

## Monday 27 April

As our senior pupils prepare to sit their exams let us remember them in our prayers.

St Joseph of Cupertino is known as the Patron Saint of those taking exams.

O Great St. Joseph of Cupertino who while on earth did obtain from God the grace to be asked at your examination only the questions you knew, obtain for me a like favour in the examinations for which I am now preparing. In return I promise to make you known and cause you to be invoked.

Through Christ our Lord.

St. Joseph of Cupertino, Pray for us.

Amen.

## Tuesday 28 April

Yesterday marked the 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the election of Nelson Mandela as President of South Africa. Let us take a closer look at the humble beginnings of this man.

Rolihlahla Mandela was born into the Madiba clan in the village of Mvezo , Transkei, on 18 July 1918. In 1930, when he was 12 years old, his father died. He attended primary school in Qunu where his teacher Miss Mdingane gave him the name Nelson, in accordance with the custom to give all school children "Christian" names.

Nelson Mandela understood that life is not always easy and we will all experience times when we feel helpless and afraid.

"I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear."

### Wednesday 29 April

St Teresa of Avila was born in Spain 1515. As a young child she was deeply religious but as she became a teenager she lost some of her piety. At the age of 16 she went to a Convent School and this reignited her interest in her spiritual life. She became famous for her poems and many people have taken comfort from her words.

#### **"God alone is enough."**

Let nothing upset you,  
let nothing startle you.  
All things pass;  
God does not change.  
Patience wins  
all it seeks.  
Whoever has God  
lacks nothing:  
God alone is enough.

### Thursday 29 April

Education is the key to a better future, a route out of poverty, and a fundamental human right."

In 2000, an estimated 110 million children were missing out of school. Since then, that number has gone down by half, but there are still 57 million children out of school.

Heavenly Father, we think today about those 57 million children who do not get an education. We pray that those with the wealth and power to change this will act fast to ensure all children get the opportunity to build a better future.

Amen.

## Friday 30 April

On this day, 30th April, in 1952, The diary of Anne Frank, a Jewish victim of the Holocaust was published in English titled "The Diary of a Young Girl". Her diary, later entitled "The Diary of Anne Frank", becomes one of the most popular books in the world and is included in many schools as recommended reading. The diary provides a disturbing account of a teenager living in hiding with seven others in fear of their lives in occupied Holland, Anne Frank died of typhus just before her 16th birthday in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in 1945. Let us remember the children in our world today who are suffering

We pray for children in our global community,  
Especially for children being scarred by the violence of conflict,  
The horror of war, of life on the run,  
And the violence of child labour.  
For them, the summer holds no promise nor relief.

God of Grace,  
May these children know comfort and healing, through Your compassion  
And through our efforts to bring peace and justice  
To the global village we all call home.

Amen.