



## right2read



### Message from the Doctor



### Fred's Prayer for the Week

We pray, Lord that everything we do may be prompted by your inspiration, So that every prayer and work of ours may begin from you and be brought by you to completion. Amen

God bless, Fred (Chaplain)

**"In 900 years of time and space, I've never met anyone who wasn't important"**

The Doctor (Matt Smith), Season 6, Christmas Special

I came across this quote when I was thinking, with anticipation, the new series of Dr Who starting on October 7. The first episode of the series is called "The woman who fell to earth" and it will introduce us to the first incarnation of the Doctor as a woman, played by Jodie Whittaker. It's good to see that the BBC can contemplate female

leaders....hopefully other institutions will follow their lead. The quote reminds me of how our Vision is deployed at St Columba's - everyone is important. All of our students are loved and cared for as individuals and not just fodder for someone's spreadsheet.

We always listen to our students - which is why we have trialled the 'Keep Left' system in the JP2 building. I have been very impressed with how mature our students have been and how successful the trial has been. The new arrangements for Café Columba (formerly the Canteen) are also proving to be a success.

We are going to extend the trial and reflect on how else we can improve.

We are very fortunate to have staff willing to take our students on school trips. In this issue you will find a report on last week's trip to the Science Live Expo where Mr Bhana and Mrs Natali took students to see developments in science and technology. Next week we will have a report on the trip led by Mr Barry and Ms Holbrook to the Bloomberg Centre in the City of London.

On Saturday 6 October, (the day before the new Dr Who series

starts!) we have our Open Day where many of our fantastic students give up their own time to show visitors just how good our school is. Year on year, our school is becoming more successful and more popular. Please don't keep us a secret ....encourage anyone you know with sons in Yr 6 to come and have a look for themselves! At St Columba's everyone is important.

Mr N Fisher



A teaser for next week's report on the Bloomberg trip: students meeting the Right Honourable The Lord Mayor of the City of London, Charles Bowman. More next week!

## Science Live Expo Visit

On Thursday 20 September, Mrs Natali and I took Yr 9 and Yr 10 students to the Science Live Expo at the Excel Centre in London's docklands. This is held every year to show developments in science and technology. The trip hopes to inspire students and expose them to possible careers in STEM (Science Technology Engineering & Maths) subjects. This year one of the major attractions was the British astronaut Tim Peake

who had been up to the International Space Station in 2016. He spoke of his experiences in space and how he trained and prepared for his space expedition.

Given opposite are extracts from accounts written by Clayton and Sean both from Yr 9 who clearly enjoyed the experience!

Mr Bhana  
Head of Science

"We saw the world's fastest car, Bloodhound, tried VR Archery, which is a lot harder than it sounds, raced tiny cars powered by salt-water, saw Space Pens, a hydrogen powered car and a robot that could dance! I also visited the booth run by the Patent Office and learned what they do which I found very inspiring. One the way back, the Cable Car trip was fun but it swayed and made some people nervous. It was a great day!"

Clayton 9F

"Our journey began by coach (good quality service) from Gravel Hill and then by the Emirates Cable Car which at 90 metres above the Thames gave us amazing views! After going through security we rushed into the centre where Tim Peak explained his 'Out of this world' experience of zero gravity and using the lavatory in space. Visiting different booths after the speeches really struck me and I tried to fly a VR Glider. I also discovered how I could pursue my future career as a pilot. This really was the BEST TRIP EVER!"

Sean 9K



Zach, Karis and Sethusan racing salt-powered cars



Sean investigating polymerised animal organs



Astronaut Tim Peak speaking at Science Live



Obligatory Science Trip Selfie



Clayton, Sean and Nathaniel



Well-behaved group photo....



....and the express yourself group photo!



# menu four

week commencing  
01.10.18



## Monday

Lincolnshire sausage, mashed potatoes,  
Yorkshire pudding and onion gravy

Vegetarian sausage, mashed potatoes, Yorkshire  
pudding and onion gravy

Seasonal vegetables

Apple cake

## Tuesday



Moroccan chicken,  
filled flat breads and salad

Chickpea and lentil cous cous

Seasonal vegetables

Steamed syrup pudding

## Wednesday

Healthy Beef stew with herb scones  
and mashed potatoes

Grilled cheese and vegetable quesadilla

Seasonal vegetables

Banana cake

## Thursday

Peppered chicken pasta bake

Beef and onion pasties and potatoes

Chicken and pepperoni 'paella'

Seasonal vegetables

## Friday

Plain sponge with chocolate topping

Traditional fish and chips

Sweet chilli chicken wraps and potato wedges

Vegetarian grilled ciabatta

Iced croissants

A selection of sandwiches and baguettes are available and  
Breakfast Club open from 7:50am - 8:20am daily.

**SIMS**

# SIMS LEARNING GATEWAY SIMS PARENT APP

## DID YOU KNOW?

SIMS Parent app is the new way to stay connected

■  
SIMS Parent app is available on iOS, Google Play and Desktop

■  
You can sign in securely to SIMS Parent app using an existing account such as Gmail, Twitter or Facebook

■  
Essential school information (e.g. term dates) is available instantly on SIMS Parent app.

■  
Information about your child's school life (e.g. attendance, timetable, achievements) is presented on a clear and easy to use dashboard in the SIMS Parent app

■  
Parents with more than one child at St Columba's can access information on both children from the SIMS Parent app

■  
Your son's A2L and assessment data is released via both SIMS Learning Gateway and the SIMS Parent app

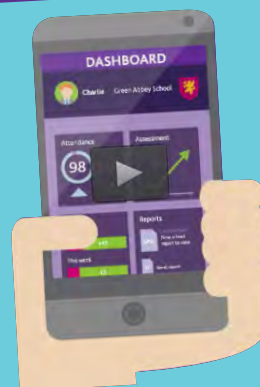
■  
You can keep school updated with your latest contact details for continued communication via SIMS Parent app

■  
Some parents have never accessed their son's assessment data or A2L grades - SIMS Parent app makes it easier



For a re-invite (via email) to the SIMS Parent app (or alternatively your SIMS Learning Gateway login and password) please email [SLG@st-columbas.bexley.sch.uk](mailto:SLG@st-columbas.bexley.sch.uk)

We need up-to-date email addresses for you in order for you to access your son's information



# OUR LADY'S FILM EVENINGS

Our next film evening will be on Wed 24th October when we will show the 1st of a 2-part movie on Pope Paul VI, the soon-to-be canonized leader in the Church as a priest, Bishop, Cardinal and Pope through one of the most difficult periods in the Church's history - from the Fascist regime and World War II to the terrorist attacks of the 1960s and 1970s. Second part (including a recap) on Wed 7th Nov. Watch either or both parts.

The film will be shown in St John Fisher Bexley Church Hall, admission free, sub-titles, bar open, charity stall, & members of AIC and SVP on hand.

All welcome.

Arrivals from 7 pm for 7:30 pm start.

Our Lady's Film group is pleased to show



## BI Pope Paul VI

Weds 24<sup>th</sup> Oct & 7<sup>th</sup> Nov 2018; 7 pm for 7.30 pm starts; 2-part movie – watch either or both parts (part 2 will feature a recap)



leader in the Church as a priest, Bishop, Cardinal and Pope through one of the most difficult periods in Church's history - from the Fascist regime and World War II to the terrorist attacks of the 1960s and 1970s

**FREE ADMISSION**

**SUB-TITLES**

**NOTE EARLY START**

**LATECOMERS WELCOME**



St John Fisher Church Hall  
48 Thanet Road  
Bexley, DA5 1AP

Tel: 01322-524813

[stfisher@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:stfisher@tiscali.co.uk)  
[www.stjohnfisherbexley.org](http://www.stjohnfisherbexley.org)

## Our Lady's Film Evenings

at  
St John Fisher Church Hall  
48 Thanet Road  
Bexley, DA5 1AP  
01322-524813  
[www.stjohnfisherbexley.org](http://www.stjohnfisherbexley.org)



**Admission Free - All Welcome**

**2018**

unfortunately for licence reasons the actual title of films cannot be promoted outside of St John Fisher church

date	arrivals	film starts	film
Wed 24-Jan <b>Christian Unity Octave</b>	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	<b>The Shroud of Turin &amp; St Augustine of Hippo:</b> definitive documentaries on The Shroud & on the preeminent doctor and great saint of the Church (as scholarly background to April & May's movie)
Wed 21-Feb	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	<b>BI John Henry Newman:</b> documentary on life and places in England where he lived and worked
Wed 21-Mar	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	<b>BI Miguel Pro:</b> movie on famous Jesuit executed in Mexico for the crime of being a Catholic Priest
Wed 25-Apr	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	<b>St Augustine of Hippo (part 1):</b> movie on a great doctor of the Church - watch either or both parts
Wed 9-May	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	<b>St Augustine of Hippo (part 2):</b> movie on a great doctor of Church - will feature a recap of part 1
Wed 13-Jun	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	<b>BI Francis Xavier Seelos &amp; St Kateri Tekakwitha:</b> documentaries on the Redemptorist missionary and the Native American Christian Mohawk Indian
Wed 18-Jul	<b>6:45 PM</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>St Joan of Arc:</b> movie on the heroine of France <b>NOTE EARLY START BUT LATECOMERS WELCOME</b>
<b>No film evening during August</b>			
Wed 12-Sep	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	<b>St Vincent de Paul:</b> movie on advisor to French royalty & one of greatest humanitarians in history
Wed 24-Oct	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	<b>BI Pope Paul VI (part 1):</b> movie on life of pope from 1963 to 1978 - watch either or both parts
Wed 7-Nov	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	<b>BI Pope Paul VI (part 2):</b> movie on life of pope from 1963 to 1978 - will feature a recap of part 1
Wed 5-Dec	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	<b>St Dominic:</b> movie on life of the selfless founder of Order of Preachers aka the Dominican Order

## LIFT SHARE

Do you know of anyone who would like to come to these events, but needs a lift?  
Are you in a position to give a lift to others?

If so, please contact Helen,  
our Lift Share Coordinator on  
07532-124040

[helenmrees2@live.co.uk](mailto:helenmrees2@live.co.uk)

## HELP WANTED

Could you: serve as a deputy when Tim is unavailable;  
replace Tim at the end of this year's programme;  
or arrive early to help set up the film evenings food & books?

If so, please contact Tim via  
[timjpbowman@gmail.com](mailto:timjpbowman@gmail.com)

# EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

Day	Year Groups	ART CLUB	Time	Room
Wednesday	All welcome	Come and Create! Mrs Archer	2:30 - 3:30pm	Ar2

Day	Year Groups	BBC SCHOOL REPORT CLUB	Time	Room
Thursday	Yr 7	Creating the News! Miss Cox	2:30 - 3:15pm	En6

Day	Year Groups	DEBATING CLUB	Time	Room
Thursday	KS3	Practice debating skills Miss Ransome	2:30 - 3:15pm	En4

Day	Year Groups	DRAMA CLUB	Time	Room
Wednesday	All year groups - just turn up!	Express yourself! Ms Bridgland	2:30 - 3:15pm	Iona Theatre



Day	Year Groups	ENGLISH	Time	Room
Thursday	KS3	Writing Club Mr Dennis	2:30 - 3:15pm	En3

Day	Year Groups	HISTORY	Time	Room
Tuesday	Open to all GCSE History students	History Skills Master Class Mrs Loveday-Jones	2:30 - 3pm	Hi1

Day	Year Groups	COMPUTER SCIENCE	Time	Room
Wednesday	KS3	Computer Science Club Mr Bowden	2:30 - 3:30pm	CS2
Thursday	KS4	Computer Science Club Mr Williams	2:30 - 3:30pm	CS1

Day	Year Groups	MUSIC CLUBS	Time	Room
Thursday	All years	Choir Boys     Mr Watson	2:30 - 3:05pm	Mu2
	Yr 7-8	Keyboard Club     Mr Watson	3:05 - 3:35pm	Mu3 / Keyboard Room
Friday	KS3	Keyboard Club     Mr Watson	2:30 - 3:15pm	Mu3 / Keyboard Room
	Yr 8-9	Music Tech Club	2:30 - 3:45pm	Mu1

Day	Year Groups	PE CLUBS
Tuesday	Yr 7, Yr 8, Yr 9	Rugby Training - Field <b>Mr Eldridge, Fred Umney</b> 2:45 - 3:45pm
Wednesday	All years	Basketball - Sports Hall <b>Mr Virgo</b> 2:45 - 3:45pm
Thursday	Yr 10	Football - <b>Mr Eldridge</b> 2:45 - 3:45pm
Friday	All years	Youth Club - Sports Hall <b>Mr Creighton</b> 2:45 - 3:45pm

Day	Year Groups	RE	Time	Room
Tuesday	All welcome	KS3 RE homework club <b>Mr Shoebridge</b>	2:30 - 3:30pm	RE1
	All welcome	Boy's Bible Club <b>Mr Olowofoyeku</b>	2:30 - 3:20pm	RE3 
Wednesday	New members welcome any time	Film Club <b>Mr Shoebridge</b> <b>Mr Egan</b>	2:30 - 3:40pm	RE1 
Thursday	Yr 9, Yr 10	KS4 GCSE Homework and Revision Club <b>Mr Shoebridge</b> <b>Mr Barry</b> <b>Mr Olowofoyeku</b>	2:30 - 3:15pm	RE1 RE2 RE3
	Yr 9 (from now until Christmas) Yr 8 Christmas to Easter	After School Enterprise Club (business and enterprise) <b>Mr Barry</b>	After School	RE2
Friday	Yr 11	GCSE Catch Up Sessions (Those who missed various topics in Y10 but not specifically targeted) <b>Mr Barry</b>	After School	RE2

Day	Year Groups	SCIENCE	Time	Room
Wednesday	Yr 7	Science Club <b>Miss Manning-Johnson</b>	2:45 - 3:45pm	SC7



**Encountering Christ**  
 Prayerfully preparing for the  
 Sunday Mass and praying in  
 particular for our school families



Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018 - The Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**1** Relax & Remember

Set aside 10 -15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross † and remain still for a minute of settling silence. **Call to mind the love that God has for you. Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present.** Then read the Gospel, preferably aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.



**2** Read

**Taken from the Gospel for 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018 (Mark 9:38-43. 45. 47-48): Helps and Hindrances**

John said to Jesus, “Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.” But Jesus said, “You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us. If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward. But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.”



**3** Reflect

**After spending a few minutes considering this Gospel, continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough’s reflection.**

*This part of Mark’s Gospel is a collection of sayings about following the Lord, and in this Gospel we are presented with a rich insight into two distinct areas of discipleship. The first little story tells us that we must accept good wherever we can find it, not only in our own group and where we expect it to be. It is the same lesson that is presented in this Sunday’s first reading. The Spirit of God is at work not only in Catholics, not only in Christians, not only even in explicit believers. As the Second Vatican Council taught so strongly, the Holy Spirit is at work too in those who are seeking the Kingdom under signs and symbols. They can even be better people and better Christians than we who sometimes rely too comfortably on our membership of Christ’s Church! Secondly, the gospel provides some striking and urgent sayings about ‘obstacles’, literally trip-stones which makes people fall over. These vivid and dire warnings are about leading other believers into evil and about the trip-stones in ourselves, the disordered desires, that lead us into evil. Jesus’ sayings here must be taken with the utmost seriousness – but not literally (Jesus is speaking graphically to make us listen, and is not advocating self-mutilation!).*

**What are the qualities of the Kingdom that we need to become models of Christ for other peoples?**

**Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB**

**4** Respond & Request

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Then thank God for any insight you may have received. Conclude by asking God to bless you with one of the following spiritual gifts to help you act on any resolution you have made: love, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, self control, patience, or joy. Please remember to pray for the Church and particularly our school families. **Then conclude by requesting the prayers of Our Lady & St Joseph.**



**The Wednesday Word is under the patronage of St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church  
 Within the tradition of the Catholic Church, each Wednesday is dedicated to St Joseph**



# WEDNESDAY WORD PLUS †

Fr Henry's reflections on the first and second readings of Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018



## First Reading: *Openness to the Spirit*

### Numbers 11:25-29

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again. Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, "Look," he said, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, "My Lord Moses, stop them!" Moses answered him, "Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!"

*This is a curious little scene, and the corresponding scene in the gospel is no less curious. It is part of the story of Israel's wanderings in the desert. Moses' father-in-law wisely suggests that Moses should appoint assistants to deal with all the complaints, quarrels and lawsuits among the people. So some of the divine spirit of judgment which was on Moses now descends upon these seventy elders. However, there seems to have been some sort of irregularity in the appointment of Eldad and Medad, which leads to objections even from Joshua, Moses' faithful servant and successor. Nevertheless, the message finally given is that the Spirit of God is to be welcomed wherever it may be found. This story is a valuable reminder that the Spirit of God is greater than human regulations and limitations, and that the Spirit crosses human boundaries. The wisdom of God may be found outside the Church; genuine holiness may there too. We must respect the freedom of God to give what he wills where he wills it, and we must always be open to learn from those who do not belong to our own tradition.*

*Where are true holiness and wisdom found?*

## Second Reading: *The Dangers of Wealth*

### James 5:1-6

An answer for the rich. Start crying; weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting; your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them - listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

**“Wealth can blind the wealthy to the needs and susceptibilities of others.”**

*This final reading from the Letter of James is a denunciation of the selfishness of the rich; it is in the style of the Old Testament prophets and contains a wealth of daunting imagery. This strength of expression is somewhat surprising in the early decades of Christianity, for it seems that wealth was not one of the temptations which seduced the early Christians. There do seem to have been rich Christians in the community at Corinth, but on the whole the Christians seem to have belonged to the lower classes and slaves. James, the presumed author of the letter, was the leader of the Jerusalem community. The Church at Jerusalem seems to have been in chronic financial difficulty: Paul was asked to help it out, and took a collection from the gentile Churches to Jerusalem. In the early second century the pagan Celsus denounces Christians as ignorant and ill-educated, but he does not denounce them for their wealth. However, these warnings from the author of our letter are still relevant today. It is still tempting to ease cash-flow by postponing payment of bills! The power and immunity given by wealth can still have a corrosive influence which blinds the wealthy to the needs and susceptibilities of others.*

*Is wealth necessarily a distraction from our true goals as followers of Christ?*

The Wednesday Word: *Connecting Home, School & Parish through the Word of God*

w: [www.wednesdayword.org](http://www.wednesdayword.org)

e: [info@wednesdayword.org](mailto:info@wednesdayword.org)