

# Hagley's Catholic Life Newsletter

Spring 2024



Issue #1

Welcome to our very first edition of Hagley Catholic High School's Catholic Life Newsletter!

Each term we will update you on all the wonderful ways our students are engaging with our Catholic ethos. This term has been extremely busy in the build up towards Easter. Our students and staff have been working hard to ensure the 2024 season of Lent has been both spiritually fulfilling and uplifting.

Called as God's family, we strive to achieve our personal best, by living and learning in Christ.

# MASS AT HAGLEY



Thank  
you!

Thank you to Fr. Philip  
for giving up your  
time every week to  
lead us in worship.

Every year group has attended Mass over Spring Term. Thank you to Mr Thomas for preparing student readings each week- and of course to the students for volunteering. It is lovely to be led in worship by our young people.

Well done to Anna (Y9) and Catherine (Y7) who have been amazing role models this term. Since October, they have been working on new worship music to sing in Mass. Each half term they learn a new song to sing during the Eucharist. We are really proud of the hard work they have put into this. Their courage has inspired *more* students to step forward and use their God-given talents to aid worship.

This half term they have been singing New Wine, by Hillsong.

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# LENTEN FUNDRAISING

During Lent, Catholics are called to pray, fast and give. Each year group has been working towards raising funds for a charity of their choice.



## Year group charities

7. Fr Hudson's
8. Cancer Research UK
9. Acorns Children's' Hospice
10. Cancer Research UK
11. Asthma and Lung UK
12. Sixth Form - Christian Aid's Middle East Crisis Appeal

Every Wednesday morning, Mr Thomas' chaplaincy group have been leading prayer for staff in the Chapel.

Mr Sommerville attended and said it was great to see students leading staff in worship. He added, "a Catholic school without prayer, is like a human body without oxygen"

## Shout-outs!

On the 27th February all Year 7 students completed a mile walk around the school site. It took approximately 1 hour, and we are incredibly proud to say that they have raised over £1000 for their Lenten charity, Father Hudson's!

Thank you so much Year 7 for gathering so many donations from your friends and family!

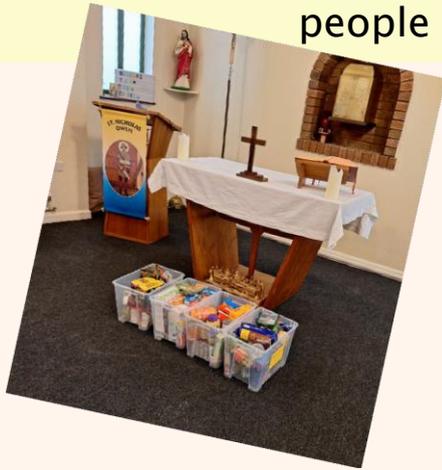
## Shout-outs!

Well done to **9G** who held a bake sale on the 6th of March and raised £186 to go to their Lenten charity! Mrs Ball wanted to give an extra special thanks to Harry, Ben, Elan, Tommy, Noah, Daniel and Ryan for giving up their break and lunchtime to sell the cakes.

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SVP (St Vincent de Paul) is a Catholic charity that has been running for 180 years **this** year! Members work in the local community to turn their concern into action. At the start of this term, Mrs Ball started a new SVP group for students in Years 7 and 8. The students have discussed the charities and local issues that they are passionate about and have already made great strides to make a difference in the community!

This half term, the group have been running a Food Bank Appeal for the Dudley Food Bank, which is run from Our Lady All Saints Church. We are very proud to have such a caring group of young people in our school community.



Special thank you to Ken Baker, SVP member from OLAS who gave up his time to meet with our new group and collect the Food Bank donations!

## Future SVP events

Summer Term 1: Afternoon tea at Our Lady All Saints

Summer Term 1: Indoor garden. We are going to be growing tomato plants to donate to local nursing homes to bring a bit of the outside indoors!

Summer Term 2: Macmillan Cancer Care cake sale.

**See Mrs Ball in I/G1 if you're interested in joining our group!**



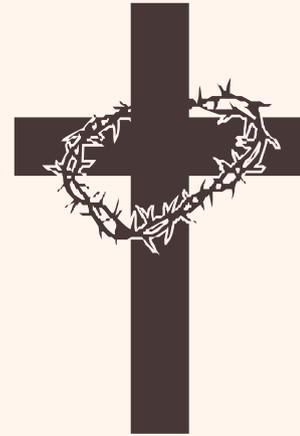
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# B-ATTITUDES

B-Attitudes is our Y12 SVP group. The group is aided by Mr Miastowski as they endeavour to turn their concern into action.

On the 29th February, they visited St Wulstan's and worked with the Mini-Vinnies to put together packs of essential items for the homeless. It was wonderful to see some of our older students talking about social justice with younger members of the Emmaus MAC family. In total, 20 packs were made up to help those in need.



Last week, students from Our Lady of Fatima prayed the Stations of the Cross around the Hagley site. It was lovely to see some of our future students already praying with us.



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# MARGARET AND BARRY MIZEN

On the 27<sup>th</sup> February we were fortunate to welcome Margaret and Barry Mizen from The Mizen Foundation. The Mizens shared their inspirational story with Years 9 and 10 about the importance of forgiveness, peace and hope. Students were very attentive throughout the talks and were encouraged to reflect on being the change-makers in creating a more peaceful society. Thank you, Margaret and Barry, for sharing your faith and powerful message.



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# STATIONS OF THE CROSS



This term, our Lay Chaplain, Mr Thomas, has taken every single Year 7 RE class on a walk of witness around the school site. It has been a wonderful opportunity for our students to immerse themselves in the story of Christ's final journey towards the cross. Members of the Chaplaincy team also lead students from St Joseph's primary school in the Stations as well.



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# LENTEN CONFESSION

On Tuesday 19th March, we welcomed five local priests into school who offered the Sacrament of Reconciliation to students in Years 7 and 8.

Over 180 students took up the opportunity to receive God's forgiveness, and we are grateful to Fr Philip, Fr Stephen, Fr Shanju, Fr Stefan and Canon Lamb for giving of their time so generously.



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# CHAPLAINCY

The chaplaincy team at Hagley continues to grow and develop Catholic Life. Students have started to create Gospel reflections for Monday mornings, prepare assemblies for the summer term, change the way we prepare, lead and evaluate prayer and have started to help make prayer cards for year 12 students to take to Lourdes with them.

We have lots to look forward to with reward trips in the summer term to water parks, Summer Camp at Alton Castle, It's A knockout and even more.

If you would like to join Chaplaincy please come and speak to Mr Thomas in the Chapel office. With over 120 students already involved it is fantastic to see students taking ownership on the Catholic Life of our school

## Hagley Chaplaincy week

### Monday

Lunch :  
Year 8 Chaplaincy  
12:30 - 12:50

After school:  
Year 9 and 10

### Tuesday

Period 1:  
Hagley Singers

Lunch:  
Year 7 Chaplaincy  
12:00 - 12:30

### Wednesday

Primary school :  
Outreach

### Thursday

Lunch :  
Year 9 and 10  
12:00 - 12:30

After school:  
Year 7 and 8

### Friday

Lunch :  
Year 11 / 6th form  
Chaplaincy Drop in.



HAGLEY CATHOLIC  
HIGH SCHOOL  
SEMPER FIDELIS

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# CHAPLAINCY LIVE SIMPLY

During Live Simply sessions this half term students have worked extremely hard to make our school's Eco Garden ready to grow.

We have levelled out our planting area and built brand new planting beds with leeks and potatoes already starting to grow. We have dug out a new area ready for wildflower seeds to encourage wildlife.

We have continued our application process for new solar panels across the school site and even worked on creating links with local homeless shelters and communities.

Finally this week we even had a special chapel Mass with the Live Simply leadership group where Fr Philip preached on St Francis and how we can use him as an example of God's guidance in stewardship.



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# AN EASTER BLESSING

*God, may we feel the warm embrace of your love. May the glory of Jesus' resurrection remind us that with You, nothing is impossible or without hope.*

*Amen.*

