



## Centenary Special 100 years of Basildon Catholics!



Dear St Teresa's Catholic Primary School Community,

This weekend we celebrated 100 years of Basildon Catholics. There was a special mass held to mark this occasion lead by Bishop Alan at Holy Trinity church . He was supported by many priest's including our very own Father Sabu and Father Albert as well as other parish priests you will no doubt remember from St Basil's past such as Father Francis, Father Saji and Father Dominic to name just a few.

The event was attended by dignitaries such as the mayor of Basildon, and our local MP as well as the most important guests (in my opinion) the children from Basildon's four fantastic Catholic schools! St Teresa's were joined by our friends in St Anne Line Infants, St Anne Line Juniors and De La Salle and the headteachers of each of these schools were in attendance. The number of parishioners in attendance was overwhelming with people standing outside of the door!

Our children formed a choir which sung beautifully in church and their behaviour was, as always, impeccable. In the hall after mass, there was a display showcasing the achievements of our parish over the past 100 years.

Our St Teresa's choir, alongside the Parish Choir and the African Choir provided light entertainment whilst parishioners mingled and celebrated. Our children were all given a commemorative bookmark and book about the history of the parish as a thank you for contributing to this special day.

Overleaf, you will see a selection of photographs from the event which I am sure will be remembered for many years to come. God willing, these images may feature in the display they put up to celebrate two hundred years of Catholics in our town!



### Upcoming Dates:

Tues 14 Oct 2025 —Parent's evening.

Fri 17 Oct 2025 — Year 5 Collective Worship Assembly

Mon 20 Oct 2025 — Second parents evening.

23rd October: End of half term for children (Staff Inset Days). Children return on Tuesday 4th November.

4th Nov—Children back in school (Tuesday)

5th-7th Nov—Year 6 Residential

12th Nov—Prospective parents school tour (pm)

13th Nov—Prospective parents school tour (am)

18th Nov—Book fair begins

2nd Dec—Y5 Walk Online

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## Thank you to the Catholic Women's Organisation

Basildon's Catholic Women's Organisation (CWO), who have just celebrated their second year of hard work and commitment to our parish community, recently made some substantial donations to our school food bank.

We want to extend a warm message of thanks to all of the ladies who generously give up their time and effort and who have helped local people in our community eat so well this week.

This food bank is already generously donated to by staff parishioners, the Live Simply Team and parents of the school. The CWO have added their name to this list and provided beautifully fresh fruit and vegetables which have already found their way to dinner tables across the town.

Remember: if you, or someone you know, are in need of support and struggling to make ends meet, this community resource is for you. The recipient does not have to be a member of the school community. All we care is that the food goes to whoever needs it. You can always pop in the school office and ask to speak to Mrs Gilbert or Mrs Fuller and we can make sure that when the next round of food and supplies arrive, they get to where they are needed.



## Parking

Although it pains me to have to end such a celebratory newsletter with another reminder about parking, I sadly must. We have once again had complaints from our neighbours about their drives being blocked at pick-up and drop-off time at the school. We have no power beyond our gates to enforce the way that you park and we have repeatedly asked parents to park with care. Yet it is my team who field letters, emails, phone calls and meetings with upset residents on a weekly basis. It is not fair that they continue to bear the brunt of the anger and upset caused by parking decisions made by the parents. I have briefed residents who have reached out to me that I will no longer be hearing their complaints. I will, instead, encourage them to reach out to the police and inform them of the number plates of any parent who blocks their drive.

I hope and pray that this is the last time we have to repeat this message in a publication that should be solely about celebrating the wonderful work of your children and our staff at St Teresa's.

God Bless, Mr J.Bottjer (Head)

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