



Saint Ambrose College

Weekly News Bulletin

 @PrincipalSAC

Friday 3rd May 2024

A Message from the Principal

This weekend we mark the feast day of Blessed Edmund Rice. Not only is it fitting that the Mass to celebrate the Brothers' time at Woodeaves is held on that day, but the devotion to prayer and the Mass is often an aspect of the mission of Blessed Edmund that is overlooked. In Daire Keogh's book 'Edmund Rice and the Early Christian Brothers', he writes that the "evangelical imperative has been obscured by the emphasis placed on Rice's expansive charity, and the extent to which he sought to 'raise the poor'." I don't think for one second that Daire was downplaying the latter but the work of the Brothers, and indeed the teaching Sisters, in increasing Mass attendance in parts of Ireland is perhaps not talked about as much.

This Sunday's Gospel is the story of Peter visiting Cornelius from the Acts of the Apostles but for those who have a copy of the CTS Sunday Missal, there is a passage from Pope Francis placed at the beginning of the section for this Sunday and when I read it, I couldn't help but think of the Brothers and all that they have done and continue to do across the world. The passage states,

We can ask ourselves the question, how do we abide in this love? Jesus says, "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love." Jesus summarised his commandments in a single one, this: "that you love one another as I have loved you". To love as Jesus Christ means to offer yourself in service, at the service of your brothers and sisters, as he did in washing the feet of the disciples. It also means going outside of ourselves, detaching ourselves from our own human certainties, from earthly comforts, in order to open ourselves up to others, especially those in greater need. It means making ourselves available, as we are and with what we have. This means to love not in words, but in deeds.

From my own recent experience in South Africa, and particularly thinking about the sacrifices made by the Brothers to open St Boniface's, a school in Galeshewe, Kimberley, despite the threats and warnings from those in power at the time about educating black children, there is no doubt that the Brothers went outside of themselves and their earthly comforts despite the many barriers. In this particular example, in 1959, Brother Hayes ignored warnings from the Apartheid government who eventually withdrew funding for the school and deported Brother Hayes for his anti-Apartheid sentiments. St Boniface's is a genuinely amazing and inspirational school today.

Going back to the mission of raising the poor, Edmund stated that we should "give to the poor in handfuls" and we were fortunate this week to receive a significant anonymous donation to support the Sierra Leone immersion. We are grateful for this wonderful gesture. For those who have sons in younger years and are therefore perhaps not as familiar with the relationship between ourselves and our sister school in Freetown, we send our key stage 5 students on immersion each year and part of the aims of the experience are around improving the facilities at the school. In recent years we have been able to drill a borehole through the support and generosity of our own parents and we intend to support the building of additional classrooms and science labs in the coming years.



Putting the history and closure of Woodeaves together with the idea of fundraising to create more space, I am aware that there has been some talk in the locality of what will happen to Woodeaves when the Brothers leave this week. For clarity, the college's position is that we were, of course, keen to explore what possibilities might be available to us but unfortunately and indeed sadly, we aren't in a position to take any firm proposals forward with regard to the purchase of the building itself. We will be reviewing how we can better generate income for the school and further details about how you might be able to help will follow in due course.

The final line of this Sunday's Gospel reads, "Afterwards, they begged him to stay on for some days." Unfortunately, the Brothers will no longer be staying on in person at Woodeaves but through their work and inspiration, their legacy will remain. In their name and in the name of Blessed Edmund, we will continue to plant the good seed and have confidence that that seed will grow.

I hope to see many of you at Holy Angels on Sunday morning, particularly those who are 'Old Boys' or those who've perhaps had grandparents receive their St Ambrose education in the time when Woodeaves was in use as the school.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Dermot Rainey
Principal



REMINDERS

Dates for your diary

6th May	Bank Holiday
9th May	Year 13 Leavers Mass 11:00-12:00
10th May	Year 11 Thanksgiving Assembly 2-3pm (with parents 2:40-3:25pm)
13th May	Nurse Visiting at lunchtime with information on alcohol
23rd May	UCAS Year 12 Parent Information Evening at 6pm
24th May	Last day of term
3rd June	School returns—Internal exams for 7/8/9/10/12 commences
14th June	INSET DAY
22nd June	SAPA Summer Ball
26th June	Year 12 Parents' Evening
28th June	Inset Half Day (College closes at 1:30pm)
29th June	College Open Morning (Admission September 2025)
10th July	Year 10 Parents' Evening
15th—17th July	Activities Week
18th July	Last day of school—school will close at 12:30

Term dates for 2024/2025 can be viewed [here](#)

For more calendar dates please visit our website:

www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk/calendardates



STUDENT SUCCESS



Congrats to Charlie C & Harry C—Year 11

Who both play for Broughton Park Rugby Club and last weekend were victorious in winning the Under 16 Lancashire Cup, the premier junior rugby competition across the North West, with a very hard fought 11-10 win against Waterloo! This was a tremendous step up from last season where they lost in the semi finals but an absolutely brilliant result from the squad and the two Ambrosians.



Congrats Rory B & Matthew P—Year 11

Of Trafford MV for their spectacular victory in the final of the Lancashire Vase at Leigh RUFC last weekend beating Bolton 27-24!





SPORTS REPORT

✕ @StAmbrosesports

Gaelic Football



It was with great delight that we had been able to field two teams for a mini tournament playing the great Irish game of Gaelic football. Our combined Year 7 and Year 8 team played BTH three times including their Year 9 girls team. They recorded a full suite of victories. Our Year 9 and Year 10 combined team played twice against a well experienced BTH team. They lost their first game by a point and won their second game by a point. Our thanks to the leadership of our Captains John – Joe D and Cillian H. We look forward to the Northern GAA meet in early June. Our thanks to Mr Brady who coaches the boys each Wednesday after school and to Mr Le Pledge for accompanying the boys on Wednesday to the fixture at Trafford Metrovichs.





SCHOOL NEWS

FUNDRAISING—SIERRA LEONE

Elwyn A 7B and his Dad have decided to do a Rowing Race in their garage from 'St Ambrose College' to 'Rugby school' - A 'Race to Rugby'

This will be a distance of 131km, they started earlier this week and Elwyn is in a slight lead it will take us 6-8 weeks at least.

They have shared their JustGiving page linked below if anyone would like to donate to the Sierra Leone Fundraiser we are participating in as a school.

Any donation, even £1 would be gratefully received .

www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/dave-armstrong





CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Weekly Prayer Theme for Mass: *'Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has already overcome the world'*

Thanks to Fr Owen for joining us this week for Mass, to 9C for hosting, and to Sam and Tom H for reading! We were joined by students from the Prep, and this was the last Weekly Mass for our Y13 students who have been such faithful attendees on a Thursday morning!



This week's Prayer of the Week focuses on the Feast of the founder of the Christian Brothers, Edmund Rice:

The Edmund Rice Prayer

God, we thank you for the life of Edmund Rice.

He opened his heart to Christ present in those oppressed by poverty and injustice.

May we follow his example of faith and generosity.

Grant us the courage of Edmund as we seek to live lives of love and service.



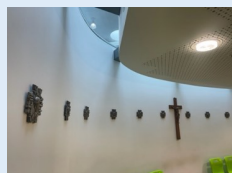
Edmund Rice Camps Recruitment

We are still recruiting from Y12 for this year's Edmund Rice summer camp. This was a huge success last year with students from St Ambrose and Loreto running a week of activities for local children free of charge. Any Y12 students who want to take part should speak to Mr Murray ASAP!!!



Stations of the Cross Donation

As they prepare to vacate their community house at Woodeaves, the Christian Brothers have very kindly donated the most beautiful Stations of the Cross plaques for our Chapel. They previously hung in the Chapel at Woodeaves and will be a fantastic addition to the centre-piece of our school . . .



And finally . . .

Our Bible Study Group has been meeting every week this year to explore and understand scripture. The sessions have been incredibly stimulating and fulfilling. Sadly, this Monday's session was our final one of the year as Y11 and Y13 prepare to leave for their public exams. We will really miss the sessions and hope that there are more students next year who would like to attend . . .

Feast of Blessed Edmund Rice

This week's Form Prayer also reflected on the Feast of Blessed Edmund. Edmund's Feast Day falls on 5th May, this coming Sunday. Without the legacy of Blessed Edmund, our school would never have been founded by the Christian Brothers. In particular we challenged students to look out their window like Edmund did, and respond to the need on their doorstep. This is the ethos and charism we strive every day to preserve and nurture here at St Ambrose.



Edmund Rice
Feast Day

5th May 2024

If you would like to join us in prayer this Feast Day, please feel free to use the following short prayers which all students will be saying in lessons on Friday . .

Edmund said, "The will of God be done in this and everything we undertake"

We pray that our trust in the goodness and kindness of God will never waiver.

Lord, may our sense of your presence in our lives equal that of Edmund. May each one of us have the courage and strength to live out our vocation, whatever that vocation may be.



Edmund said "Be intent on prayer and whatever may happen will turn to good."

We pray that we will always remain faithful to the values and teachings of Jesus.

Lord, may our faith in you burn brightly. May you truly become the centre of our lives. May we realise that in you is the meaning of life. May you be the beginning and the end of all that we do.



Edmund said "Were we to know the merit and value of only going from one street to another to serve a neighbour for the love of God, we shall prize it more than silver or gold."

We pray in gratitude for the opportunities that life has offered us in serving the needs of others around our globe.

Lord, may the poor be our passion as they were Edmund's. May we dedicate ourselves to their service. May we be determined to make a difference and leave nothing undone that can be done.



Edmund said, "The world and everything in it is continually changing ... Perfect happiness is not to be expected but in another world."

We pray that we shall not be afraid of changes or of letting go of anything that holds us back from the fullness of life.

Lord, help us to embrace life in its fullness and not allow ourselves to become twisted and misshapen by suffering when it does come our way, but to grow in our compassion for those in similar circumstances.





Let's get fundraising!

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- A collage of five photographs showing a woman interacting with children in various settings. The top-left photo shows the woman, wearing sunglasses and a black shirt, surrounded by a group of young girls in blue and white uniforms outdoors. The top-right photo shows her in a classroom, standing at the front near a chalkboard while students sit at their desks. The bottom-left photo shows her in a large hall, holding a red bag and talking to a girl. The bottom-right photo shows her in a tent-like structure, possibly during a field visit.

A collage of four photographs showing students in various school settings. The top-left photo shows a close-up of a student in a blue dress. The top-right photo shows a large group of students in a hall, some sitting and some standing. The bottom-left photo shows a student holding a book. The bottom-right photo shows a student in a wooden structure.

Vitam Impendere Vero— *Live Life by the Truth*



CAREERS—UPCOMING EVENTS



Wednesday 8th May

we will have several Surveyors in school who will be offering an insight into their jobs and will then be taking questions.

The presentation will take on **Wednesday 8th May 12:30PM – 1:00PM** in room 2402.

All years are welcome!

Mr. Gunning

Monday 17th June – Friday 21st June 2024

Work Experience for Year 12

During this week, Year 12 students will have the opportunity to participate in a work experience program. Students are encouraged to organise their own placements at workplaces of their interest.

We strongly recommend that students begin making inquiries and arrangements for work experience as early as possible to ensure a valuable and enriching experience.

If you or any contacts you may have are interested in being a delegate and presenting at our careers & Future Pathways Fair, we would be delighted to welcome new employers. Please reach out to us at the contact address provided below.

We will continue to share further information and updates with you throughout the year. Should you have any immediate questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at careers@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk.

Kind regards,

Mr. Gunning and the Careers Team



OPEN DAY

Saturday 29th June

9.30am to 12.30pm



SCAN ME



Saint **Ambrose** College Hale Barns
a State-funded Catholic Boys' 11-18 Grammar School

0161 980 2711 www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk



SAPA NEWS! MAY 2024

SAPA Summer Ball

only £60 per ticket

**Includes drink on arrival
and 3-course meal**

**Black tie
event!**

Saturday 22nd June 7-12pm Ringway Golf Club

PLEASE SUPPORT THIS FUNDRAISING EVENT!

**A black tie event promising an evening
of fine dining and fun with a silent auction.**

The auction will be available online for those not attending

Tables are a maximum of 6-8 people. Those buying
less than 6 tickets will be allocated a table space
unless you state you are part of a group upon booking.

Only 150 tickets available so please book early!

Tickets selling fast - How to buy tickets:

PayPal: using treasurer@sapa.org.uk

Select the 'Friends & Family' option.

Cheque: Place in an envelope with your details,
leave at the office and email us to let us know

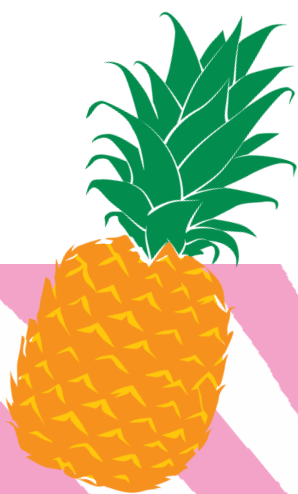






SAPA

Summer Ball

MENU





Starter

A) Grilled Spiced King Prawns with Avocado Salsa, Rocket & Coconut Shavings

B) Duo of Melon with Mango Coulis

C) Pressed Duck Leg & Caper Tagine with
Spiced Chutney Orange Dressed Baby Rochette

D) Asparagus Tips, Sweet Potato Cubes Rolled in a Smoked Paprika Celeriac
with a Soya Milk Foam (V)



Main

A) Pink Pan Crisp Duck Breast, Braised Stuffed Duck Thigh, Black Cherry Jus

B) Monk Fish Loin with Buttered Basted Palma Ham Wrap,
Langoustine Bisque & Truffle Oil

C) Roast Sirloin of Beef Served with a Rich Wine Jus and a Yorkshire Pudding



D) Plant Based Gourmet Burger with Gherkins, Sliced Paneer,
Caramelised Red Onion on a Potato & Rosemary Rosti (V)



Desert

A) Raspberry and Rhubarb Tart with Crunchy Crumble Top & Vanilla Crème

B) Chocolate and Pistachio Baked Brownie with a Whipped Chocolate & Coffee Bar

C) Homemade Lemon and Blood Orange Custard Slice with Toasted Meringue

D) Gourmet Strawberry Trifle with a Chocolate Strawberry Sphere,
Sherry Sponge and a Vanilla Pod Cream



**Meals can be accommodated
for Vegan & Gluten Free**





SAPA NEWS! MAY 2024

What an amazing uniform sale last week.

You helped us raise a staggering £920!

Our best ever amount so thank you so much to those who attended.

WE NEED MORE YEAR 7 UNIFORM PLEASE!

SMALLER UNIFORM SIZES ARE IN GREAT DEMAND AND WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH...

We currently do not need any trousers or shirts but please keep sending in your clean, laundered, good condition uniform items - especially ties, socks and sportswear!

Please continue to donate in the usual way by dropping them off at reception.

Thank you!

Julie Bastin - email: chair@sapa.org.uk

www.sapa.org.uk





General Notices

ATTENDANCE

The School Day

Please can we remind all students to ensure they are on-site by 08:55, all boys should be in their form rooms at 09:00 for registration.

All students should enter the building using the student entrance **not** Main Reception (this is only for late arrivals). Students who have two or more late marks in one week will receive an after-school detention.

Parents/Carers – please do not use the College car park as a drop-off point at the beginning or end of the day. This is for the safety of our students.

For further guidance please refer to our Attendance Policy available on the website: [St Ambrose College \(st-ambrosecollege.org.uk\)](http://st-ambrosecollege.org.uk)

Medical Appointments

If your son has a medical appointment please try and make them after school or if not as close to the end of the school day as possible. Please give advance notice of appointments in writing attaching copies of medical letters/appointment cards and email them to attendance@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

PASTORAL/WELL-BEING ISSUES

Please contact your son's form tutor in the first instance and they will resolve or pass on as required. For urgent matters relating to safeguarding or pastoral care, please contact Mr Groves, our Designated Safeguarding Lead: mrpgroves@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

ONLINE SAFETY

Students' online safety is important to us. We encourage parents to visit our website for advice and guidance [Saint Ambrose College - Online Safety \(st-ambrosecollege.org.uk\)](http://st-ambrosecollege.org.uk)

Useful resources can also be found by visiting:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://parentinfo.org/>

<https://www.lgfl.net/online-safety/default.aspx>

More general advice and information about the latest apps is available from Net Aware <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>