

Spring 2026

SPIRITUAL LIFE NEWS

Emmaus Church of England and Catholic Primary School

We are friends journeying with Jesus in faith, hope and trust as we live, love and learn together.

Welcome to our Spring Spiritual Life Newsletter.
In this term, we have had two religious services with the clergy from St Cuthbert's and Our Lady Queen of Martyrs.

Our Collective Worship & Christian Values in Spring Term were 'Courage' and 'Forgiveness'.

Our Entrance Displays



Learning in Religious Education

In **Spring Term**, EYFS and Years 1 to 4 have all been enjoying learning topics from our new RE Curriculum 'To know You more clearly'.

Branch 3 Galilee to Jerusalem.

'God's only Son, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.' John 1:18. In this branch, pupils experience the ministry of Jesus, the Word of God. They learn about the life of Jesus and his revelation of the Kingdom of God through parables, encounters, miracles and teachings. They learn about the call of the disciples and the nature of being a follower of Jesus.

Branch 4 Desert to Garden.

'Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day.' Corinthians 15:3. In this branch, pupils study the season of Lent and its culmination in the events of Holy Week. They learn about the Paschal Triduum at the heart of the Catholic Church's Liturgy and life.

Come and See is still being taught in Years 5 and 6.

In the **Spring Term** we consider God the Son, Jesus and the question, 'Who am I?'

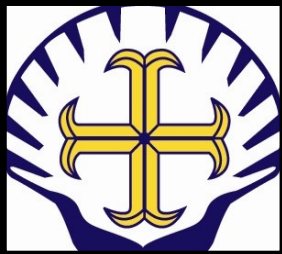
Church Theme - Community – Local Church focuses on the people of God, united in the journey of faith, in care for one another, in sharing their story and celebration.

Sacramental Theme - Relating – Eucharist focuses on the invitation to know Jesus, to live in communion with him and one another.

Christian Living Theme - Giving – Lent/Easter focuses on Jesus' loving self-giving on the cross, the Father's love that raises him to new life and the challenge to Christians to follow Jesus' example of self-giving.

Our Collective Worship & Christian Value for Summer 1 is 'Friendship'.

'Be strong and let your heart take courage, all you who hope in the Lord.' Psalm 31:24



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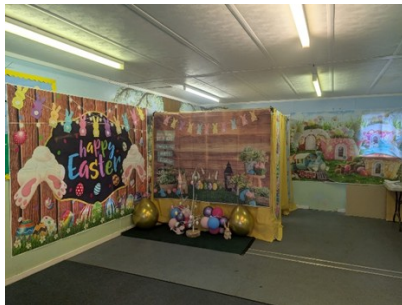
Update from St. Cuthbert's

Life at St Cuthbert's has continued with a range of activities, apart from our weekly services.

Pancake Party - this had to be held before Shrove Tuesday because of the school half term. Plenty of pancakes, lots of children and wonderful weather.

Ash Wednesday – we had a special service in the morning for the imposition of ashes.

Quiz Night – these are always a great event at St Cuthbert's and this one in February was no exception with an amazing £400+ raised for church.



Easter party – this was held on March 21st. Once again lots of children, lots of games and a special visit from the Easter Bunny. He had a splendid grotto to live in.

Update from Our Lady Queen of Martyrs

There was a Family of Parishes Reconciliation Service on Tuesday 10th March at 7pm.

Stations of the Cross took place each Wednesday at 6:15pm in Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin's Church.

There was a Good Friday Walk of Witness from OLQM & SS to West Derby Village.

During Holy Week

'Little Church' took place during the 3pm Good Friday Passion service at OLQM & SS. On Easter Sunday, we celebrated the risen Christ together in our mass at 10:00am.

The St Swithin's chapel, within Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, hosted the celebration of Mass each Friday morning in Lent at 7:30am. The former St Swithin's Room was refurbished to commemorate the 600th anniversary of St Swithin's. The chapel includes wonderful artwork from our three schools: Our Lady & St Swithin's, Emmaus, and St John Bosco. All are welcome to visit and explore the children's beautiful art.

'Be alert, stand firm in the faith, be brave, be strong.' 1 Corinthians 16:13



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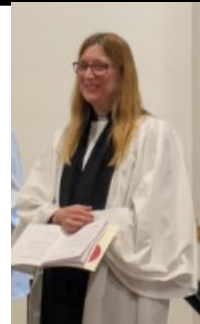
Highlights of Spring Term

Welcome to Reverend Kate Johnston

Recently, we had the pleasure of welcoming the new reverend of St Cuthbert's to our community.

Here are some words from Rev Kate.

It was such a joy to be licensed to serve as team vicar at St Cuthbert's on March 2nd and I am excited to start my ministry here in Croxteth. I received a lovely, warm welcome from lots of members of the community, including Mr Williams and Miss Dickson, who were there to represent Emmaus School and Father Anthony and Deacon Chris. I am really looking forward to getting to know all the staff, pupils and parents at Emmaus better, over the coming months. You are very much in my prayers as you start the Summer term. God bless, Rev Kate.



EASTER SERVICE

Our annual Easter Service took place on Tuesday 24th March. It covered the whole of Holy Week, helping us to prepare for Easter. The RE Ambassadors led the service beautifully, reading prayers and a very moving bible passage on Good Friday. We were extremely pleased to welcome Reverend Kate Johnston from St Cuthbert's Church, Fr Anthony from



Our Lady Queen of Martyrs and St Swithin's Parish, and Mrs Newton, our music/singing teacher. Some children brought up an offertory gift from each class, including work on Lent and special items from their Collective Worship tables. Thank you to everyone who was present at this special and holy event. It was wonderful to experience the whole school and our friends coming together to worship.

Prayer Spaces

We would like to thank our governors Mrs Simm and Mrs Cain for spending time with our KS2 children on a range of spiritual activities for Holy Week. Helping Hands-identifying how to help others. Asking for help-naming one thing they need help with. Forgiveness-writing what they are sorry for on a link and making them into paper chains for classes. Carbon Footprints-naming ways to reduce their carbon footprints. Being happy-writing on a leaf what makes them happy. The children really enjoyed their special time on the activities.



"When I am afraid, I will trust in you." Psalm 56:3



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FAITH in ACTION

We would like to thank you all for your continued support this year, in helping many charities. Our Harvest Festival took place in October. We asked for specific food items to support local families at St Andrew's Food Bank and you generously donated hundreds of them.



For Remembrance Day, we continued to support the British Legion by buying poppies. Our Christmas Jumper Day in December helped to raise money for the Save The Children charity.

We will also support other charities in the summer term.

RE Ambassadors

Our RE Ambassadors work very hard in school to raise the profile of RE and Collective Worship. They all take an active part in preparing our school services by allocating roles and readings. Many have been in their role for two years or more now and continue to grow in confidence and knowledge each term.

They are very keen to work in classes with children, so they are carrying on with their training on delivering Collective Worship linked to the Christian value of Friendship. In Summer 1 term, they will work in smaller teams in different year groups to help the children to make links to scripture and share their own experiences of friendship.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the RE Ambassadors for their continued dedication and love of all things spiritual at Emmaus.



'The Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.' Colossians 3:13



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Pope Leo XIV



In February, Pope Leo XIV asked all people to pray for children who are ill and suffering. Please join with us in keeping these children and their families in your prayers.

"Lord Jesus, who welcomed the little ones in your arms and blessed them tenderly, today we bring before you the children living with incurable illnesses. We ask you, Lord, that they may never lack proper medical care, human and compassionate attention, and the support of a community that accompanies them with love. Lord, teach us to recognise your face in every suffering child. May their vulnerability awaken our compassion, and move us to care, accompany, and love with concrete gestures of solidarity."

(For the complete prayer, visit the website vaticannews.va)

Epiphany Service

Our Epiphany Service was a wonderful celebration of the birth of Christ our Lord, and the visit from the 3 Wise Men. Deacon Chris and Reverend Kate led the service with our RE Ambassadors and they all did a wonderful job. Thank you to all involved.



Worship Group

Year 6 children continue to work in groups with some of our governors on a range of spiritual activities. Recently, these have included Gifts of the Spirit, Lent and Praying with colour. To pray with colour they wrote the name of someone they wanted to pray for, chose a colour to represent that person and coloured over their name. As the children were colouring over each name they were also thinking of the person and praying for them in a

different way. Reverend Kate from St Cuthbert's also popped in to explore the activities with the children. We would like to thank our friends for giving up their time so frequently.

RE in Action

Some photos of Collective Worship tables in our classrooms.



'Forgive them, even if they are not sorry.' Mark 11:25