



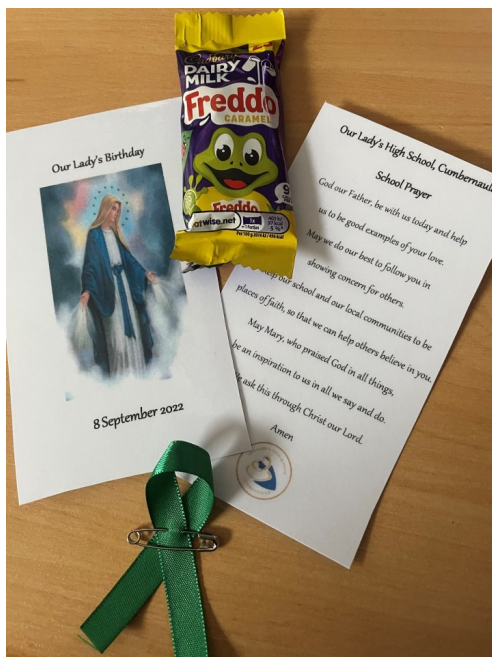
Our Lady's High School

Catholic Education Week 2022

Feast Day 2022

This year's theme: **COMMUNICATION, PARTICIPATION, MISSION**

Fr McKay our School Chaplain celebrated Mass for S1 & S6 pupils to mark the School Feast Day in September. This was a lovely way to welcome our S1 pupils into the Our Lady's community. S2, S3 & S4 pupils participated in a prayer service on the Feast Day and all pupils from S1-S6 received a prayer card and treat to mark the day.



We continue to thrive as a Faith Community. Fr McKay our School Chaplain celebrates Mass in the School Oratory every Tuesday lunchtime and at 8.30 am on a Friday morning.



S6 Caritas Group 2022

The S6 Caritas Group visited St Andrew's Cathedral in Glasgow along with Mr Lester, They took part in a Caritas Commissioning Service with Archbishop Nolan. This service gave pupils the chance to commit to taking part in the Caritas Award this year and to meet pupils from other schools in the Archdiocese who are also completing the award.



October 2022 saw the first Our Lady's High School Cluster Prayer Service take place. Staff from Our Lady's and cluster primary schools joined together in a prayer service led by S6 Caritas pupils. Louise Elliott the new RE Advisor from SCES also led a short meditation at the service focusing on the role of Our Lady as a role model for teachers.



Louise also joined us during Employability Week to talk to pupils who are thinking about a career in teaching to talk about the special dimension of Catholic Education/Teaching.

Advent 2022

We are building towards the Season of Advent where both Liturgical and fundraising events will take place in school.

We hope to meet the fantastic work achieved last year where we provided support to local foodbanks, parishes and the baby bank.

More details to follow!



P7 Welcome Mass



On Thursday 29 September 2022 we were delighted to welcome P7 pupils and parents from all our associated Primaries to a Welcome Mass celebrated by our School Chaplain Fr McKay.

After Mass pupils and parents had a chance to visit several departments around the school. They also had a chance to meet and chat with our S6 Subject Ambassadors.

This is the first transition event of the year and we look forward to working with P7 pupils and parents over the next few months in preparation for them joining us at Our Lady's next August.



St Bernadette at Carfin



S6 and S1 pupils were invited to visit Carfin Grotto to take part in a Water

Liturgy which represented the importance of water in the story of St Bernadette.

Pupils were also given the chance to see St Bernadette's relics.

Our young people were very lucky to be part of the 30,000 people who

travelled to Carfin to see the relics and we are sure they will remember the

experience for a very long time.



Associated Primary

School News

St Andrew's

St Andrew's Primary are fully committed to the spiritual formation of the school community.

Our Mission Statement - A Catholic family aspiring to be kind and respectful to all, with learning at the heart of everything we do.

We began this year by welcoming the new Primary 1 children and their parents to the welcome Mass in August. During this Mass, which was celebrated by Father Sullivan, the Primary 7 children gifted their Primary 1 Buddy with a beautiful Prayer Card to take home.

We next celebrated Mass on the Feast of All Saints where Father Campbell enrolled our Primary 6 children in the Pope Francis Faith Award.

As we begin Catholic Education Week, we are having a 'Big Breakfast' in each of the classrooms and as we eat together, we give thanks to God for the food on our plates.

We are blessed to have two Parish Priests who regularly visit the school and classrooms. The partnership between the school and both Parishes of Holy Cross and Sacred Heart has been strengthened this year through the formation of 'The Mini Vinnies'. The Group have met with SSVP members of Sacred Heart Parish and have participated in Mass at Carrickstone Care Home. The children really brightened up some elderly folk's day when chatting to them after Mass!

The Mini Vinnies also led the rosary every Wednesday in October as well as leading children at assembly joining in the 1 million children!

They have also made Mini Vinnie Charity boxes which are on each altar in each classroom. The aim is to raise money to give to both SSVP groups in both Parishes who can then give to those in our community who need our help. They are due to meet members of SSVP from Holy Cross this month to hear about the good work being done there too and to help in any way they can.

At the end of Catholic Education Week, we will celebrate St Andrew's Day with Holy Mass. The whole school will be participating in the Mass as we honour our school's Patron Saint.

Let us remember the words of Our Lord Jesus Christ: "When two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them."



Associated Primary

School News

St Barbara's



This year the children, staff, parents and the wider community of St. Barbara's have been greatly supported by our parish and in particular by Fr. Campbell. We have thoroughly enjoyed coming to the church to celebrate Mass as a whole school community once again.

Our spiritual focus this year is centred on the theme of 'Honouring Jesus Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Life.' Reviewing our vision and aims for the school, we will reflect on how we are created in the image and likeness of God, how each of us is unique and on the ways in which we can promote an understanding of the Gospel and practise it in our lives.

During Catholic Education fortnight we will focus on the theme of the Synod: Communion, Participation and Mission. We will reflect, as Pope Francis has asked us to do on:

How well we come together as the children of God on our shared journey towards Him

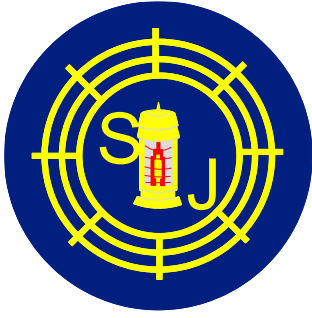
How well we work to serve one another and participate in our faith communities

How well we fulfil our commitment to spread God's Word as active participants as opposed to being passive bystanders in this mission

To launch Catholic Education Fortnight, the whole school will attend Mass on the Feast of St. Margaret of Scotland (16th November) when we will enroll our Primary 6 children in the Pope Francis Faith Award programme. The programme is designed to help children to show "signs of love" in their daily lives towards others and to be active members of their local Church. As Pope Francis said:

*How beautiful it would be if each of you, every evening, could say:
"Today at school, at home, at work, guided by God, I showed a sign of love towards one of my friends, my parents, an older person!"*

After Mass, all members of our school and parish community will be welcome to join us for a celebratory coffee and cake!



Associated Primary

School News

St Joseph's

From the moment a child joins our school family in primary 1, they are nurtured and nourished by all other members of our school community. They are gifted their Saint Joseph's tie by their primary 7 buddy who then supports them and cares for them throughout their first year at primary school. This journey as part of our faith family continues until they leave in primary 7 with the following message from Pope Francis

“Dear young people, do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things’

Our school is proud to be at the heart of our wonderful community. Our children take pride in their community and their roll in the family of St Joseph's Parish. We enjoy wonderful relationships with both Father Kenny and Father Rooney who are an integral part of our school staff team.

As a community of faith, we attend Holy Mass at least once a month. Each month, a different class plan, prepare and deliver the scripture alongside Father Kenny and Father Rooney. In preparation for this, all children learn about the lives of relevant Saints and use these teachings in our daily lives. Father Kenny and Father Rooney will be joining us soon to bless our Advent Wreath, our Nativity Crib and our Advent Promises and Wishes Tree.

At this time of year we are preparing for our annual 'reverse advent calendar' where we collect different items each day in December to donate to the Bethlehem House of Bread Foodbank and baby products for Cumberland and Kilsyth Baby Bank. This year primary 1, 2 and 7 children have volunteered to organize our collection, where they will encourage all other children to get involved.

We have a great affiliation with many charities, in particular with St Andrew's Hospice in Airdrie who we support through prayer and action, Missio Scotland who we work closely with throughout the school year and SCIAF who we support especially during Lent but throughout the year as necessary.

Each year we nominate 4 Missio Champions who lead us in prayer and create fun ways for us to support children all over the world. They recently held a wonderful Missio Assembly where we met some of the children who we support in Zambia.

Our senior pupils in primary 6 and 7 are busy developing their individual faith journey through focus on their Pope Francis Faith Award where they look for ways to live like Jesus and to use their God given skills and talents to help others throughout our parish and wider community.

Our school vision of Love, Laughter and Learning was created by our Pupil Council and like everything we say, think and do is underpinned by our Gospel Values. As a whole school community we celebrate our smiles and talents as gifts from God and we look for ways to share these with others, remembering that something as simple as our smile can change someone's day. We discuss our privileged roll as disciples of God weekly at assembly and celebrate times when this has been evident in how we have treated others and how others have treated us.

We are very blessed to have children and families from other faiths in our school community and we love learning about this as part of our learning through This Is Our Faith.

It is a privilege to be part of the wider faith community of Our Lady's High School and we love welcoming back former pupils – especially those working on their Caritas Award. We welcome them back regularly and they are great roll models for our own children as they deliver a range of fun and interesting activities.

Every class will celebrate Catholic Education Week during the week beginning 21st November where we will reflect on everything we do to ensure that our Catholic School Community continues to play our part in our parish and wider community.



Associated Primary

School News

St Lucy's

As we prepare for Catholic Education Week, in our school we consider carefully the theme of this year's celebration –

Communion, Participation, Mission

How Do We Do This As Part of Our School Community?

Communion – sharing, joining together, thinking about others before ourselves

Participation – doing something with and for others

Mission – seeing something through to the end

As a school we pride ourselves in coming together to support others less fortunate. Our school values chosen by pupils, staff and parents/carers are reflected, not only in our every day actions but are also represented in the theme of this year's Catholic

Education Week –

INCLUSIVE

RESPECTFUL

RESPONSIBLE

KIND

As a community of faith, we have regular opportunities for worship as well as our charity giving. Each year we have a number of children who participate in the Pope Francis Faith Award, sharing their God given talents to benefit others. Many of our children are involved in worship at both St Lucy's and Sacred Heart parishes by serving, being young leaders and cleaning of the Church! Laudato Si, part of our Eco work, underpins our commitment to taking care of and being responsible for our common home. We are 1 of only 15 schools in Scotland who have been designated a Missy Moo School by Missio Scotland because of our fundraising for the charity. We regularly support the Archdiocesan Pastoral Care Fund e.g. by donating the proceeds of our Christmas Concerts. We have a monthly food bank collection, which directly supports families in our local area.

In doing so we attempt to be witnesses to our faith as asked by Pope Francis:-

“All the Baptised are called to take part in the Church's life and mission.” ~ Pope Francis

As we plan for our school celebrations for this year's Catholic Education Week, we begin on our in-service day with a Staff Prayer Service followed by a Family Prayer Service on St Margaret's Feast day. Class teachers will use the resources provided by the Catholic Education Service as well as exploring the lives of St Andrew and St Margaret. As a school community, we will come together in an assembly to share our learning and celebrate the occasion.



Associated Primary

School News

St Margaret of Scotland

“How beautiful would it be if each of you, every evening, could say: today at school, at home, at work, guided by God, I showed a sign of love towards one of my friends, my parents, an older person!” Pope Francis.

Inspired by the words of our Faith Leader, we strive to encourage our children in St Margaret of Scotland Primary to follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ, Our Teacher. These past few years have made us all realise the importance of caring for those around us. Our ethos has centred around encouraging our children to show more love and acts of kindness through their thoughts, words, and actions.

This year, we have been delighted to resume our Class Mass timetable over at St. Joseph’s Parish with Fr. McKay. Our children enjoy leading the Mass and can feel the sense of community created by Fr. McKay, the School, and the Parish.



As Catholic Education Week begins, we will attend a full school Mass for our Patron Saint, St. Margaret of Scotland. On this day, we will celebrate the life and work of St. Margaret of Scotland and pray for the needs of our school and for others. We will strive to be generous to others and always ready to share our gifts with other people as St. Margaret of Scotland did. The children are most looking forward to showcasing their special talents on this day with a SMOS Talent Show.

Our Primary 7 pupils are currently preparing to Receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The pupils engaged in a Priest, Prophet and King Confirmation Retreat which developed their understanding of the “three special jobs” they are equipped for through their Sacramental Anointing at Confirmation. The children explored this through story, Scripture and song and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We look forward as a school to supporting the children in the final stages of their Confirmation preparations.

Our Primary 6 pupils are about to embark upon The Pope Francis Faith Award. The children will be encouraged to show signs of love in their daily lives and to be active members of their local church. We will soon be inviting parents and Parish members to join us in enrolling the children to this special Award.



Associated Primary

School News

St Mary's

Communion, Participation, Mission

This year's theme of Communion, Participation and Mission is reflected in our Ethos, being loving and caring and showing kindness to everyone in our school, in our family, in our local community and in our wider world.

John 6:35 ~ Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst".

Being 'in communion' is being joined together in hearts and minds, showing love and care for our fellow classmates, encouraging and helping in their learning, for our school mates through our Buddy system and playground monitoring, for our families and the wider community through prayer, working and giving back to our local community and by raising funds to help those in need. Our assemblies and our work on Children's Rights highlight issues facing many both here and across the world and encourage our children to be aware of how they can help secure a better world fueled by Gospel Values, love and kindness.

Romans 16:15 ~ I, myself, am satisfied about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able to instruct one another.

Participation reflects our need to be involved. We have worked closely with Bield care home, visiting residents and supporting quiz afternoons, planting and singing. We are delighted to extend that work this year to include two further care homes in the area. This year, we have established a Mini Vinnie group, who are leading our charitable work and prayer services within school. We participate in school Masses, both in class and whole school. Masses are supported by Father McKay, and many children participate in preparing for and receiving Sacraments. Our Primary 6 and 7 pupils participate in the Pope Francis Faith Award programme and we continue to engage with Laudato Si, putting our faith in action to protect our world. .

Mark 16: 15 ~ And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation".

Gospel values are embedded within our school values and aims. As we look towards Advent it is again with the focus on being kind, caring and serving others. Charitable works will be the thread that runs throughout December and we will be supporting Cash for Kids, Strathcarron hospice, the local Food and Clothing Banks and our class gifts will again be Real Gifts from SCIAF, helping both at home and throughout the World. Our children will be raising money by singing carols in the community, spreading the joy of Jesus's birth. N

In all we do, the word of God will be reflected in our words and actions.



Our Lady's High School School Prayer

God our Father, be with us today and help us to be good examples of your love.

May we do our best to follow you in showing concern for others.

Help our school and our local communities to be places of faith so that we can help others to believe in you.

May Mary, who praised God in all things be an inspiration to us in all we say and do.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen

