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>>> **THORNLEIGH** <<<

ROOTED IN FAITH

catholic salesian life and mission bulletin

SPRING 2026 - 2

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YOUNG HEARTS SEEKING CHRIST

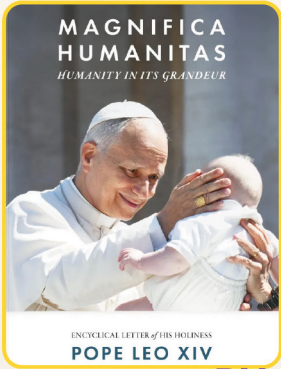
One of the greatest signs of hope in our Church today is the desire of young people to encounter Christ and belong to a faith-filled community. In a world that often promotes isolation and individualism, many young people continue to search for meaning, friendship and a deeper purpose. The Sacrament of Confirmation offers them an opportunity to discover that they are loved by God, strengthened by the Holy Spirit and called to live as missionary disciples.

At Thornleigh Salesian College, we have witnessed this hope come alive through our Confirmation programme. Over the past five years, nearly 450 young people have received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Their journey has been one of prayer, reflection, retreat, reconciliation and community, supported by parish catechists, families, school staff and the Salesian community. It has been inspiring to see so many young people freely choose to deepen their faith and publicly affirm their commitment to Christ and His Church.

Confirmation is not the end of the journey but the beginning of a lifelong adventure of faith. The summer holidays provide many opportunities for our newly confirmed to continue living as young disciples. Volunteering in parish or community projects, helping at summer camps, spending quality time with family and grandparents, caring for younger brothers and sisters, reaching out to friends, or simply making time each day for prayer are all practical ways of allowing the Holy Spirit to bear fruit in their lives.

Don Bosco believed that young people become saints by living ordinary life with extraordinary love. May this summer be a season of growth, service and joy, as our young people continue walking together with Christ and discovering their place within the Salesian family and the wider Church.





In his encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas*, Pope Leo XIV reflects on the dignity of every human person created in God's image. He encourages Christians to build a culture of compassion, justice and solidarity, reminding the faithful that true human flourishing is found in lives rooted in love, service and hope.

DIACONATE ORDINATIONS



As part of the Salesian Centenary celebrations, Thornleigh Salesian College hosted the ordination of Br Chin, Br Sixtus and Br Reuben as Salesian deacons. Bishop John Arnold presided at the Mass, while the unexpected presence of Rector Major Fr Fabio Attard SDB made this historic occasion even more memorable for the Salesian Family.



FINAL PROFESSION OF BRO ANDRE

On 29th May, Bro Andre made his Final Profession of Vows, committing himself permanently to the Salesian way of life. Fr Pascual Chávez SDB, Rector Major Emeritus, received his vows during a joyful celebration that also formed part of the Salesian Centenary in Bolton. During the Mass, the former Thornleigh students now serving as Salesian priests were also honoured for their faithful ministry.



VISIT OF THE RECTOR MAJOR

A surprise visit during the Diaconate ordination of the Salesian 3 Brothers in the Centenary celebrations from Rector Major of the Salesians, Fr Fabio Attard was a great moment of blessing and grace. He participated in the ordination as well as meeting staff, students and Salesians. His visit strengthened our connection with the worldwide Salesian family and inspired the whole community.

SALESIAN NEWS

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

WELCOME TO BRO RAPHAEL SDB

Following the May half-term break, we were delighted to welcome Bro Raphael SDB as Assistant Chaplain at Thornleigh Salesian College. Originally from Eswatini, Bro Raphael joins us as part of his pastoral formation and will support the chaplaincy, particularly the spiritual development of our Sixth Form students.





CAFOD YOUNG LEADERS

Seven Year 12 students completed the CAFOD Young Leaders programme at the final celebration day in Manchester. Throughout the year they developed leadership skills inspired by Catholic Social Teaching and demonstrated a commitment to justice, solidarity and care for others.



CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Young people preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation from local parishes gathered at Thornleigh for a day of prayer, reflection and fellowship. The retreat encouraged them to deepen their relationship with Christ and prepared them spiritually to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit.



CONFIRMATION 2026

On 17th June, sixty-three young people received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop John Arnold in Thornleigh Chapel. Surrounded by family, parish communities and school staff, the newly confirmed were encouraged to live their faith with confidence and become witnesses of Christ in today's world.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

All Year 8 students celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of their Confirmation preparation. Reflecting on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, they experienced a meaningful time of prayer and renewal.

PILGRIM CROSS WALK TO WALSINGHAM

During Holy Week, two Thornleigh students joined parish pilgrims and the School Chaplain on the 65-mile Pilgrim Cross Walk from Ely Cathedral to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. Walking alongside 350 pilgrims, they experienced a powerful journey of faith, prayer and community in preparation for Easter.



YEAR 11 CELEBRATION MASS

Year 11 students gathered with staff and families for their Celebration Mass and Awards. Fr Saju and Fr Steven reminded them that Thornleigh would always remain their home and encouraged them to continue living lives marked by kindness, courage and hope. Each student received a Yearbook and Trust the Road as a lasting reminder of their Salesian journey.



YEAR 13 FINAL SERVICE

On 22nd May, the Thornleigh community gathered to celebrate the final service for our Year 13 students. It was a joyful occasion of thanksgiving for their contribution to school life and an opportunity to recognise the positive witness they have given within our Salesian community. We wish them every blessing for the future.



PRIMARY SCHOOL RETREATS

Throughout the summer term, Thornleigh Gift Leaders led Jubilee-themed mini retreats in five Catholic primary schools, focusing on the life and spirituality of St Francis of Assisi. Their creative activities, joyful witness and enthusiastic leadership inspired younger pupils and strengthened the bonds between our school communities.

