

# St Mark's Chaplaincy Newsletter

No 15 July 2024

*D*ear Parents and Carers,

Our previous Chaplaincy Newsletter was sent to you shortly before Easter.

We hope you and your family had a blessed time.

Our fifteen Chaplaincy Newsletter is shared with you as we approach the end of school year.

We thank you for your continued support and prayers throughout the year.

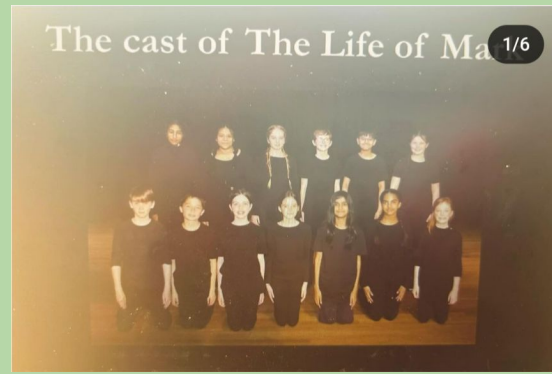
# School Ministries

## St Mark's Day

St Mark's Day started in registration on 25th April for all tutor groups and everyone watched a dramatisation of the Life of St Mark. Little is known about the exact details of St Mark's life but a group of year 7 and 8 pupils performed our interpretation and year 12 students recorded and produced the video.

The production covers St Mark's encounters with Jesus, his interactions with St Peter, writing his Gospel, his ministry and ultimately martyrdom.

Special thanks to Ms Rouse for putting this video drama performance together.

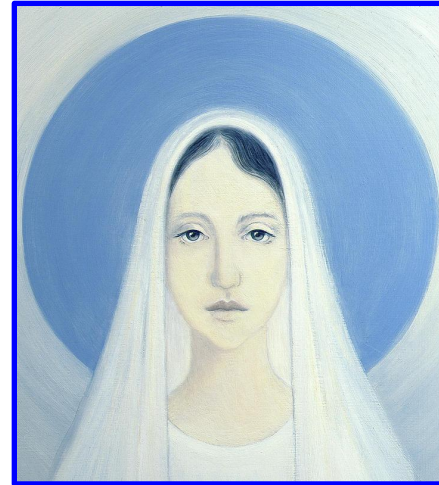


# May - the month of Mary



During lunchtime on Monday 20th May we marked the month of Mary by praying the Rosary in the chapel.

Special thanks to the Prayer Warriors Chaplaincy team who organised this prayer event.



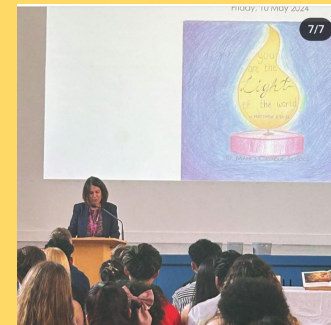
# Encounter with the person of Jesus Christ

## Leavers' Mass & Liturgy

On Friday 3rd May, we celebrated Year 11 Leavers' Mass as Y11 students finished school to prepare for their GCSE exams. The students were reminded to follow Jesus' words to love one another and remember that they are all one family. We would like to thank Fr Philip who celebrated this special day with us and for his words of encouragement during homily.



On Friday 10th May, we celebrated Year 13 Leavers' liturgy. It was the students' last day in school as they started to prepare for A' Level exams. The theme of the Liturgy was 'You are the light of the world' reminding the students to bring the light of Christ to the world!



***I would like to ask you to keep our Year 11 and 13 leavers in your prayers.***

# Encounter with the person of Jesus Christ



## Year 9 Retreat

### Year 9 Students' words

As a part of the pupils' spiritual development, all Year 9 pupils participated in a retreat in school on Monday, 20th May.

The day was led by a team from RISE Theatre - a professional Christian theatre company with a passion for delivering exciting, original, transformative theatre - and RE Department.

The theme of the Retreat Day was - The room - where the students were invited to explore the History of Salvation in a creative way.

*The past days I've been thinking about my relationship with the Lord more often.*

*It has clearly made forgiveness of God and of others clearer and how powerful it is to repent.*

*The Retreat made me feel the presence of God when I pray every time.*

*The retreat has made me able to talk about my faith to others more often and more confidently.*

# Social outreach and charity work

## YSVP - YSVP Mass and Gathering

On the 7th of June, our SVP group here at St Mark's travelled to St George's Cathedral in Southwark, accompanied by Mr Cizmarik and Mrs McGhee. This event, marking the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, brought together Young Vincentians from schools across four dioceses: Arundel and Brighton, Brentwood, Southwark and Westminster.

We set off bright and early at 8am, but opted for the overground instead of the tube due to delays. We joined Archbishop John Wilson to celebrate the Mass as he retold the story of BI Pierre Giorgio Frassati, who displayed immense kindness to those struggling with poverty in his community. It was a lovely opportunity to connect with other Young Vincentians who are working towards a common cause.

After the Mass, we enjoyed a lovely picnic in a nearby park dotted with flowers. We made loads of friends (pictured below), played games and were even rewarded with sweets and fruit juice!

Jessica De Souza, 10CL



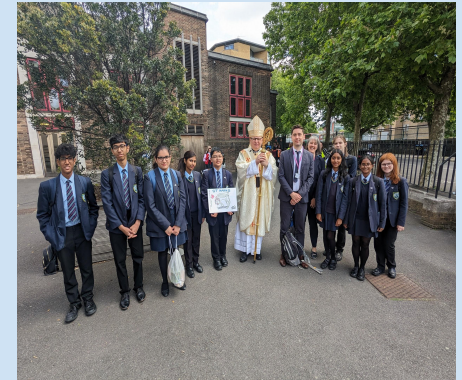
I thoroughly enjoyed the experience, as there was a great sense of community and joy at the successes of SVP.

Furthermore, the Bishop informed us that if there was one thing to take away from the day, we should remember and spread this 10 word phrase:

'As Jesus has loved you, you should love each other'.

I find this particularly inspiring as our relationship with God impacts our relationship with others and the love that we spread.

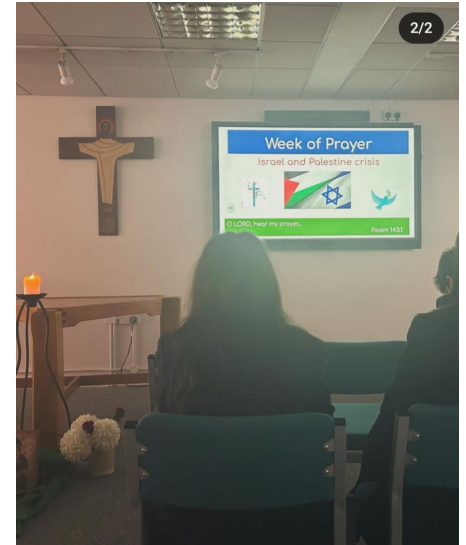
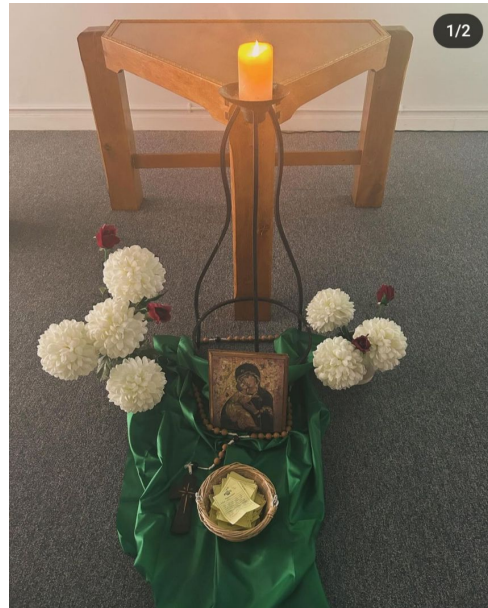
Roisin Kynes 10CL



# Prayer & Worship

## Week of Prayer Israel and Palestine crisis

From 17th to 21st June we were praying for peace and an end to the Israel and Palestine crisis. On Monday we began by praying the rosary together as a community and through the week students were coming to the chapel to pray for their own intentions. Pupils and staff have also completed prayer cards and these intentions were offered up during our Mass on Thursday.





# Prayer meetings with parents & carers - Summer term



Thank you to all parents and carers who joined us to pray together!

Mrs McGhee and Ivan look forward to resume our prayer meetings next academic year.

The new dates will be sent out in autumn term.

**Parents and carers were warmly invited to join us this summer term for a time of shared prayer with and for our school community.**

**Use the link to join via Google Meet below:**

<https://meet.google.com/eig-qfts-goa>

**Tuesday lunchtimes, 1.00-1.15pm**

**21 May** - Theme: Pentecost

**4 June** - Theme: Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

**2 July** - Theme: Feast of St Peter and Paul

Email: [cizmariki@st-marks.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:cizmariki@st-marks.hounslow.sch.uk) for further information

# An Holiday Prayer

*(Written by students from the  
Prayer Warrior Chaplaincy team)*

Lord, we thank you for everything you  
have done for us and we hope you  
give us a good summer holidays.

We plead you to empower us in what  
is to come.

Lord, give us your guidance so we  
can persevere.

Amen.

Finally, please remember if I can support you  
in any way do not hesitate to contact me.

My email address is at the bottom of this  
letter or you can just ring the school and  
leave a message for Ivan.

Be assured of my constant prayers for you  
and your family.  
Ivan Cizmarik

Have a blessed and happy Summer!

School Lay Chaplain  
cizmarik@st-marks.hounslow.sch.uk