



RE NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC LIFE AND MISSION

Summer Term 2024

First Holy Communion 2024

The First Holy Communion Mass was held on Saturday 8th June, with a total of 19 pupils receiving the Sacrament for the first time. The Mass, celebrated by Father Edward, was a beautiful celebration for the children and their families. This is the second year we have held our First Holy Communion Mass at Our Lady's Church, and the setting once again provided a beautiful setting and created an intimate, family feel to the occasion. We were delighted to welcome back Mrs Ó hEarchaí from parental leave to support the children with their final preparations and to provide the piano accompaniment during the Mass. It was once again a privilege for the staff choir to sing as the children received communion.



Congratulations!



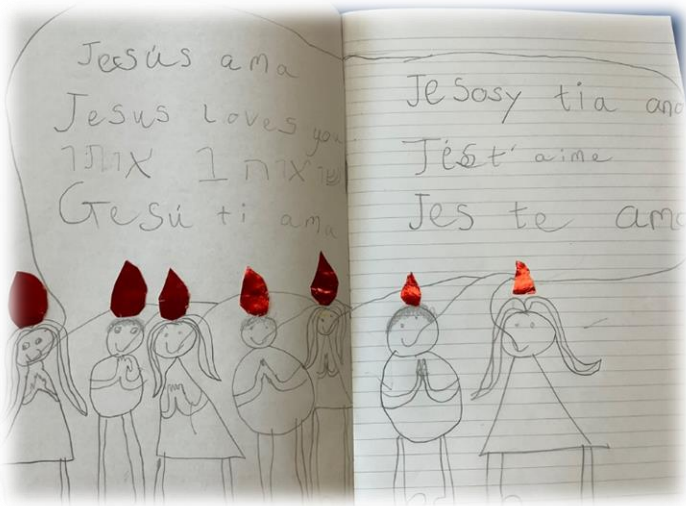
Corpus Christi Mass and procession



A sincere thank you to Father Edward for leading our beautiful Corpus Christi Mass on Tuesday 11th June. The Year 4 children looked beautiful in their First Holy Communion outfits, and it was a very special moment for the children to receive communion with the whole school community. After Mass, we held a procession around the school field, with the communicants scattering petals ahead of the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance. It was a wonderful experience for all involved and a witness to our shared faith.

Year 2

Year 2 have learned a lot about the coming of the Holy Spirit and the 'birthday' of the church through our recent Pentecost unit. As a class we learned about the many different symbols of the Holy Spirit and wrote a postcard, pretending to be a disciple, describing what happened to them during Pentecost. The photographs you see are of a Pentecost calligram (shape poem) and a drawing of the disciples speaking in different languages.



Goodbye and Good Luck Father Edward

At our final Mass on Tuesday 9th July, we said a fond farewell to Father Edward. We will miss him very much and hope you will join us in continuing to pray for him as he begins a new chapter of his Ministry. In the recently published 'Catholic Mission in the Channel Islands' document for 2022-23, Father Edward wrote about his time at FCJ.

"I have also been involved in this past year with chaplaincy at a mixed private primary school (one of three Catholic private schools on the Island – there being no diocesan schools) – Faithful Companions of Jesus. I have been constantly impressed by FCJ pupils' interest in questions about the faith, in their participation at school Masses, and with their general friendliness. It's a wonderful confirmation of the impact I've been able to make, that the pupils frequently stop me in the street to say hello – recognising me even when I'm not in a Cassock! School ministry is one of the highlights of my week, and I look forward to Tuesday mornings more than anything else because of it!"

A sincere thank you Father Edward. We will miss you!

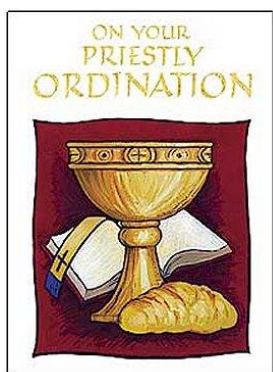




CATHOLIC CHURCH IN JERSEY



On Saturday 13th July, the Bishop will ordain Ambrose Chou and Tom Hiney as priests for our Diocese. Do please pray for them both.



Catholic Grandparents Association

The next gathering planned will take place on Tuesday 23rd July at 10.30am at the Oasis of Peace.

SVP Jersey

SVP continue to collect tinned items and toiletries. Boxes are located at the back of each church. These donations make a big difference to local people struggling to make ends meet. The SVP offers provision for groceries and other services on Wednesday 2-3.30pm and Saturday 9.30am-11am. The Foodbank is located to the side of St Thomas Hall on Val Plaisant.

Saint Helier Pilgrimage

The pilgrimage will take place this year on Sunday 21st July. You are invited to join the annual walk from the Town Church across the causeway to Elizabeth Castle and on to the Hermitage. This annual pilgrimage celebrates the origins of the Christian faith in Jersey. The walk will depart from the Town Church at 11.30am due to tides.



Pope Francis' MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTIONS

Pope's Prayer Intention for July

Let us pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, bestows the Lord's strength to those who receive it and to their loved ones, and that it may become for everyone an ever more visible sign of compassion and hope.

Save the Date



First Holy Communion 2025

We are now in the process of planning the First Holy Communion Programme for 2025.

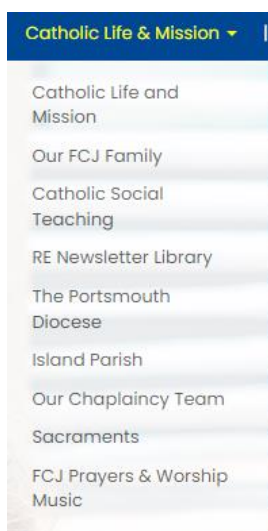
The Mass is booked for **Saturday 17th May 2025 at 10.30am** at Our Lady's Church, St Martin.

Further details will be available in the Autumn term and registration will take place in September.

Catholic Life and Mission Website

The website has been updated with an area dedicated to Catholic Life and Mission. In the drop-down menu you can find lots of information about our school and Island Parish. You will also find a link to the Portsmouth diocese weekly e-news.

There are links to previous RE newsletters, as well as copies of the prayers we use in school with the children. Over the coming months, we will be adding some of the traditional hymns and worship music we use in assemblies.



FCJ Pupil Chaplaincy Team

During transition week, pupils from Years 3 to 6 wrote letters to Mrs Taylor applying to join the new Pupil Chaplaincy Team. Those selected will be commissioned during the first school Mass in September.

The Chaplaincy Team will have the following aims:

- * To help the school to grow as a community of faith.
- * To encourage the pupils to live their faith in daily living.
- * To support Liturgy, prayer and the spiritual life of the school.
- * To continue to develop strong links with the Parish.
- * To support the school in its Mission Statement and values.

