



# ROOTED IN FAITH

catholic salesian life and mission bulletin

SPRING 2026 - 2

[www.thornleigh.bolton.sch.uk](http://www.thornleigh.bolton.sch.uk)

## Christ is Risen - Alleluia!



This Easter, we rejoice in the Risen Christ, whose victory over death fills our hearts with hope and new life. In the spirit of our Salesian ethos of Respect, Understanding, Affection and Humour (RUAH), we are reminded that the Resurrection calls us to be people who lift others up, bring joy and create communities where everyone is valued and loved.

As we journey through this Holy Season, we also take to heart the invitation of Pope Leo to live Holy Week and Easter in a spirit of deep respect for one another, standing firmly for peace and showing solidarity with all, especially those who suffer. The Risen Lord sends us out not just to celebrate, but to be witnesses of compassion, unity, and reconciliation in our daily lives.

May the joy of Easter renew in us the Salesian Mission to walk with the young, to serve with kindness and to share hope wherever we are.

**Christ is Risen - Alleluia!**

Over 80 enthusiastic students from Years 8, 9 and 10 participated in a transformative residential retreat at the Savio House Retreat Centre, starting on 2nd March 2026. This retreat offered an invaluable chance for students to pause their hectic school lives and engage in meaningful reflection about themselves, their relationships, and their faith.

For Year 8 students, the theme "Bridges" emphasized building strong, positive connections - with oneself, others and God - through trust, understanding, and kindness. Meanwhile, Years 9 and 10 delved into the theme of "Water," encouraging deeper reflection on personal journeys and relationships, particularly their connection with God. This experience fostered thoughtful discussions, prayer, and personal growth, with many students returning to Savio House for the fourth time, underscoring its lasting impact. Alongside introspective activities, students enjoyed fun activities, scenic walks, and community bonding. The warm hospitality and delightful meals at Savio House further enriched the retreat.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Savio House team for creating such memorable experiences that will undoubtedly inspire our students in the years to come.

**SAVIO RETREATS**



# pastoral visit

In a moment of great significance for the universal Church, Pope Leo has announced his first pastoral visit to the continent of Africa. The Holy Father is scheduled to undertake an 11 day apostolic journey from April 13 - 23, 2026.

The visit will include four countries: **Algeria** (April 13-15), **Cameroon** (April 15-18), **Angola** (April 18-21) and **Equatorial Guinea** (April 21-23).

This historic journey reflects the Holy Father's desire to be close to the people of Africa, a continent rich in faith, culture, and youthful vitality. During his visit, he is expected to meet with local communities, clergy and especially young people, bringing a message of hope, peace and reconciliation.

For the Salesians of Don Bosco, who are present and active across these regions, the announcement is a source of great encouragement. The visit will undoubtedly strengthen the missionary spirit of the Church and renew its commitment to serving the young and the poor.

As the Church prepares to welcome the Holy Father, this apostolic journey promises to be a moment of grace and unity for Africa and for the whole world.

## COMMUNITY LINKS LOCAL PARISHES WEEKLY MASS TIMINGS

**Parish of Corpus Christi**  
(St John the Evangelist, St Columba's, & St Brendan's)  
Mass Timing: Saturday Vigil: 5pm Vigil Mass (SB)  
Sundays - 9.30am Mass (SJ) 11am Mass (SB)

**Parish of Blessed Dominic Barberi**  
(St Teresa's, St Osmund's)  
Mass Timing: Saturday Vigil: 5pm Vigil Mass (SO)  
Sundays - 9.30am Mass (St) 11am Mass (SO)

**St Cuthbert**  
(St Joseph's and St Thomas of Canterbury)  
Mass Timing: Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm Vigil Mass (ST)  
Sundays - 9.30am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (ST)

**St. Edmund & St. Patrick Catholic Parish**  
Mass Timing: Sundays - 10am Mass (SP) 11.30am Mass (SP)

**The Holy Infant & St Anthony Parish**  
Mass Timing: Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm Vigil Mass  
Sundays - 10am Mass



**SALESIAN NEWS**

Saint John Bosco's missionary dream of reaching young people globally is thriving, with the Salesians of Don Bosco now present in 138 countries. Vanuatu is the latest frontier, where the Salesians bring Don Bosco's charism to youth, especially the marginalized. Their mission focuses on building community relationships, understanding local culture and supporting youth through education and pastoral care. They are engaged in parish ministry and are exploring technical training opportunities, mirroring Don Bosco's original oratories. This mission in Vanuatu, though nascent, brims with hope, embodying the spirit of Don Bosco's vision of love and value for every young person.

# holy week

Parish of The Holy Infant & St Anthony  
www.holyinfant.co.uk

Parish of St Cuthbert's  
(St Thomas of Canterbury & St Joseph's)  
www.stcuthberts.org.uk

Parish of Corpus Christi  
(St John's & St Brendan's)  
www.sbsj.org.uk

Parish of Bl Dominic Barberi  
(St Osmund's & St Teresa's)  
www.blesseddomicbarberi.org.uk

March 29<sup>th</sup>

Saturday @6.30pm  
Sunday @10am

Saturday @5.30pm - (SToC)  
Sunday @9.30am - (SJ's)  
@11.15am (SToC)

Saturday @11.30am - (SJ)  
@ 5pm - (SB)  
Sunday @9.30am (SJ)  
@ 11am - (SB)

Saturday @ 5.30pm  
- St Osmund's  
Sunday @ 9.30am  
- St Teresa's  
@11am - St. Osmund's

PALM SUNDAY

April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Mass of the Lord's  
Supper @7pm

Mass of the Lord's  
Supper @8pm - (SToC)

Mass of the Lord's  
Supper @7.30pm - (SJ)

Mass of the Lord's  
Supper @ 7pm  
- St Teresa's

MAUNDAY THURSDAY

April 3<sup>rd</sup>

The Passion @3pm  
Stations of the Cross @7pm

Stations of the Cross  
@12pm (SToC)  
The Passion @3pm (SJ's)

Stations of the Cross  
@10.30am - (SB)  
The Lord's Passion @3pm - (SJ)

Stations of the Cross @11am  
- St Osmund's  
The Lord's Passion @3pm  
- St Osmund's

GOOD FRIDAY

April 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>

Easter Vigil @7pm  
Easter Day @10am

Easter Vigil @8pm (SToC)  
Easter Day @9.30am (SJ's)  
@11.15am (SToC)

Easter Vigil @7pm - (SB)  
Easter Day @ 9.30am - (SJ)  
@11am - (SB)

Easter Vigil @5.30pm  
- St Osmund's  
Easter Day @9.30am  
- St Teresa's  
@11am - St Osmund's

EASTER SUNDAY

Happy Easter

Please join the parish communities for this Holy Week and Easter

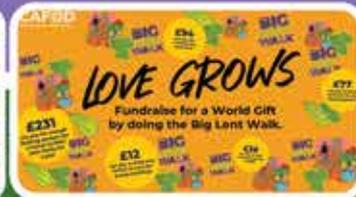


**CAFOD**

Just one world

Family Fast Day

Students and staff were invited to join in to support Family Fast Day. Our Cafod Young Leaders rose to the occasion to create awareness and to collect donations on that day. All donations collected will go towards CAFOD's work supporting communities in need around the world.



A better world needs all of us

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Lenten season has provided a meaningful opportunity for spiritual growth, inviting our young people to deepen their relationship with God and come to know themselves more fully. We were delighted to offer all Year 7 and Year 9 students the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Guided by the RE Department, students were well prepared around the theme of reflection and renewal. In the chapel, they participated in a short service that included an examination of conscience, followed by the opportunity for individual confession and encounter with a priest.

We are especially grateful to Thornleigh House priests and local clergy for their generous availability. In addition, staff and other students were given the opportunity to receive the sacrament each Friday during lunchtime, alongside the Stations of the Cross - making this truly a season of grace for our whole school community.

## Cafod Big Lent Walk: "Love Grows" in Action

During this Lenten season, our students and staff embraced the opportunity to take part in the CAFOD Big Lent Walk, pledging their support to the theme "Love Grows." With generosity and enthusiasm, the whole school community contributed tremendously, showing a deep commitment to helping those in need around the world.

The RE Department played a key role in coordinating the initiative through RE lessons, helping students understand the meaning of almsgiving and solidarity. Students thoroughly enjoyed taking part, recognising that even small steps can make a real difference. This shared effort has been a beautiful witness to our Salesian spirit - walking together in faith and action to make the world a better place.





# Thornleigh Personal and Spiritual Development

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



The new week begins with Eucharistic Adoration in the chapel, offering a serene moment to pray and reflect in the presence of the Eucharistic Lord. This sacred time allows staff to pause and center themselves before the busyness of the week takes hold. It's an opportunity to seek spiritual nourishment, express gratitude, and find peace amidst the chaos of daily life.

EVERY MONDAY  
8.15 AM  
CHAPEL

## STAFF MORNING REFLECTION



Growing together rooted in faith is more than just a shared experience; it's a profound journey that binds individuals through a common spiritual foundation. The staff morning reflection serves as an essential space where team members can come together, listen to inspired stories, share personal reflections, and engage in prayer. It's a beautiful way to ensure that work is not just about productivity, but also about nurturing the soul and supporting one another through life's challenges.

EVERY MONDAY  
8.30 AM  
CHAPEL

## CELEBRATION OF THE WORD



Every week, students gather for the afternoon Celebration of the Word, an event that brings the entire school community together. These assemblies are meticulously planned and prepared in advance by various departments and form groups, with the support of the staff and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). Each SLT member plays a crucial role in leading the assembly, bringing the programme to life with engaging animations and thoughtful presentations.

MON, TUE, WED  
1.05 PM - 2.15 PM  
CHAPEL

## WEDNESDAY MASS



At Thornleigh, the Eucharist stands as the heart and pinnacle of our community's spiritual life. Every week, we hold a special midweek Mass that invites both staff and students to gather in unity, reflecting on their faith and offering personal intentions and prayers.

EVERY WEDNESDAY  
8.00 AM  
CHAPEL

## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP



From Monday to Friday each morning, the entire school will take a moment to pause for silence, reflection, and prayer. This dedicated time not only cultivates calmness and mindfulness among students and staff but also presents a valuable opportunity for both personal and collective growth. During this period, a prepared reflection will be provided to guide thoughts and meditations, ensuring a unified experience throughout the school.

EVERY DAY  
MORNING  
REGISTRATION  
FORM ROOMS

## CHAPLAINCY CLUB



On Mondays, students have a wonderful opportunity to come together, celebrate and grow in a supportive and engaging environment. Hosted by the Chaplain and Salesian Volunteers, this weekly gathering is open to all students and offers a mix of little tasks, fun games, and interactive activities designed to foster camaraderie and personal development.

EVERY MONDAY  
3.15 PM  
CHAPLAINCY

## CAFOD LEADERS



The Young Leadership Programme, exclusively available to Year 12 students, offers a unique opportunity to be specially trained by CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development). Through this programme, participants will develop essential leadership skills, empowering them to become the Charity Leaders within their school. These young leaders will play a pivotal role in promoting and supporting various charitable causes, fostering a spirit of compassion and social responsibility among their peers.

EVERY TUESDAY  
1.05 PM - 1.30 PM  
CHAPLAINCY

## GIFT LEADERSHIP TEAM



Gift Leaders serve a pivotal role in fostering the Catholic ethos within the school community. They actively engage in leading liturgies, ensuring that religious services are meaningful and inclusive for all students. Additionally, they take the helm in organising and conducting assemblies, creating opportunities for reflection, celebration and community bonding. Their efforts extend to charity drives, where they inspire and mobilise the school to participate in acts of kindness and generosity, embodying the principles of Catholic social teaching.

FRIDAY  
1.30 PM - 1.50 PM  
CHAPLAINCY

## YOUTH SVP



The St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) has set a commendable vision to inspire young people through the transformational experience of volunteering and leadership. By engaging in meaningful service, young individuals are provided with opportunities to develop their skills, build confidence, and make a positive impact on their communities. SVP creates a life-changing, safe, and supportive environment where these emerging leaders can flourish.

EVERY WEDNESDAY  
1.05 PM  
Sixth Form

It is not enough to love the young; they must know that they are loved.

Hope is source of joy no matter our age.

