

St Thomas More Feast Day 2022

On Thursday 23rd June, the school, family and parish communities all gathered together at Our Lady and St. Columba's to celebrate the Feast of St Thomas More. The evening was led by pupils of St Thomas More Catholic High School. The community spirit was overwhelming and the evening was a great success! Pupils from St Thomas More, across Years 7 to Year 13 led the event, through prayer, instrument and song. The hymn 'Joyful Joyful' reflects the evening after the celebration of Holy Mass. Both staff and pupils spoke with parents, governors and parishioners about the many different extracurricular activities and clubs that pupils participated in while at school. It was brilliant to see the church grounds come alive with music, games and food. After two years of absence, the Feast Day Celebrations of St Thomas More definitely returned with glory!



Eve, from Year 10 said 'I supported Year 7 girls to learn and perform sign language to the last hymn in the service, "Joyful Joyful Brenton Brown". They volunteered their time to learn the song. Many of the girls had never learnt sign language before and it was a new experience for

them. They thoroughly enjoyed it and learnt a lot, not just the signs, but about the language, how it is used, why it is used, the different formats, supporting people who use it, and how to communicate more effectively with the deaf and hard of hearing communities. We signed the song in Sign Supported English, meaning we used the signs of British Sign Language, with the grammar of



spoken English, this made it easier for the congregation to follow along.'



Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) 2022-2023

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is managed and awarded by the Board of Religious Studies on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The programme seeks to ensure that participants have a basic understanding of the central beliefs of the Catholic faith. This programme is available for catechists, lay leaders and other adults wishing to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and Catholic education, serving teachers in Catholic and other schools, and teachers in training preparing to take up posts in Catholic schools. The CCRS course programme is now available for 2022-2023 and there is a short presentation shown on the Diocesan website: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/education/continuing-professional-development-and-formation/#ccrs>