

6.
**ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY RECEPTION
PLACES SEPTEMBER 2026**

www.bexley.gov.uk/admissions
(Bexley residents)

www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places

The School is holding a number of
Open Events on the following dates:

Monday 13th October 2025:
1.30pm;

Friday 21st November 2025:
9.15am;

Monday 8th December 2025:
5.00pm;

Thursday 8th January 2026:
9.15am

A presentation by the Head of School
will be followed by a guided tour of the
school. The closing date for
applications is **15th January 2026.**

ST. COLUMBA'S SCHOOL

OCTOBER OPEN MORNINGS:

Tuesday 14th;
Wednesday 15th;
Thursday 16th.

To book please email
[admissions@st-columbas.
bexley.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@st-columbas.bexley.sch.uk)

Dates for your diaries:

**HOLY MASS FOR
THE DECEASED CLERGY OF
THE BEXLEY DEANERY**

**Friday 7th November at 12noon
at St Lawrence of Canterbury
Church, Sidcup.**

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

**for all our Deceased Loved Ones
this year: Sunday 16th November
at 3:00pm
in St Mary of the Crays.**

During the week before Saturday the 4th
October and the Feast of St Francis of Assi-
si, Bexley interfaith Forum, comprising of
Faith Leaders of all the religious groups in
the borough, including Jewish Rabbis,
met. They discussed the situation in Gaza
at great length and produced the following
joint statement:

**"The
Bexley Interfaith Forum stands
in solidarity with everyone who
has suffered and is suffering in
Gaza, Israel and the West Bank.
We call on all sides to recognise
the dignity and sanctity
of every human life.
We call on all sides to make all
efforts to achieve an enduring
peace and an end to the killing.**

**The
Bexley Interfaith forum commits
to praying for peace and living in
peace and harmony with our sis-
ters and brothers of all faiths
(and none) within the London
Borough of Bexley."**

Dates for your diaries:

**BLESSING OF GRAVES
IN NOVEMBER 2025**

**Sunday 2nd at
12:30pm St Paulinus, Crayford.**

**Saturday 8th at
11:30am Hillview, Welling.**

**Sunday 9th
**2:00pm Kemnal Park, Sidcup;
2:30pm Bexley Heath;
3:00pm Brook Street, Erith.****

**Sunday 16th
2:00pm Sidcup Cemetery.**



3.

+ J. M. J. + JESUS, + MARY, and + JOSEPH +
Newsletter Supplement: 12th October Anno Domini 2025
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME C
THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

**"GOD HAS CREATED ME TO DO HIM
SOME DEFINITE SERVICE. He has
committed some work to me
WHICH HE HAS NOT COMMITTED TO
ANOTHER. I HAVE MY MISSION. I MAY
NEVER KNOW IT IN THIS LIFE, but I
shall be told it in the next. I am a
link in a chain, a bond of connec-
tion between persons.**

**He has not created me for naught.
I shall do good; I shall do His work.
I shall be an angel of peace, a
preacher of truth in my own place,
while not intending it if I do but
keep His commandments.**

**Therefore, I will trust Him,
whatever I am, I can never be
thrown away. If I am in sickness,
my sickness may serve Him,
in perplexity, my perplexity
may serve Him. If I am in sorrow,
my sorrow may serve Him.
He does nothing in vain.
He knows what He is about.
He may take away my friends.
He may throw me among
strangers.**

**He may make me feel desolate,
make my spirits sink,
hide my future from me.
Still, He knows what He is about."**

*Saint John Henry
Cardinal Newman. 1801-1890*

**"on this feast of Saint John Henry
Newman, ... may our witness be
made more real, never moving
minds without touching hearts.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen."**

**Please pray, pray very much,
as we fast approach
THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION
for 14 of our young parishioners
who are "THE CHURCH OF TODAY
AND THE HOPE OF TOMORROW,"
please remember that all
the Sacraments are
God-given Gifts, they are not
our personal achievements,
except for our good preparation
for them and our disposition
to RECEIVE them well.**

**They are not: "Life event ceremonies",
"Rites of Passage" in a simply human
made-up sort of way, nor are they
"Award Ceremonies" for having
'turned-up' to the preparation Courses!
They are 'SOLEMN OATHS',
'COVENANTS' THAT GOD
MAKES WITH US.**

**They are 'signed and sealed' in
THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST
from the Calvary Cross,
and empowered by
THE VERY BREATH OF GOD,
THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

Put simply and succinctly:

**"CONFIRMATION IS
A SACRAMENT
BY WHICH WE RECEIVE
THE HOLY SPIRIT,
IN ORDER TO MAKE US
STRONG AND PERFECT
CHRISTIANS
AND SOLDIERS OF
JESUS CHRIST."**

C. o. C. D. 262

4.



Please pray the following
PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT
everyday from today until Canon Victor Darlington comes to Celebrate and impart the Sacrament of Confirmation on some of our young people on Friday 24th October 2025.

“COME, O HOLY SPIRIT,
 fill the hearts of Your faithful,
 and enkindle in them
 the fire of Your Love.

V/: Send forth Your Spirit and
 they shall be created

R/: AND YOU SHALL RENEW
 THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

Let us pray:

O God, Who has taught the hearts
 of your faithful, by the light of the
 Holy Spirit, grant that by the gift
 of the same Spirit we may be al-
 ways truly wise and ever rejoice in
 His consolations,
 through Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**”

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“Holy Michael, the Archangel,
 defend us in the day of battle;
 be our safeguard against the wick-
 edness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him,
 we humbly pray and do thou,
 O Prince of the Heavenly Host,
 by the power of God,
 thrust down into hell
 Satan and all the evil spirits
 who prowl through the world
 seeking for the ruin of souls.
Amen.” (Pope Leo XIII)

“Angel of God,
 my Guardian dear,
 to whom God’s love
 commits me here,
 ever this day/night
 be at my side to light,
 to guard, to rule,
 and guide. Amen.”

FIVE STEPS TO BEING A SAINT

from Saint Carlo Acutis

Carlo’s way to sanctity:

- 1: **Frequent Reception of the Most Holy Eucharist / Holy Communion.**

‘The Eucharist is
 my highway to heaven.’

- 2: **Eucharistic Adoration**

‘If we go in the sun, we get
 a suntan ... but when we go in
 front of Jesus in the Eucharist
 we become saints.’

- 3: **Spiritual Guide and Regular Confession**

‘Why do people worry so much
 about the beauty of their own
 body and not about
 the beauty of their soul?’

- 4: **Devotion to Our Blessed Mother and the Saints**

‘The Rosary is
 our shortest ladder to heaven.’

- 5: **Charity**

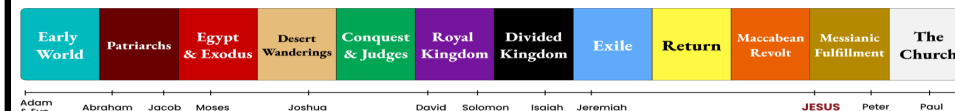
‘A life will be really beautiful
 if we come to love God
 above all things and
 our neighbour as ourselves.’

5.

THE BIBLE TIMELINE COURSE:

Grasp the Big Picture of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, with this
FREE world-renowned course presented live online by Mauro Iannicelli.
 Began on Wednesday 1st October 2025 at 7:00 – 8:45pm (8 Wednesday evenings).

Information & Registration: **comeandsee.org.**



5. FOR ALL OUR PARISH READERS

please note

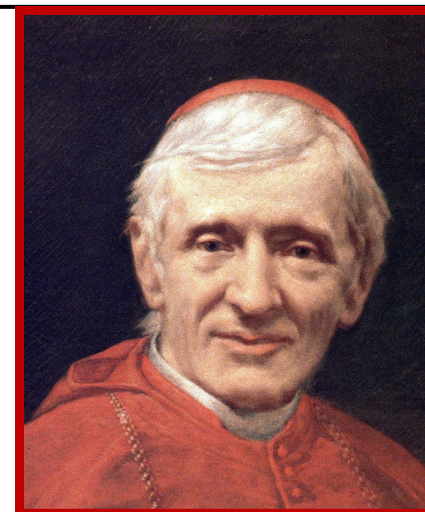
A DAY RETREAT FOR YOU
 on **Saturday 18th October 2025**

in St Stephen’s Church,
 Welling, 26 Deepdene Rd,
 Kent, DA16 3QL. (96 bus!)

Please register by our Parish Office
 today. Thank you.

Also, do we have any volunteers to
 become Readers / Lectors
 of the Word of God for us at
 Saturday evening or Sunday Morn-
 ing Holy Mass, please?

Please contact
 Mike Whitaker or Fr David
 as soon as possible please.



It was the Feast of **St John Henry New-
 man** on Thursday **9th October**. He will
 be given the title ‘**Doctor of the Church**’
 by Pope Leo XIV on 1st November 2025.
 Here is his ‘Short way to Perfection’ again:

“He, then, is perfect who does the
 work of the day perfectly, and we
 need not go beyond this to seek
 for perfection. You need not go
 out of the round of the day.

I insist on this because I think it
 will simplify our views, and fix
 our exertions on a definite aim.
 If you ask me what you are to do
 in order to be perfect, I say, first:

- Do not lie in bed beyond the due time of rising;
- give your first thoughts to God;
- make a good visit to the Blessed Sacrament;
- say the Angelus devoutly;
- eat and drink to God’s glory;
- say the Rosary well;
- be recollected;
- keep out bad thoughts;
- make your evening medita-
 tion well;
- examine yourself daily;
 go to bed in good time,
 and
 you are already perfect.”