and we had a short demonstration of what Buddhist chanting looks like! We learnt a lot from our guests and were very grateful to our guest speakers for sharing their beliefs and answers with us!

We are really looking forward to hosting our next interfaith event as we recognise the importance of learning about other beliefs and how we can work together in harmony to make the world a better and more peaceful place.

## LOOKING BACK AT ORDINARY TIME



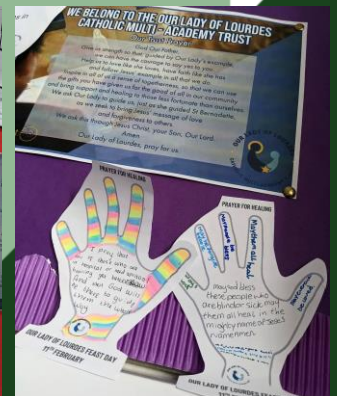
## OUR LADY OF LOURDES TRUST SCHOOL'S MASS

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of February, the day before the Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day, we celebrated our Trust School's Mass with our family of 21 schools and Bishop Patrick! The Mass was hosted by Holy Spirit Church and the Becket watched on proudly as some of our Year 8's represented the school in person as they served on the altar, led the celebration with a welcome and introduction and led the offertory procession. The Mass was a beautiful celebration of our Trust community and the live music (led by the children in our Trust who are a part of Girls' and Boys' Choir) made the celebration even more special and uplifting! The Girl's and Boys' choir is part of the National Schools Singing Programme – Nottingham Cathedral Music, you can find out more [HERE](#)



## PRAYERS FOR HEALING

In the lead up to our School's Mass, the whole school wrote prayers for healing during form time prayer. These prayers were then stuck up on our form prayer boards to remind us in our lessons each day to put aside some time to pray for those who need healing in their lives just like Mary called us to do.



## IN FEBRUARY WE CELEBRATED A BIG BIRTHDAY...

Later on in February we celebrated the big Birthday of our wonderful Clergy Chaplain, Fr Michael Brown! Fr Michael suspected he was coming in for some pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and thankfully he wasn't disappointed with the surprise Birthday party our students and staff threw for him. We had handmade Birthday cards, Birthday cake, decorations, drinks and music to celebrate the wonderful Fr Michael! We are so grateful and lucky to have Fr Michael in our community; his spirit, faith, enthusiasm and passion for supporting young people to grow and flourish spiritually inspires our staff and young people every day. We thank him so much for all the time, support and ministry he continues to give our school.

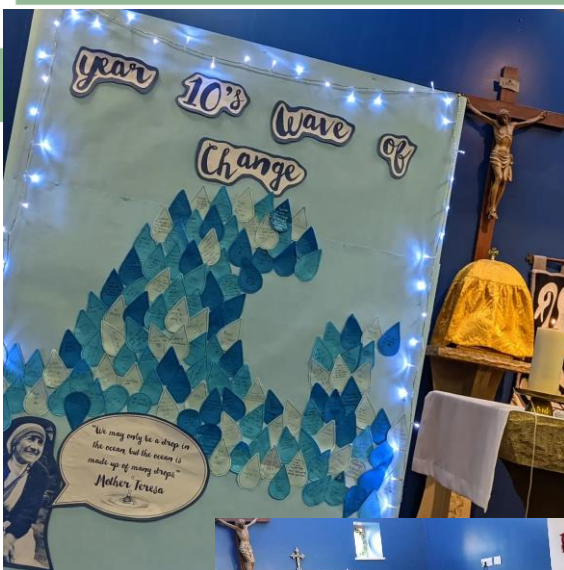






## YEAR 10 RETREAT DAY

To start year 10s Retreat Day off we journeyed back to the book of Genesis and completed the creation game to help us reflect on the beauty of creation and the gift that every human life is. Then we split into groups of boys and girls to explore some of the challenges that we face, as well as how we can support and build each other up as we face these challenges. In period 3, we welcomed some guest speakers who shared with us how their faith has impacted their career, vocation and life choices, and we were also inspired by them to get involved in some worthy causes including the Church's Synodal Process, peace activism in the Catholic Church, CAFOD, and Refugee Roots. In the afternoon, we learnt what activism is, what steps we can take to become young activists and then each young person had the opportunity to make a creative campaign piece, based on a cause they were passionate about, which was then shared in our final Liturgy together! It was amazing to hear our young people speak so passionately about a variety of injustices that they want to put to right to make the world a better place. We finished the day by making promises that made up year 10's 'wave of change', as we reflected on the words of St Mother Teresa: "We may only be a drop in the ocean, but the ocean is made up of many drops". Thank you for a great day year 10!





## ASH WEDNESDAY...WE START OUR JOURNEY THROUGH LENT

This year it was some of our brilliant year 8 and year 12 students who made up our Ash Wednesday team and led each year group beautifully in our Ash Wednesday Liturgies. During the Liturgy, we handed over our burdens and worries to God to help us make a fresh start as we entered the new liturgical season of Lent and we prayed for peace in the world and an end to conflict.



## Y10 RETREAT TO THE BRIARS!

At the beginning of March, sixty students in Year 10 embarked on a retreat to the Briars in the Derbyshire dales for what was a brilliant time! We had the joy of experiencing wonderful new bedrooms and building renovations, delicious food, great company and the opportunity to deepen our relationship with God as we continued our journeys through Lent.

Throughout the retreat, we journeyed with Jesus through the wilderness as we took on challenges, games, prayer stations, a walk in the countryside, sing-songs, a Celebration of Mass, the briars quiz-disco, and finally, we completed our retreat by building one another with kind affirming words.

Our young people were bold, creative, enthusiastic and inspiring and we really hope that one day they will be leading our youth through these brilliant experiences on the Briars team themselves! Thank you year 10 for a fantastic week!

Blog post and more photos from the retreat can be found [HERE](#)

Take a look at The Briars renovations [HERE](#)



## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

International women's day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. We celebrated the day with an assembly led by our wonderful and passionate head girl, Cece, who shared with us the importance of celebrating and supporting women, as well as challenging inequality when we see it. We thought about who the inspirational women are in our own lives and asked for Mary, the mother of the Church, to pray for all the inspiring women in our lives.



## LENTEN FUNDRAISING

This year we took part in our 'Pay to Play' Lenten fundraiser whereby students were asked to bring in money donations for an extra break time to help us fundraise for the children who do not have the luxury of playing safely. We are thrilled to announce that the fundraising total of our 'pay to play' fundraiser was an incredible **£1,953.25!** Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to the total. The money will be donated to CAFOD's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal and Refugee Roots which goes towards frontline activities supporting refugees living in Nottingham.



Before we took part in our Pay to Play fundraiser we had our voluntary Friday Mass to celebrate the Annunciation of Our Lord and we prayed the rosary together. Pope Francis asked Catholics around the world to pray to the Immaculate Heart of Mary as an Act of Consecration. We offered our prayer intentions that day for all the people who are suffering from conflict in Ukraine and Russia.

Alongside our Pay to play fundraiser, we have also been collecting toiletries and non-perishable goods which will be donated straight to Refugee Roots. Thank you again for your generosity!

## YEAR 10 LEAD US THROUGH THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross are a 14-step Catholic devotion that commemorate Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man.

In our 2 final weeks before breaking up for the Easter holidays, each student in year 10 had an important role to play as they led the whole school through the Stations of the Cross. Y10 brought the Stations of the Cross to life in a very powerful and emotive way through the use of drama, reflection and prayer. Each student in the school received a Stations of the Cross booklet that they could use in form time prayer to delve deeper into each station reflection.

You can watch the Y10 Stations of the Cross Video playlist [HERE!](#)





## SHADOW SYNDICATE PRESENTS "FALLEN"

In our final week of the Lent term, "Shadow's Syndicate", The Becket's theatre production team, performed their first performance in front of a live audience since December 2019. "Fallen" is an interpretation of the events that took place leading up to Jesus' crucifixion. This particular depiction included: some of the miracles performed by Jesus, a conflicted Pilate, a disconsolate Judas and the conspiratorial angle of the priests against Jesus.

The actors were made up of students from year 7 – 10, some of whom are studying their Drama GSCE and others who are involved for their sheer love of theatre. The young people took real ownership over the communication of the narrative, characterisation and production values and formed many new friendships with one another along the way.

Mr Lund was particularly proud of the cast who had given many hours of dedication to the performance, "Fallen is the culmination of many hours of practical rehearsal from these actors, who deserve every accolade they receive for the creative and imaginative spirit with which they have approached this production. I have been humbled to see them engage with their faith in such a practical way and forge the beautiful performance".

A huge congratulations and thank you to the "Fallen" cast who put on the most incredible performance and helped us to prepare for the poignant events of Holy Week!

