

### Mission St Clement's RC Primary, Runcorn

This was a three-day school mission that ran exceptionally well. The over-arching theme was 'The Family of God' and Jesus' call to love God and our neighbour. The children were engaging in all class sessions and particularly enjoyed the creative activities we had prepared for some of the class sessions such as 'Creation' and 'Footprints in the Sand' paintings. The mission was a good opportunity for the children to remember that they belong to a wider family, God's Family and to reflect on their relationship with God and other people. The mission concluded with Holy Mass, celebrated on the afternoon of the last day, with all the children having a special role to play at mass.



Christmas 2017 Edition

# The Just Youth Brief

## From the Just Youth Diary

Just Youth Diary as well as our weekly Chaplaincy visits to St. Anne's RC Primary Ancoats, St. Willibrord's RC Primary Clayton, St Peter's RC High Manchester and St. John Vianney School Stretford, the team have delivered 22 sessions in 8 schools.

These included: Year 7 Welcome Retreats; Three-Day and Five-Day School Missions on various themes such as Advent Preparation; School Feast Days; Year 4 Retreat; Chaplaincy Team Retreat and Sacrament of Reconciliation Preparation for Year 3.

### September

25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> St. Gabriel's RC High, Bury  
Year 7 Welcome Retreat  
27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> St Clement's RC Primary, Runcorn

Three-Day School Mission: 'Family of God'

### October

9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> Cardinal Newman RC High, Belshill  
Five-Day School Mission: 'Catholic Valu'  
16<sup>th</sup> St Margaret Mary's RC Primary, New Moston  
School Feast Day (Mission)

### November

9<sup>th</sup> St Margaret Mary's RC Primary, New Moston

### Year 4 Retreat

13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> St Joseph's RC Primary, Stockport (Shrewsbury Diocese)

Three-Day School Mission: 'Family of God'

16<sup>th</sup> Sacred Heart RC Primary, Rochdale  
Sacrament of Reconciliation Preparation, Year 3  
22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> St Anne's RC Primary, Ancoats

Three-Day School Mission: 'Advent Preparation'

29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> St Margaret Mary's RC Primary, New Moston  
Two-Day Retreat: Advent Preparation'

### The Mission of Christ Continues

Was it not our Lord, who said, "my Father goes on working; and so do I?" (John 5:17). If our work here at Just Youth is His mission, do we expect any break? In His spirit we have also continued put into the deep (Luke 5:4). We have kept constant and remained consistent in our commitment in His mission to young people and children.

After having what I have judged to be one of the most fruitful years at Just Youth, (I am here referring to the last school year), I was tempted to think it was time to relax and take a good rest from our labours. That was a mistake! Our success seems to have brought more demands on us; our commitments increased, even within the schools we worked with and newer commitments from new contacts came in as well. With our team not bigger than last year's, it has been one long term. Every member of our team have had to dig deep because it has been one long term of immense demands.

Despite the heavy demands our commitment to this ministry placed us on, we have yet another occasion to look with gratitude to God who has enabled us to cover such grounds this term. It is also time for me to say a big well-done to this gallant ministry team. We did not brave through this term alone. Our Trustees, benefactors and collaborators must also share in this moment of gratitude. Do find here a little sniff of what the team have been up to this term. Time and space cannot allow us the luxury to be more comprehensive with our report. May God continue to strengthen us in His mission.

-Fr David



### From the Youth Ministry Leader's Desk

I had the privilege of joining Just Youth at the end of August this year. The team so far have enjoyed walking with young people on their journey of faith; working with four Chaplaincy Schools on a weekly basis, as well as additional school retreats and missions based on various themes, from what it means to belong to the 'Family of God' to Advent as a time of preparation for the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. It is always a joy to see the fruits of the team's hard work in planning and preparing for our time with the young people, when we see their enthusiastic engagement and relationships blossoming. We very much look forward to what the Spring Term will bring and ask for your prayers that we continue to faithfully serve the call of our Lord Who says: 'Let the little children come to me'. (Mt 19:14)

Daniella Stephens  
Youth Ministry Leader

## Lottery Winners

### JUNE

1<sup>st</sup> Prize Mr. C Finch -

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize- Mrs V McNamee-

### JULY

1<sup>st</sup> Prize Mr. Bernard Stuart-

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize Mrs. E Knowles

### AUGUST

1<sup>st</sup> Prize Mr. Soares

2<sup>nd</sup> prize Mr. & Mrs H. Sutcliffe

### SEPTEMBER

1<sup>st</sup> prize Mrs. P Kenny-

2<sup>nd</sup> prize Mrs. E M Jordan

### OCTOBER

1<sup>st</sup> prize Mr. Neil Brown-

2<sup>nd</sup> prize Mr. & Mrs. T S Connolly-

### NOVEMBER

1<sup>st</sup> prize Anne Egan-

2<sup>nd</sup> prize Mr. G Docherty-

### DECEMBER

Special Prize SN Tucker-£500

1<sup>st</sup> prize Mr. & Mrs C. Parker-

£200

2<sup>nd</sup> prize Peter Carroll-£100

### Lottery Winners

1<sup>st</sup> Price £200

2<sup>nd</sup> Price £100



Fr. Jude 18<sup>th</sup> Aug  
Fabias 24<sup>th</sup> Sept  
Moses 18<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Dora 7<sup>th</sup> Dec  
Fr. Patrick 16<sup>th</sup> Dec

### Remember in your Prayers

Fr Adraiza Edwards RIP

Mr Lazarus Pember RIP

Mr Jim Mc Kerricher RIP

### Donation

Mr. Owen Jordan £100

Ways you can support us!

Prayers

Fundraising

Donations

Just Youth Lottery

Just Youth  
The Spiritan Centre  
Northallerton Road  
Lower Kersal  
M7 3TP  
Salford

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### Volunteering For Just Youth

Hello, my name Dora, I am from Hungary. As a volunteer at Just Youth I have the privilege of going into St Anne's Primary School on Tuesdays and St Willibrord's Primary School on Fridays. These weekly visits have been invaluable to my experience so far. I have been introduced to school life in England and have enjoyed building relationships with the different classes, seeing the children learning and growing in their faith. As part of the team, I have joined to deliver retreats and missions to many schools in the beginning of the academic year and other key seasonal liturgical times of the year. My weekdays also include planning for the school visits. During planning, the team gets together to plan towards achieving the aims and objectives, then we prepare any materials/activities.

-Dora



### St Anne's RC Primary, Ancoats

Our work at St Anne's over the years has been quite a delight. This year, it has also started on a very positive note. A variety of topics and sessions have been covered already: 'Hopes & Dreams' for the start of an academic year; 'Blessed are the Peacemakers' in celebration of the international day of Peace; 'The Rosary (Joyful & Luminous Mysteries)' and 'Fatima' in line with the October as the month of the Rosary. School displays have been made, witnessing to the work that we do with each class. The visits, have also provided good opportunities to clarify children's understanding, such as with the different Mysteries of the Rosary. Fr David attended an additional day at St Anne's to discuss 'Vocations', which was a very good opportunity for the children to ask personal questions regarding the vocation to the priesthood, that they might not normally get to ask a priest. This was quite enriching for the children given their closeness to Fr David.

The highlight of the term was the three day advent mission. Based on Advent, the first day focused on 'Preparation', second day 'Reconciliation' and third day 'Celebration', to create a favourite spiritual attitude in the children at advent. In addition we began class masses and liturgies from the beginning of the last half term. These so far, have been brilliant moments of encounter. The children have shown deep levels of spirituality, getting to prepare their own masses or class worship sessions. One exciting novelty to our mission has been the inclusion of GIFT team members in our session delivery. They accompany us and take quite an active part, assisting and leading other children.



### Cardinal Newman RC High, Belshill Scotland:

Our first major school work in Scotland, after many years. This mission was run over five days and ran very well. Each year from 1-5 spent a full day with the team. They usually began with an assembly. The school intended the mission to be part of the celebration of the school's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Thus, we used the school's patron Cardinal Newman as the focus. Looking at Cardinal Newman at the assembly, the children went through three different sessions that focused on major aspects of his teaching. The parents were not left out as we had a special evening session for them on one of the days.

The school was very hospitable. We were treated to so many delights over the five days. The commendations of the school have also been communicated officially already to Just Youth by the Head teacher. The Bishop, who visited during the session, was impressed with Just Youth's work as well. The team had a memorable time.



### St Margaret Mary's RC Primary, New Moston

Another school we always enjoy working with. We had three major encounters this term already and as usual they were quite pleasant. The first was the school's Feast Day of St Margaret Mary. The day opened with an assembly, in which the children were quite engaging and looked forward to the day. We were then allotted 30 minutes with each class, where we carried out a reflection with them. Making the session more reflective really engaged the children to take a step out of their normal school day and participate in the school mission. The sessions were not only reflective, but creative having given each child a flag to take home and also creating a large school Sacred Heart piece.

In addition to this, we have also been in for a two day mini advent mission, working with all the classes. Earlier in October, the Year 4 came to Just Youth for a days retreat.



### St. John Vianney School

Steps to Independence & Education for Life



### St Peter's RC High, Manchester

Fr Desmond became the lead chaplain to St Peter's in September, when the school year began. He has already had field time in the school. He has been fully occupied with school voluntary masses, class masses, liturgies for special occasions and staff training days. The rest of the Just Youth team have been into St Peter's for two half-days for the Year 7 welcome retreat, which focused on the topic of community.

The team also went in to lead the GIFT teams from St Peter's feeder schools on an advent reflection day, held at the school with over eighty children from eight schools in attendance. This was quite a beautiful occasion that brought children from different schools to come and share with each other. The atmosphere was quite enriching, given the kind of spirit the children beamed with. It featured an opening prayer that was a simple liturgy that focused on the advent candles. Then the children went into two sessions where they focused on the theological values emphasised during advent and the practice of preparation during the time of advent. Through craft activities the children had reflections on the topics. These wonderful activities were followed by the celebration of the Holy Mass, presided over by Fr David, with the head teacher of St Peter's High and other Head teachers of the different schools and some staff in attendance.

### St John Vianney Special School, Stretford

This is the third academic year in which Just Youth have attended St John Vianney as a Chaplaincy school. The key to developing a good relationship with the school was time. The Just Youth team have got involved with the school in various dimensions to help nurture the relationship with the school (i.e. attending Football each Wednesday after school). Just Youth's presence and services has had a great impact on the school. Staff reflections are held every Friday for 15 minutes. According to Fr Patrick, staff members now volunteer themselves to lead the reflections. The reflections have become an opportunity for staff to share their life stories/testimony. Also each Friday, Just Youth organise celebration assemblies where each class is given 20 seconds to share what they have been up to. A significant impact on children's behaviour has been recognised. A GIFT team was established by the Diocese, which has helped and had a great impact on the children's ability to prepare/lead times of prayer and worship in the school. The school have visited care homes such as Nazareth House in Prestwich performing dances for the elderly residents. They have fundraised a considerable amount for Cornerstone and Revive. Moving forward the school would like to launch a Revive allotment and cooking. The school have strong links with the Spiritan Parish, but would like to develop better links with the sister Parishes (the school's chaplaincy team does have links with other schools/the community). The school also have a Caritas Ambassador team who renew their promises each year. Overall, the Governor's of the school are very happy with the work of Just Youth, especially the commitment of the volunteers, and asked for a presentation on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017.



### St Gabriel's RC High, Bury Year 7 Welcome Retreat

It was not the first time that Just Youth have been to St Gabriel's to hold retreats etc. The two days went very well in terms of planning and engagement of the young people. The days focused on community building since the children have joined a new school community. After starting with an assembly, to set the theme in context, students broke off into groups to partake in fun and thought-stimulating community building activities. The underlying theme of the day was love. Both days ended with short prayer sessions.



### A new beginning at St Willibrord's RC Primary, Clayton

We began a new chaplaincy commitment with St Willibrord's School. It is a very good school, who are very interested in deepening the Spirituality of both the children and the staff, leading to a full engagement of the services of Just Youth. The team made of Fr Jude, Daniella, Dora and Moses are running a programme that is very comprehensive to cover the needs defined by the school for the chaplaincy plan. Already they have covered: 'Hopes & Dreams' for the start of a new academic year, 'The Holy Mass', 'Judaism' and 'Fatima & the Rosary' 'Gospel values' for the children and 'Sacred Scripture' for staff.

Among many exciting days at St Willibrord's so far, was the feast day of St Willibrord's; an extra day when the team went in to spend time with the entire school community. The Team prepared elaborate resources to help the whole community spend an entire day reflecting on the life of the School's patron saint. The children are very engaging and enthusiastic, an aspect of the ministry that the team is quite happy about. We also have a Teacher Development session. At the moment, the team led by Fr Jude, is taking the teachers through a study of the sacred scriptures. These have been very good sessions that always engage the teachers.