

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:

Friday 21st November 9.15am;

Monday 8th December 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.**

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"Holy Michael, the Archangel,
defend us in the day of battle;
be our safeguard against the wicked-
ness 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."

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**MARY'S MEALS APPEAL
FOR UNWANTED CURRENCY**

Do you have spare foreign currency, including out of date notes and coins, around your house that you could donate to help feed hungry children with **MARY'S MEALS**? The charity can also take British

coins and notes that are no longer legal tender.

MARY'S MEALS is a non-profit charity providing nutritious school meals to children living in some of the world's poorest countries. The promise of a good meal attracts these hungry children into the classroom, giving them the energy to learn and hope for a better future.

It costs just **£19.15** to feed a child with **MARY'S MEALS** for a whole school **YEAR** which equates to **10P PER MEAL**. Recently the charity announced that they now provide over **3 MILLION CHILDREN** with a school meal **EACH DAY**.

Envelopes and information leaflets are available in the reception area, and also a collection box for your kind donation.

SEEKING FACILITATORS

The Southwark Marriage and Family life (M&FL) Team are seeking married couples who are practising Catholics to join their growing team to present courses for Marriage Preparation, Building a Better Marriage and other initiatives in 2026. **Salary:** £30,000 pro rata (£7,000) for the couple. Mileage paid in addition. All training given. For full job description and further details, please contact:

liamgallagher@rcaos.org.uk

Closing date for applications: **31.10.25**

**ROOTED IN LOVE - AN OPPORTUNITY
FOR MARRIED AND ENGAGED COUPLES**

Want to grow closer as a couple while deepening your faith and meeting new people? All engaged and married couples are invited to a **monthly online meeting** where we share friendship, reflect on real-life topics, and pray together as we grow in love rooted in Christ. Gathering monthly on Zoom **Thursdays: 30 October at 8:30pm, 27 November at 8:30pm, 11 December at 8:30pm**
Email mflkent@rcaos.org.uk
to sign up or receive more information

3.

+ J. M. J. + JESUS, + MARY, and + JOSEPH +
Newsletter Supplement: 19th October Anno Domini 2025
THE TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME C
THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

*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 always truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolations, through Christ our Lord. **AMEN."**

**"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

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-a-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.**

4. What are
THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are:
(see Isaiah 11: 1 – 4)

1: Counsel (right judgement): the gift which moves us to act with prudence (*proper care and forethought*), especially in difficult cases;

2: Piety (reverence) (real and deep respect): the gift which moves us to love God as our Father and to have affection for all the persons and things consecrated to Him;

3: Fear of the Lord (awe & wonder (in the Presence of the Lord)): the gift which moves us to fear offending God and being separated from Him Whom we love;

4: Fortitude (courage, strength, power): the gift which moves us to do great things for God joyfully and without fear of difficulties and obstacles;

5: Knowledge (science): the gift which move us to see things of this world in their true perspective, in their relation to God;

6: Understanding (insight): the gift which moves us to a deeper insight into the truths that God has revealed to us;

7: Wisdom, (knowing how to love): the gift which moves us to judge all things human and divine, as God sees them and to have relish (*great enjoyment*) for the things of God.

All the Gifts of the Holy Spirit make us docile (*teachable*) and receptive (*open to receive*) to the guidance of God and the graces He sends us, and so enable us to act quickly and easily in the performance of His Will.

THE FRUITS (or HARVEST) OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1: Love, | Charity, |
| 2: joy, | joy, |
| 3: peace, | peace |
| 4: patience, | patience, |
| 5: kindness, | kindness, |
| 6: generosity, | generosity, |
| 7: faithfulness, | faithfulness, |
| 8: gentleness, | gentleness, |
| 9: | goodness, |
| 10: | modesty, |
| 11: | chastity, |
| and | and |
| 12: self-control, | self-control. |

(cf. Galatians 5: 22 – 23 & Catechism of the Catholic Church 1832)

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS:

See: Exodus 20: 2 – 17 & Deuteronomy 5: 6 – 21.

1. I am the Lord your God: You shall not have strange gods before me. God, as our Creator, wants us to love Him above and before all else.

2. You shall not take the Name of God in vain. God's name and all things dedicated to Him should not be misused or treated lightly.

3. Remember to keep the Sabbath day holy. God wants us to dedicate specific periods of time to Him since worship is of the greatest importance.

4. Honour your father and your mother. The family is the basis of society. Respect and obedience is due to parents and other lawful authorities.

5. You shall not kill. To destroy or harm human life, made in God's image, is a rejection of God's gift, the person and society.

6. You shall not commit adultery. Marriage is the only legitimate context for sexual acts. Adultery violates this sacred bond and destabilizes the family.

7. You shall not steal. Personal property is needed for human well-being. Stealing is attack on personal and civic life.

8. You shall not bear false witness. To lie or attack a person's reputation is an attack on human dignity. It is an injustice in itself and leads to further wrong.

9. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife (spouse). To desire what is evil is itself evil. Impure thoughts corrupt our minds and can lead to immoral actions.

10. You shall not covet your neighbour's goods. God wants us to make full use of the gifts He has given us, not to crave possession of the gifts of others instead.

(Covet mean: to desire, or long to possess something (or someone) belonging to someone else).

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT of Jesus Christ which sums up all the Ten Commandments:

“YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR MIND, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND ALL YOUR STRENGTH.”

“LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR AS YOURSELF.”

(Mark 12: 30 – 31, Matthew 22: 34 – 49, & Luke 20: 39 – 40)

THE NEW COMMANDMENT:

“... LOVE ONE ANOTHER; EVEN AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, THAT YOU ALSO LOVE ONE ANOTHER.”
(see John 13: 31 – 35).

THE PRECEPTS OF THE CHURCH from the Catechism of the Catholic Church Nos: 2041 – 2043

“THE FIRST PRECEPT

(‘You shall attend Mass on Sundays and on Holy Days of Obligation and rest from servile labour’) requires the faithful to sanctify the day commemorating the Resurrection of the Lord, the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints; in the first place, by participating in the Eucharistic celebration, in which the Christian community is gathered, and resting from these works and activities which could impede such a sanctification of these days.

THE SECOND PRECEPT:

(‘You shall confess your sins at least once a year’) ensures preparation for the Eucharist (Holy Communion) by the reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, which continues Baptism's work of conversion and forgiveness.

THE THIRD PRECEPT:

(‘You shall receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season’) guarantees as a minimum the reception of the Lord's Body and Blood in connection with the Paschal feasts, the origin and centre of the Christian liturgy.”

THE FOURTH PRECEPT:

(‘You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church’) ensures the times of asceticism (*discipline*) and penance which prepare us for the liturgical feasts and help us acquire mastery over our instincts and freedom of heart.

THE FIFTH PRECEPT:

(‘You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church’) means that the faithful are obliged to assist with the material need of the Church, each according to their ability.”