

# St. Francis News

Feb 2019



## **School Mission**

### **Statement**

As a Catholic School we come together to celebrate our love of God and each other.

Through prayer, we follow Jesus' example of love, forgiveness and truth.

We are a safe and happy community where every individual is supported and encouraged to achieve their targets.

We believe, that with God, everything is in our reach.

Dear Parent / Carer

### **Caritas' Schools Lenten Appeal – St Joseph's Penny**

All schools have now ordered their St Joseph's Penny boxes, meaning that nearly 50,000 families around the diocese will have the new globe shaped Caritas Penny box in their homes. These will be delivered to school after the holidays.

Continuing our **#BeTheChange** theme that was launched in our parishes on Caritas Sunday, all diocesan school pupils are being invited to be **CHANGEMAKERS** in their school and parish as part of their annual St Joseph's Penny Lent Appeal for Caritas.

This year pupils are being asked to consider the Catholic Social Teaching Theme of Stewardship, linking Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato 'Si: Care for our Common Home with care for the environment and care for each other. We are asking pupils to **Think Global, Act local** by supporting their local Caritas Service and other outreach in their parish and wider community.

Related to this, is an invitation to get involved in **Cornerstone Big Sleep Out 2019** to raise funds for Cornerstone's Safe Haven night shelter. This will be a good opportunity for students, parents, teachers and staff to experience one night sleeping outside and get sponsorship to help the homeless.

Cornerstone Day Centre is located in Moss Side, Manchester. As a day centre they serve people facing a wide range of issues including homelessness, poverty, social isolation, mental health problems, refugees, asylum seekers and people suffering addictions. Since winter 2015 they have run The Safe Haven night provision where rough sleepers and those experiencing destitution can have a roof over their heads, showers and hot meals in the evening. Every night they accommodate up to 30 people.

They need support to continue to run the night shelter. Some have no recourse to public funds, or work on zero hour contract, or due to anxiety are unable to deal with 'normal' daily lives.

Cornerstones would be delighted if you could join them on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May at the Xaverian College** for their Big Sleep Out. Bishop of Salford Rt Rev John Arnold will join in for the full experience. Registration is now open and you can register either as individuals or as a group on [www.cornerstone-big-sleep-out-2019.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.cornerstone-big-sleep-out-2019.eventbrite.co.uk). Information packs can be downloaded on <https://cornerstonedaycentre.wordpress.com/big-sleep-out-2019/>. Cornerstone Big Sleep Out 2019 at the Xaverian is family friendly event and under 18s have to be accompanied by appropriate adults. On the evening there will be safeguarding officers on duty.