



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: indeed it's the only thing that ever does.
(Margaret Mead)



PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

As we marvel in the beautiful colours of Autumn, this reflection from Chelan Harkin reminds us of the immutable presence of God in all things:

'The worst thing we ever did was put God in the sky out of reach pulling the divinity from the leaf, sifting out the holy from our bones, insisting God isn't bursting dazzlement through everything we've made a hard commitment to see as ordinary, stripping the sacred from everywhere to put in a cloud man elsewhere, prying closeness from your heart.

The worst thing we ever did was take the dance and the song out of prayer made it sit up straight and cross its legs removed it of rejoicing wiped clean its hip sway, its questions, its ecstatic yowl, its tears.

The worst thing we ever did is pretend God isn't the easiest thing in this Universe available to every soul in every breath.'

BREAD BROKEN

S. Mary Stephen was pleased to gift the full set of her Stations of the Cross (Bread Broken) to the Bernardine Sisters who will use them in their retreat work across their houses.

S. Mary Stephen was able to deliver them in person to the Bernardine house at Hying near Carnforth, Lancashire.



COMMUNITY NEWS

We have enjoyed getting back together with so many people over the last few months. We had some happy tea parties in both Colchester and Melbourne and also met friends at the Colchester Eco Festival.



We have also resumed many of our pre-covid activities:



The Wisdom group



Summer cookery and health and well-being project



Breakfast Club



Toddler group

REMEMBERING S. MARY FRANCIS

On the eve of the first anniversary of her death, the Community gathered for Mass of thanksgiving at New Hall with some of Francis's family and close friends.

This was followed by a festive lunch at our house in Melbourne.

It was the moment when we were able to celebrate the remarkable book of memories that Rachel Kellett has put together, ably assisted by Tessa Trappes-Lomax.

You will have received information as to how to obtain a copy of the book via one of our mailings.



For further information please use this link to our website:
[Remembering S. M. Francis Wood - Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre](#)

St AUGUSTINE



Do you wish to be great? Then begin by being. Do you desire to construct a vast and lofty fabric? Think first about the foundations of humility. The higher your structure is to be, the deeper must be its foundation.

WHAT IS COMMUNITY: CAN WE BE CLEAR?

On the 3rd October we welcomed Dr Lea Verstricht, friend and theologian, to explore with us a theology of community and to open our theme for the year: Community: Old Paths and New Directions. To listen to the recording please use the link below.



[What is community: can we be clear? - Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre](#)

FOUNDATION DAY

We were able to celebrate our 379th Anniversary of Foundation in a very fulsome way this year.

We began with a talk from our researcher Dr Cormac Begadon on the evening of the 7th - entitled:

'The roots of New Hall school in Enlightenment Europe: the Canonesses - radical and innovative educators.'

Cormac's findings were very well-received especially by the school community who were hearing such exciting snippets for the first time.



Cormac with Professor James Kelly of Durham



Cormac's Foundation Day Lecture:

[FOUNDATION DAY LECTURE 2021 - Dr Cormac Begadon - Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre](#)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 6th November: Mass for the Dead at New Hall 2pm.

Sunday 14th November: On Zoom, Professor John McCafferty, 2.30pm, 'Understanding faith-based communities through their stories'.

Every Sunday in Advent meditative reflections on Zoom at 5.30pm

Sunday 28th November: Learning to Wait

Sunday 5th December: Seeking the Light

Sunday 12th December: Finding Joy

Sunday 19th December: Preparing for the Christchild.

Tuesday 30th November: 7.30pm, 30 minute prayer on Zoom on the theme of Waiting.

Tuesday 7th December: 7.30pm, 30 minute prayer on Zoom on the theme of Seeking the Light.

Tuesday 14th December: 7.30pm, 30 minute prayer on Zoom on the theme of Finding Joy.

Tuesday 21st December: 7.30pm, 30 minute prayer on Zoom on the theme of Preparing for the Christchild.



**END WITH
A SMILE!!**



'If we wait here you might get to see your GP'