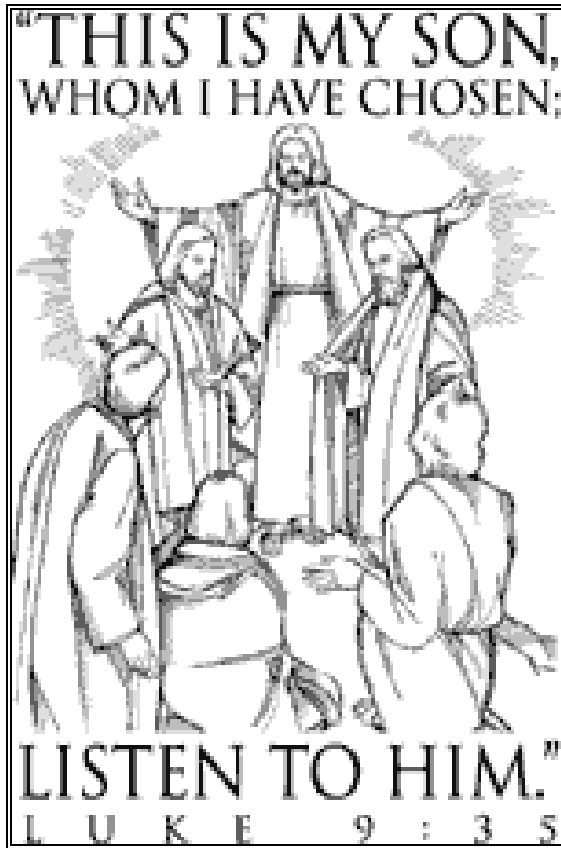


CONTACT



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

PARISH MAGAZINE

SPRING 2013



FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Parishioners

Welcome to this Spring edition of **CONTACT**. You will find a variety of articles which I am sure you will find of interest. Below is a selection of the contents to whet your appetite:

- School News from St Patrick's (Jackie Jacobs), Farnborough Hill (Clare Duffin) and Salesian College (Lorraine Stewart).
- Articles provided by Bunny Carvalho include The Parables and Images of Lent.
- Care for the Dying by Tessa Cox.
- Prayers by Blessed John Henry Newman.
- Update on our wonderful Altar Servers.
- Update on First Communicants by Group Leader, David May.
- Article on Same Sex Marriage by Deacon Paul.

My thanks again to all contributors to the magazine. If any parishioners or Group Leaders wish send in an article of news/personal experience or anything of interest (perhaps taken from the website), I should be very happy to receive them for inclusion in future editions.

May I wish you a very happy forthcoming Easter !

Robert Eeckelaers, Editor



THE HOLY CROSS AND MOST HOLY REDEEMER

OUR IMAGES OF LENT are important for our different forms of spiritual renewal, and are varied. But today's Gospel of Jesus' journey into the desert wilderness is the original image given us by the Church. In this context we see Lent as the way we, as his Church, accompany him on his journey in spirit, so that from the very start he is seen to be with us, and conversing with us in prayer on our own Lenten journey. In this Gospel text we might particularly dwell on the way Jesus overcomes every challenge with the word of God, which he quotes from the *Torah* or Law of Moses.

Beyond the scene of his own journey into the desert wilderness lies the further imagery of the 40 year journey of the ancient people of God led by Moses out of Egyptian slavery to meet God at Sinai to receive the Law of his covenant. The author of the Gospel of Matthew clearly saw Jesus as a kind of 'second Moses' who had come to fulfil the Law and the Prophets. In this image we see ourselves as a Church participating in the greater pilgrimage of the people of God, journeying to renew our own baptismal covenant with God at Easter. This is why the Gospel of the Transfiguration is always on the Second Sunday in Lent, with the command from the numinous cloud to Jesus' closest disciples, 'Listen to him'. In this command Jesus' own words are *identified* for his disciples as the word of God. So our acceptance of our covenant with God is shown by our acceptance of the Risen Christ as our only Lord and King, reaffirming the promises made at our baptism.

A further image is the old Anglo-Saxon meaning of Lent - *Spring*, the seasonal renewal, rebirth, and resurrection of the natural world, in which we see ourselves as being called to participate and celebrate sacramentally in spirit to shed the 'old self' and replace it with the new, reshaped by the Holy Spirit given us in our baptism and other sacraments. The gift of the Spirit is itself the new life we are given, reflected in the struggle of new birth and germination in the natural world to burst forth in bud and flower.

But even this has the further ultimate image behind it of human life itself as a journey to a promised but dimly perceived city of the eternal kingdom of God. In this picture we see ourselves as forming one stream among the many streams of a great river of humanity seeking God in so many ways, and the meaning of our own remarkable and unique experience of human life.

These images have of course greater or less appeal to us according to our closeness to or alienation from God, which in itself largely depends on outside personal factors like age, health, circumstances, and our own responses to our experience of life, especially to its pains, sufferings and losses.

SEASON OF LENT

LENT, named in the English-speaking world after the old English word Lenten for 'Spring', is the penitential period of forty days before Easter. Traditionally, the purpose of Lent has been summarised by the three words: repentance, alms giving and prayer.

It is a time – for a change of heart. A time for a new and closer look at the way our lives are lived, for repentance and reconciliation.

It is a time – for concern for others. Caring for others is a valuable weapon in our fight against selfishness. Alms giving has always been a part of Lent.

It is a time – for prayer which costs. That means in terms of time and personal effort.



Take my Son.....

A wealthy man and his son loved to collect rare works of art. They had everything in their collection, From Picasso to Raphael. They would often sit together and admire the great works of art.

When the Vietnam conflict broke out, the son went to war. He was very courageous and died in battle while rescuing another soldier. The father was notified and grieved deeply for his only son. About a month later, just before Christmas, there was a knock at the door. A young man stood at the door with a large package in his hands. He said, 'Sir, you don't know me, but I am the soldier for whom your son gave his life. He saved many lives that day, and he was carrying me to safety when a bullet struck him in the heart and he died instantly. He often talked about you, and your love for art.' The young man held out this package. 'I know this isn't much. I'm not really a great artist, but I think your son would have wanted you to have this.'

The father opened the package. It was a portrait of his son, painted by the young man. He stared in awe at the way the soldier had captured the personality of his son in the painting. The father was so drawn to the eyes that his own eyes welled up with tears. He thanked the young man and offered to pay him for the picture. 'Oh, no sir, I could never repay what your son did for me. It's a gift.' The father hung the portrait over his mantle. Every time visitors came to his home he took them to see the portrait of his son before he showed them any of the other great works he had collected.

The man died a few months later. There was to be a great auction of his paintings. Many influential people gathered, excited over seeing the great paintings and having an opportunity to purchase one for their collection. On the platform sat the painting of the son. The auctioneer pounded his gavel. 'We will start the bidding with this picture of the son. Who will bid for this picture?'

There was silence...

Then a voice in the back of the room shouted, 'We want to see the famous paintings. Skip this one.' But the auctioneer persisted. 'Will somebody bid for this painting? Who will start the bidding? \$100, \$200?'

Another voice angrily. 'We didn't come to see this painting. We came to see the Van Gogh's, the Rembrandts. Get on with the Real bids!' But still the auctioneer continued. 'The son! The son! Who'll take the son?'

Finally, a voice came from the very back of the room. It was the longtime gardener of the man and his son. 'I'll give \$10 for the painting.' Being a poor man, it was all he could afford.

'We have \$10, who will bid \$20?'

'Give it to him for \$10. Let's see the masters.' The crowd was becoming angry. They didn't want the picture of the son. They wanted the more worthy investments for their collections. The auctioneer pounded the gavel. 'Going once, twice, SOLD for \$10!'

A man sitting on the second row shouted, 'Now let's get on with the collection!' The auctioneer laid down his gavel. 'I'm sorry, the auction is over.' 'What about the paintings?' 'I am sorry. When I was called to conduct this auction, I was told of a secret stipulation in the will. I was not allowed to reveal that stipulation until this time. Only the painting of the son would be auctioned. Whoever bought that painting would inherit the entire estate, including the paintings.

The man who took the son gets everything!' God gave His son over 2,000 years ago to die on the Cross. Much like the auctioneer, His message today is: 'The Son, the Son, who'll take the Son?'

Because, you see, whoever takes the Son gets everything!

**FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD HE GAVE HIS ONLY
BEGOTTEN SON, WHO SO EVER BELIEVETH, SHALL HAVE
ETERNAL LIFE...THAT'S LOVE.**



Rest In Peace

IN MEMORIAM

We pray for the following who died during this past year:

Mary Ellen Hussey (January)

Joseph Cush (February)

Ruth Taylor (March)

Paul Bartlett (April)

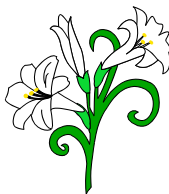
Audrey Phoenix (May)

Fr Bill Carroll (June)

Kathleen Barnard (June)

Elizabeth Matthews (September)

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and may perpetual light
shine upon them, may they rest in peace. AMEN*



Altar server news

Christmas is a busy time for lots of people, what with family visiting, friends to see and presents to buy and give. Within the church there are still more calls on our time as we try to put Christ first in our lives and remember his birth through various Christmas Masses.

That being the case it was great to see so many altar servers at Mass on St Stephen's Day (perhaps more usually known as Boxing Day) – a day that saw the enrolment in the Guild of St Stephen for our youngest altar servers and the award of medals to those who have been serving so diligently for over a year. Those members of the congregation present were surprised to see, instead of the usual three or four servers, a white-gowned group of twelve.

The five altar servers who were enrolled were:

- ***Thomas Harding;***
- ***Rory Lamond;***
- ***Hannah Gallagher;***
- ***Cara Ferrie;***
- ***Maddie Nolan.***

The four altar servers awarded with a medal for their first full years' service were:

- ***Oliver Stone;***
- ***Audrey Luft;***
- ***Joshua Searson;***
- ***Maddie Nolan.***

We are grateful to all the youth who help Father Dan at the Saturday and Sunday masses.

To find out more about the Guild (or Archconfraternity) of St. Stephen you can check out its website at

http://www.sspcx.org/archconfraternity_of_st_stephen.htm

I asked one of the older altar servers what being an altar server was like and she answered: “It’s a lot of fun and I like to see the new altar servers progressing like I did once. I particularly like ringing the bells. If you want to be an altar server though you have to attend Mass regularly and arrive 15 minutes early to get the Church ready”

The “fun” element of being an altar server was perhaps more obvious in the outing arranged for the altar servers at the end of the Christmas holiday when they enjoyed an afternoon of ten pin bowling and getting to know one another in a more social environment.

Being an altar server is open to all children who have received their first communion. If you are interested or want information please ask Father Dan, Deacon Paul or Cameron & Jill Lamond.

Jill Lamond



Nellie

by Delphine Lannon

Miss Nellie M’Carty gave a good party,
And who do you think was there?
Marigold Mary and Viscount Canary,
Red Tiger Lily and Jo Daffodilly,
And Violet fragrant and fair,
Saucy Miss Buttercup and Johnny Jump Up –
A boat load from over the bay.
They danced to a fiddle with
“hands down the middle”,
ate oysters and ices,
rich sauces and spices,
and went to bed sick the next day!

The Importance of an Open End to Life

It has been noted with some horror in the press that the Liverpool Care Pathway (LCP) could be “a back door to euthanasia” and that doctors and nurses using it are deliberately hastening patients` deaths “for sinister motives”. The LCP, which was developed at the Royal Liverpool Hospital and the city`s Marie Curie Hospice to relieve suffering in dying patients, is, in fact, simply a procedure used when it is felt a patient has entered the final stages of life and survival can be assessed in terms of days or hours.

It prompts care staff to have open discussions with relatives and, if possible, patients, to stop unnecessary medication, to discontinue futile medical interventions and to shift the focus of care to symptom-control, comfort and dignity. Studies of the use of medication such as morphine used on the LCP, have found that very conservative doses are used. The intention when prescribing at the end of life is wholly to relieve suffering and not to hasten death.

Most patients on the LCP are too poorly to eat or drink, but where a patient is able to swallow, then fluids and food must be offered. They are certainly not, as has been suggested, “starved to death”. The problem with intravenous fluids is that a cannula (a needle allowing fluid to flow into the body) needs to be inserted into a vein. This can be painful, often very difficult and, sometimes, nearly impossible in patients who have been in hospital for a number of weeks or who are very ill. When reaching the final days of life, patients do not want multiple cannulation attempts and would prefer to be given good mouth care and to keep their lips and mouth moist and to be offered sips of fluid if able to swallow.

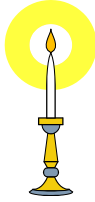
The LCP is not a one-way road to death. One in ten patients initially cared for on the pathway come off it because their condition improves clinically. Doctors cannot accurately predict the future and much of what is done in palliative (end of life) care is based on clinical experience - not hard science. The key to providing good care is a regular review and keeping an open mind, while trying to communicate the uncertainties to the patient and the family along the way. The problem is that the medical profession does not communicate with patients and family well enough.

One thing in life is certain: we are all going to die and we need to talk openly about it and to plan for it properly. Tools such as the LCP help doctors and nurses to work with patients to achieve this. Accepting that not all illnesses can be cured and challenging societal taboos about dying and the expectation of “eternal youth” and health, will mean many people can achieve “a good death” and those left behind can grieve knowing their loved one had a comfortable and dignified end.

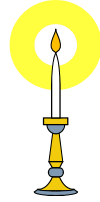
We fully believe that the effective use of the LCP improves care at the very end of life and results in more “good deaths”. Patients do not undergo futile painful interventions and their family are well informed and emotionally supported. This makes the grieving process that little bit easier.

Tessa Cox
Former Clinical Nurse Specialist in Palliative Care
Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice





FIRST COMMUNION



First Communion Sunday is a major event in the life of any parish. It is a cause of celebration not only for the children, their families and friends but for the whole Parish and Eucharistic Community. It marks an important stage in the children's journey of faith, the next step on the children's initiation into the life of the Church. All of us have a part to play in the children's journey. The Eucharist only makes sense to our children in the context of the faith community. It is important that the children recognise that all members, young and old, of their Church community are making the journey of faith with them. It is also important that we as a community are inclusive and that the children feel that they are part of our community.

The children receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, 23 March. First Communion Sunday this year will be on **Sunday, 16 June**. Thirty two of our children are preparing for the First Communion. We are well into the preparation programme and examples of our work have been and will continue to be displayed in Church.

The programme encourages each child to develop a personal relationship with Jesus by understanding the many gifts that we have been given, by taking care of them, and by sharing them with others. We look at these themes through the programme "God's Greatest Gift". At each session with the children the catechists explore with the children one or more of the gifts God has given us: Creation, Life, Baptism, God's Word, Friendship, Forgiveness, Peace, Joy, the Eucharist as the expression of Jesus' love for us. We also encourage the children to consider their responses to those gifts and how they can share them with others. But it is at home that the children experience the things they learn about in the group sessions.

While the programme is parish-based, it is one in which the children's parents play the key role in preparing their children for First Communion. So please remember the children and their families in your prayers.

David May

And here they are:

<i>Scarlet Ainger</i>	<i>Joseph Licence</i>
<i>Mia Axby</i>	<i>Keanu Lory</i>
<i>Pyper Axby</i>	<i>Charlotte Luft-Beutelspagher</i>
<i>Adam Bordewicz</i>	<i>Will Lyons</i>
<i>James Boyle</i>	<i>Freya MacWilliam</i>
<i>Sophie Brennan</i>	<i>Esther Maher-Williams</i>
<i>Ben Coggin</i>	<i>Caitlin Mitchell</i>
<i>Euan Coomber</i>	<i>Katie Mulholland</i>
<i>Finton Fitzgerald</i>	<i>Marcus Perry</i>
<i>Matthew Ford</i>	<i>Alice Roberts</i>
<i>Ava Hickes</i>	<i>Holly-Anne Sait</i>
<i>Bethany James</i>	<i>Benjamin Todd</i>
<i>John Joyce</i>	<i>Sydney Tucker</i>
<i>Molly Kelly</i>	<i>Oliver West</i>
<i>Rosie Kelly</i>	<i>Lorelle Wijekoon De Silva</i>
<i>Cassandra Lawrence</i>	<i>Abigail Wisdom</i>



Prayers by Cardinal John Henry Newman

Dear Lord, help me to spread your fragrance wherever I go.

Flood my soul with your spirit and life.

Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly that all my life may only be a radiance of yours.

Shine through me, and be so in me that every soul I come in contact with may feel your presence in my soul.

Let them look up and see no longer me, but only you, O Lord!

Stay with me and then I will begin to shine as you do; so to shine as to be a light to others. The light, O Lord, will be all from you; none of it will be mine. It will be you shining on others through me.

Let me thus praise you in the way which you love best, by shining on those around me.

Let me preach you without preaching, not by words but by example, by the catching force, the sympathetic influence of what I do, the evident fullness of the love my heart bears to you.

Amen.

O Lord, support us all the day long,
until the shadows lengthen,
and the evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed,
and the fever of life is over,
and our work is done.
Then in your mercy,
grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest,
and peace at the last.

Amen.

Thanks to Anne-Marie Mather-Williams

A SHORT REFLECTION ON THE SAME-SEX MARRIAGE PROPOSALS

Bishop Philip in his last pastoral letter acknowledges

“Indeed, most of the big debates in our society revolve around two matters: sex and authority. What is the truth about human sexuality? And who can tell me how to live my life?”

Our culture views Catholic teaching on human sexuality as repressive and negative. This is far from the truth. Yes the Church holds fast to the natural law; that marital love is about our participation in God’s procreative plan – the giving of life and, through, the mutual self-giving of our bodies as Christ gave His to the Church, it is about our participation in the intimate and passionate love of God.

The Church’s teaching and witness is crammed full of ecstatic commentary on this intimate and passionate love, even if, as Bishop Philip says, the Church has "failed, since the social and sexual revolutions of the 1960s, to explain attractively and imaginatively the alternative vision of life and love that Jesus has taught and which he promises is the true way to human happiness and eternal life."

However, it is no accident that in our time Pope John Paul II wrote more about the beauty of sexual union than perhaps all the other Popes put together – in his *Theology of the Body* and in his more recently discovered and deeply intimate writings on the Christian love manual – the *Book of the Song of Songs*. It is no accident but a movement of the Holy Spirit that our Pope Benedict wrote openly about erotic love. C.S. Lewis wrote as quoted in the *Youth Catechism* – *“If anyone says that sex in itself is bad, Christianity contradicts him at once.”* It is heretical to say that our bodies are bad. The Church is a prophetic witness to society of the amazing beauty of our bodies as we were in the garden of Eden, contrasting lust for what it is – disordered desire that bends itself

inwards and views our bodies as means of satisfaction – as erotic love cut off from agape love. Christianity is not about the repression of sexual desire but it is about allowing it to be transformed into something truly ecstatic and amazing.

The bible is full of rich imagery about God's relationship with his Church – the bridegroom and the bride. In Isaiah 62 we read *“Like a young man marrying a virgin, so will the one who built you wed you, and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.”* This speaks of God's love for you and for me; his desire for complete and mystical intimacy with each one of us, no matter what our state of life. Our celibate clergy and religious give up their bodies is a tangible witness for us of this call to intimacy with God. It is the same witness of Mary, ever virgin and full of grace. Mary, who knew only too well full intimacy with God and who, with Joseph her husband and protector on earth, understood how inappropriate further physical union would be. Mary, who prompts Jesus to his first sign of His glory – where? At a marriage feast at Cana.

This is the positive and glorious witness we have to give to our broken world and why the current debate about conferring the status of marriage on same sex couples shakes us so much to the intimate core of our hearts.

Deacon Paul Page-Tickell

(taken from a homily given on 20th January 2013 – 2nd Sunday of the Year)





THE HOLY CROSS AND MOST HOLY REDEEMER

THE PARABLES told by Jesus during the course of his public teaching have long been a subject of research, discussion, and often heated controversy between Biblical scholars and commentators, including the reason why he chose to teach in this way, as various very different meanings have been offered for them from very early times. We are told that his disciples themselves asked him why he taught in parables. His answer according to the Gospel of Mark was: *‘To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything is in parables; so that they may indeed see but not perceive, and hear but not understand, lest they should turn again and be forgiven.’* It is an answer that is not easy to understand, and is of course itself a subject of considerable controversy, not least of which whether his answer has been correctly recorded or translated for us – a question that also accompanies many interpretations of the parables themselves.

Whether the second part of this quotation is accurate or not, Jesus seems to be differentiating between those who genuinely seek the will of God and his kingdom and those who would misunderstand in ways which were not ultimately seeking the will of God. It is probably to be understood as referring to the insight of faith in the mysteries of God not shared by outsiders. To hear and not to seek to understand is far more likely in our own more unreflective and superficial society than it could ever have been in first century Judaea.

But we know that some details in some parables were changed during the time when the early Church was passing them on, most likely well before they were recorded in writing. The changes are unlikely to have been deliberate. More likely they were told in a way which seemed to fit the circumstances in which the early Church found itself during the decades of persecution and eventual Christian separation from the synagogue and Temple.

‘Parables’ were originally understood as riddles which may perhaps best be understood as like Zen Buddhist *koans*, which at first seem to be either irrelevant or self-contradictory observations. They are given by a spiritual Master to challenge a disciple’s mindset in order to enable him to reach a higher stage of enlightenment. In a similar way Jesus offered meditative stories or metaphors to enlighten his disciples in the mysteries of the kingdom of God. In both cases it is not intelligence that is really required, so much as the humility to understand our own weaknesses compared with the abundance of what God is offering us. The contemplation is always the wonder of what is perceived at the *end* of the parable compared with the paucity in its beginning.

School News

ST. PATRICK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Whitefriars, Avenue Road, Farnborough
Hampshire GU14 7BW Telephone: 0252 542511



Once again as we approach the half way point in our academic year, we look both forward and back to events that we have, and will celebrate together as a school community. St. Patrick's has come through a busy time in the past six months.

Back in September, the children in Year 6 enjoyed a residential stay at the Kingswood centre on the Isle of Wight; this gave them a wonderful opportunity to further build on the relationships that they have forged together over what for many is six years together as a class. Years 3 and 5 have enjoyed their recent topics on the Egyptians and Aztecs and before Christmas their learning was further enhanced with a visiting workshop. We had mummies and Aztec warriors wandering around school. Year 5 have visited Milestones museum in Winchester, all suitably attired in period costumes. The African drums have been resounding throughout St Patrick's recently as Year 2 had the chance to learn various rhythms, an excellent start to a working week! Key stage one have embraced all their learning with plenty of enthusiasm with Year 1 currently enjoying a topic on toys both past and present. Our new reception children are tackling phonics with a great deal of enthusiasm. They can often be spotted wearing T shirts with different letters emblazoned on the front and are always keen to let you know their new sounds!!

September also brought us a new deputy head in the shape of Mrs Kate Licence, who has embraced the role with her typical drive and enthusiasm

In October the children put on a fantastic show when they brought a dazzling array of talent to our 'Inter house' talent show. The house captains demonstrated their excellent organisational skills when they hosted and ran the entire afternoon. The new school council have shown remarkable ambition towards a range of charitable organisations, raising money through cake sales, penny lines and mufti days. Both the school and the different charities are very grateful for the tireless support of the parents in helping to raise so much money for such good causes. A chance for the teachers to put their feet up!!!

The season of Advent was marked in school by our productions that set a tone of anticipation as we waited for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. The children's singing and other musical talents were greatly admired by all who attended. The school choir has also entertained in the wider community, sharing their talents at the St Vincent de Paul Healing Mass and at Blue Cedars, a residential home for disabled teenagers. The start of 2013 marked the now legendary performance at the O2 arena where they had the chance to sing with other schools from across the country.

Sadly this term has also seen Mrs Hislop move on to new horizons and it was lovely to see so many parents share in her farewell assembly at the end of January. We will miss her vibrant personality around our school.

Parents and teachers have enjoyed the many events that have been hosted by our hardworking PTA who present various events throughout the year. The excellent mulled wine at our Advent performances went down a treat. They have run a Christmas fare, a race night and, just recently, the ever popular St Patrick's quiz night.

As we enter the season of Lent we are busy preparing the children for the great celebration of Easter. During Lent we help the children understand the chance Lent provides to become closer to Jesus through Prayer, Penance and Alms-giving. Each class will have a special time of prayer each day with short meditations and activities to help them grow in Faith. We try to make penance a positive act, so rather than giving something up, we encourage the children to actively show they are trying to be more like Jesus - perhaps by helping at home, being more patient with others, doing what they are asked the first time. We are now eagerly awaiting the Paschal performance which the children in Years 3 and 4 are busy preparing for.

Jackie Jacobs



the caring face of academic excellence

Christmas Term Highlights

There was a real air of excitement at school when we welcomed back Old Girl, Alex Danson, a member of the Team GB hockey squad that won Bronze medals at the London Olympics. Alex, who left Farnborough Hill after her A level studies in 2003, visited in July before her Olympic campaign, when she promised to return if she won a medal. She gave an inspirational talk, in which she appealed to the girls to work hard to achieve their dreams and said her experience at the Olympics was ‘the most incredible time’. Alex’s proudest moment was winning the bronze medal, which she describes as ‘the most beautiful thing I own’. Community Feast Day was a lovely celebration of the Sisters’ dedication to their vocation. Each Form made cards for the Sisters and they in turn gave everyone chocolates! We had the privilege of witnessing the Sisters renew their vows during a beautiful Mass celebrated by Father Tony. The Lower Sixth shared in the celebrations by entertaining the Sisters and enjoying tea with them and the staff at Lafosse after school. Pictured is the very lovely Sister Teresa Hawkins, 93 years young!



Prize Giving celebrates not only our outstanding academic results, but also our many other successes. Our Guest of Honour, leading Catholic writer and journalist Cristina Odone, gave a very interesting and relevant address which challenged the girls to think about careerism, tokenism and look-ism. Entertainment was provided by the Senior Choir and Head Girl, Darcy Young, concluded the presentations with an engaging, and humorous, vote of thanks. Rebecca Tyler gave an impressive organ solo before everyone retired for refreshments and reunions.

We are all very proud of the magnificent school grounds, which very much enhance the educational provision enjoyed by the girls; therefore, it seemed a just reward when Farnborough Hill was awarded Gold and Category Winner for the Best Commercial Display / Landscaping in 2012. Rushmoor Borough Council judges admired the impressive Millennium Lawn, where the borders and beds were transformed into a colourful display to represent the five Olympic Rings, the patriotic 'Jubilee Border' and the peaceful oriental planting in the new St Joseph's Courtyard.

Clare Duffin



SALESIAN COLLEGE FARNBOROUGH

Salesian College's success continues

To complement the College's academic achievements, there were many successes in the Autumn Term. The College won the Geographical Association's 'Worldwise' Quiz for the fourth year in succession, Year 8 students won the internationally prestigious Kids' Lit Quiz for avid readers and the College's Senior Team

won the Farnham Rotary 'Youth Speaks' competition. In sports, Salesian College won 43 medals of which 26 were gold at the ISA London West Swimming Championships, The Year 9 Rugby Team won the Hampshire U14 10-a-side competition, the College's Year 8 and 9 team won the team event at the Senior District Cross Country Championships and numerous medals were won at the Regional Schools' Biathlon event.

More than just academic results

At Salesian it is more than just academic results which are important, it is the wider opportunities which the College offers to students. At the beginning of the new academic year the College opened a new £1.3m Music School. This dedicated facility accommodates music technology, provides individual purpose-built practice rooms, a specialist teaching room, recital hall and auditorium.

Diary Dates

Salesian College is a very successful and highly regarded school which warmly welcomes young people of other faiths. Prospective students and their parents are invited to attend our Open Morning on Saturday 11 May from 9.15am to 12.30pm.

Visits to the College are always welcome at any time by appointment – 01252 893000. Copies of our prospectus, both for the College and the Co-Educational Sixth Form are available on request. Please visit our website at www.salesiancollege.com for updated information. We look forward to welcoming you to Salesian.

Lorraine Stewart



History is interesting

In the 1500s, those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning and death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

The Lord

bless you and keep you

The Lord

make his face to shine
upon you

The Lord

lift up His countenance
upon you and give you peace