

VOICE

ANNIVERSARY EDITION



Inspired by Faith, Education Leads to Progress

Anniversary Celebrations 2019/20

The current circumstances have prevented us from continuing our anniversary celebrations, but we haven't forgotten that this is our 60th birthday. We all need a reason to be cheerful and we couldn't miss an opportunity to mark this milestone, so have created this special anniversary edition of our school newsletter.

Founder's Day Mass



Students and Visitors take part in the Founder's Day Mass on Friday 5th July 2019, celebrated by Bishop Arnold (above).

We began our anniversary celebrations with a special Founder's Day Mass in July 2019. It was celebrated by Bishop John Arnold, and shared with members of the De La Salle community, including former students and Headteachers. Year 8 students designed a special logo for our celebrations, which can be seen above. It includes 60 people (to represent the 60 cohorts that have been schooled at Cardinal Langley RC High School).



Pictured above is the Bishop of Salford with the current and former Headteachers (left to right): Bishop Arnold, Br Campbell, Mr Durkan, Mr Mason and Mr Bridson.

Rome

The International Headquarters of the De La Salle Brothers and Lasallian Schools and Centres are found in Rome, and are known as Casa Generalizia or the Motherhouse. They are home to the relics of St. John Baptist De La Salle, the Institute Archives and a museum.

As part of Cardinal Langley's 60th Anniversary celebrations, two groups of students went on an



Staff and Students enjoying the sights in Rome.

unforgettable trip to Rome where they were welcomed at the home of the Brothers - Casa La Salle. They explored the city, tasted authentic Italian cuisine, and even saw Pope Francis!



*Left: Pope Francis addressing the audience at his Papal Mass
Right: The view from the top of St Peter's Basilica*

Cardinal Thomas Langley

1360 – 1437

By Br David Scarpa

In 1957 the De La Salle Brothers accepted the invitation of Bishop Beck, of the Diocese of Salford, to open a Technical Grammar School for the Catholic boys of Middleton. Two years later, the Bishop wrote to the Provincial, Br Gilbert Fitzsimmons:

'I am confident that this work which we are undertaking together will be of the greatest benefit to Catholic boys in the Diocese... I am very pleased to know that you approve of the title, Cardinal Langley School, and I agree that the Cardinal's arms would make an excellent school crest... I should again like to express my gratitude for agreeing to undertake this important work for the Catholic boys of the Diocese.'

The coat of arms identifies the Langley family as being related to Sir Geoffrey de Langley who fought with King Richard the Lionheart in the 1192 Crusade to the Holy Land. The Hopwoods and Langleys are descended from the two younger sons of de Middleton, the 10th century Saxon Lord of the Manor.

Who was Cardinal Thomas Langley and why would Bishop Beck and the De La Salle Brothers agree that this new school in Middleton should be named after him? Thomas Langley was born in Langley Hall near Birch-in-Hopwood in 1360, towards the end of the reign of Edward III (1327-1369). He grew up to be *'a large bearded prelate, fond of outdoor sports'* as one of his contemporaries described him. Thomas was the son of William and Alice Langley, his great uncle William Langley was appointed Rector of the parish of Middleton in 1351 by the King's son, John of Gaunt. Uncle William arranged for his talented young nephew to join a monastery in Norfolk until he was ready to enter Cambridge University. In 1386, on the death of his uncle, Thomas became Rector of the parish of Middleton and was then employed by John of Gaunt as Treasury clerk, travelling the country with the Prince. In 1397 Thomas was appointed a Canon in the cathedral of St Asaph. Two years later, Bolingbroke Earl of Derby, son of John of Gaunt and Blanche, heiress to the considerable Lancaster estates became King Henry IV.

Churchman and politician, Thomas Langley rose through the ranks, as clerk and later personal secretary to King Henry IV, an acknowledgement of his loyalty to the Lancastrian cause in the crisis following the death of John of Gaunt. He became Keeper of the Privy Seal in 1401 and Chancellor of the kingdom in 1404. Pope Gregory XII appointed Thomas Dean of York in 1403. He was consecrated Bishop of Durham at St Paul's Cathedral in London in 1408 and Pope John XXIII appointed him Cardinal in 1411. It is suggested that the Pope's motive for this, and other such appointments, was

to gain support from the European powers against his Italian enemies, including two rival Popes. The King asked the Pope to excuse Langley from accepting the honour, conscious of Pope John's reputation and policies that led to his eventual deposition in 1415. However, the title 'Cardinal Langley' was conferred.

By the end of the 14th century fewer people in England understood French and the use of English language gradually took over, not only with colloquial speech, but it also replaced Latin in official documents. Literacy increased considerably during this time. Chaucer completed The Canterbury Tales between 1386 and 1400. As churchman and politician, Thomas Langley encouraged school and university educational development.

By the turn of the 14th/15th century, Owain Glyndwr was fighting for Welsh independence. In France, Gascony was seen as the heartland of English sovereignty and during the summer of 1415, after the siege of Harfleur, Henry V hoped to return safely to England via Calais. However, his 10,000 troops encountered the 30,000 French force at Agincourt. Very significant in his victory were the highly skilled Middleton long bow archers. Sporadic wars in Ireland, and with the Scots, sapped the English Treasury and heavy taxes were imposed. During this difficult time, the diplomatic skills of Thomas Langley at home and in Europe were strained to the utmost. After very stressful leadership roles in Church and State, Thomas Langley died in 1438 at the age of 78.



The stained glass window in the Langley Chapel, Middleton Parish Church, depicts, from left to right:

Alexander Nowell, Dean of Saint Pauls who was educated at Middleton. Below him is a picture of the old grammar school which Nowell founded in 1586.

Thomas Langley. The words below his coat of arms read 'THOMAS LANGLEY: Cardinal & Bishop of Durham: Rebuilt Middleton Church 1412AD. The founder of this Chantry'

The Virgin Mary holding young Jesus. Below them is a nativity scene and the words "The Word was made Flesh and dwelt among us".

Saint Cuthbert, below whom is a picture of The Minster of St Cuthbert at Durham and the words 'SAINT CUTHBERT in whose name with that of SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN this chapel was dedicated by Bishop Langley'

Saint Leonard, patron Saint of Middleton Church. He is depicted holding Middleton Church in his right hand and chains (he is patron saint of prisoners) in his left hand.

Sixty Years of Service in the Education of the Youth of North Manchester.



'Moniti Fide Meliora' 'Education in Faith leads to Progress'.

By Brian McAnenney

On the 15th of September 1959, Cardinal Langley Technical Grammar School opened its doors to the young people of North Manchester under the leadership of the Rev Brother Damien McCarthy. The new school was described in the Catholic Herald, prior to its opening as, "An unconventional Grammar School whose intake would be solely scholarship boys." The school was to be run on house lines and the first intake comprised 120 first year and 60 second year boys, the latter coming from De La Salle Salford, the Xaverian and St. Bede's Colleges.



Cardinal Langley's 1959 cohort of students

Foundation Year - 1959

A feature of the new Grammar School was its extensive technical facilities, not normal in a Grammar School. The philosophy behind these facilities was to provide a sounder basic training for those who wished to go onto university to study chemical and civil engineering, and also to stimulate interest in work at colleges of advanced technology which were coming into prominence in the country at that time.

The facilities enjoyed by today's Cardinal Langley pupils bear little resemblance to those of their predecessors in 1959. In order to facilitate lessons, the original incarnation of Cardinal Langley School had to depend on the generosity of its neighbouring schools for the loan of classroom furniture. The 1959 footprint of the school consisted of what the pupils of today know as their art rooms, indeed space was at such a premium that some lessons were conducted in the cloakroom.

The second phase of the school was due for completion by September 1960, but due to a series of delays it wasn't handed over until December 5th 1960. The delay saw the introduction of part time schooling with Second Year

(Year 8) and Third Year (Year 9) attending school in the morning, and the new intake First Years (Year 7) attending in the afternoon up to 4.30pm. This arrangement remained in place until the house block became available in December 1960. Construction continued over the next two years and finally in April 1962, with the completion of the chapel, Cardinal Langley Technical Grammar School, was up and running and ready to meet the needs of the 442 pupils in its care.



A clipping taken from the Middleton Guardian, one month prior to the school's grand opening. It shows the original layout of the building, which has since been modernised and extended, most notably with the addition of the De La Salle Building which welcomes Year 7 pupils every September.

Since its inception in 1959, Cardinal Langley Technical Grammar School had catered for the needs of the Catholic scholarship pupils of North Manchester. The needs of the remainder of the secondary Catholic population in Heywood and Middleton had been met by Bishop Marshall, Saint Dominic Savio and Saint Joseph's Secondary Modern Schools, but in the mid to late seventies the wind of change was blowing through the provision of secondary education. A combination of factors, including, changes in educational thinking, dwindling numbers of pupils, and the financial constraints of a recession lead to a reorganisation of Secondary Catholic provision in the townships of Middleton and Heywood. The outcome of the reorganisation saw Cardinal Langley Grammar School and Bishop Marshall Secondary Modern School, which served the Catholic population of Langley estate, amalgamated to create Cardinal Langley Roman Catholic High School based at the Cardinal Langley site. The other two schools retained their identity and acquired comprehensive status. The staffs of all four schools were redeployed between the three newly created schools.

The school which had served the Catholic community of North Manchester as a Grammar School entered the annals of history on the 31st August 1979. On the 3rd of September of that year, Cardinal Langley Roman Catholic High School opened its doors to all the Catholic children of Middleton. The age of comprehensive education had arrived.

For the newly created High School, under the leadership of Rev Brother Thomas Campbell, this was a particularly challenging time. The facilities at Rochdale Road, the designated site of the new school, were inadequate for the newly created co-educational establishment and a building programme was required.

It was decided that the new comprehensive intake would be accommodated on the Rochdale Road site and they would be given a new identity which heralded the end of the Cardinal Langley blazer and the introduction of the red jumper.

The students of Bishop Marshall were to remain on their site at Martindale Crescent in Langley for the four remaining years of their secondary education. The reason for this was twofold, firstly it was necessary to facilitate the building programme required on the Rochdale Road site and secondly it was an act of appeasement for the sense of betrayal felt by the Catholic Community of Langley at the loss of their Secondary School. The Sixth Form was also located to the Martindale Crescent site in 1980 and, with the stem of the Bishop Marshall Pupils, remained there until the completion of the building programme on the Rochdale Road site in 1983.

The management of a two site school, and a significant building programme, were the least of the worries for the senior management team of the new school. The haste with which the process of reorganisation was carried out created a staff of disunity with much resentment surrounding the appointment and promotion of staff. It is testament to the vision and tenacity of the Headteacher that he was able to report to governors in October 1985 that the school had:

- Striven through the good efforts of all staff – teaching and non-teaching – to put a high premium on good relations, the vast majority of pupils have responded in like manner and feel sure and valued for themselves. The school is a happy one and most pupils are glad to be part of it.
- A school that has consciously and successfully striven to cultivate good relations with the local community especially through service of the elderly, housebound and the handicapped.
- A school where there is a real consciousness of the needs of the less able and where the efforts of staff and Form Six are bent to meet them.
- A school which has striven to be Christian, not only in name but in deed, and where the values

of gentleness, kindness, respect and service are held up as great human qualities to be striven for.

- A school where work standards are high and success is notable in many areas, not only in purely academic terms, but in music, drama, public speaking and sport.
- A school where Gospel values and personal commitment are explicit and valued and yet where the freedom and varying maturity of young people is respected and force in religious matters is eschewed.

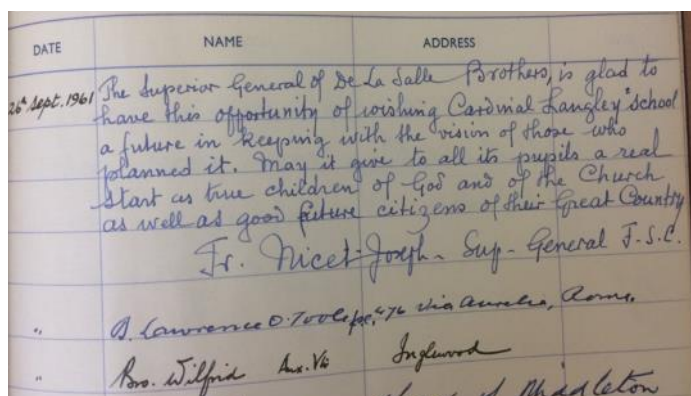
***Cardinal Langley School – A Brief Historical Note
Bro. Thomas Campbell, Headmaster, 1985.***

These reflections were written at a time when the school was facing further upheaval and uncertainty. The failure in 1979 to adequately address the issue of falling rolls resulted in a second reorganisation in 1986. The proposals adopted by the Diocesan Commission envisaged one 11-16 secondary school, for all of Middleton, to be sited at Cardinal Langley on Rochdale Road. The proposed loss of the Sixth Form was resisted very strongly by Governors, staff, pupils and parents, and a concerted campaign saw the Sixth Form reinstated.



Not everything in the new grammar school was about the academic progress of the pupils. A pre-driving course was instigated by Br Austin, the school's third Headmaster. The photograph shows a group of pupils, including the late Stephen Friday, receiving instruction from officers of Rochdale traffic division. Stephen would return to school to teach Art.

On Monday 1st September 1986, the third incarnation of Cardinal Langley opened its doors to the Catholic pupils of Middleton. As in 1979, the facilities on the Rochdale Road site were inadequate for the increased school population and a split site arrangement with the Saint Dominic Savio on Mount Road became necessary until the required building programme was completed in 1988. It was at the start of this period of reorganisation that the Rev Brother Thomas Campbell was appointed provincial of the De La Salle Order and leadership of the school passed to Mr Seamus Crawford, who became acting Headteacher, until the appointment of Mr John Durcan in September 1987.



As the picture shows, the first message in the Visitor's Book was recorded in September 1961 by the Superior General of the De La Salle Brothers.

The completion in 1988 of the building programme, triggered by the 1986 reorganisation, heralded stability on one site for the school but the changing demands from the world of education created a whole new set of challenges going forward. Under the leadership of Mr Durcan, the staff met these challenges head on, getting to grips with the demands of the new and ever changing National Curriculum, the transition from GCE and CSE to 16+ and eventually to GCSE and the revision of A levels while coping with the constantly changing goal posts of the newly founded inspection body, Ofsted.

The start of the new Millennia saw Mr Durcan's tenure as Headteacher come to an end, and the mantle was taken up in September 2000 by Mr Colin Mason. The pace of change was unabated as each Education Secretary tried to impose their vision of Education on the nation's children. Not to be forgotten were the SAT tests for Year 9 in English, Maths and Science, and the awarding of attainment levels which were used as a baseline predictor for future performance in GCSE examinations. In the midst of the measuring of school attainment and

publishing of league tables, parts of the buildings were starting to show signs of wear and tear. It was just around this time that the Government of the day introduced the Building Schools for the Future initiative which would provide the most visible legacy of Mr Mason's leadership of the school and gave us the footprint which serves the current Catholic pupils of Middleton.

In 2013, the current incumbent to the post of Headteacher, Mr Andrew Bridson, took up office, and to this day he continues to lead the school guided by the principles and teachings of the De La Salle Brothers founder, Saint John Baptist De La Salle. Under Mr Bridson's leadership the school continues to flourish and evolve in a way that the thousands of Cardinal Langley pupils down the ages would approve.

At the heart of Cardinal Langley are its pupils supported by the staff of the school, both teaching and non-teaching. The staff is, and always has, constantly striven to provide our pupils with a breadth of experiences which equips them to take their place in society as well rounded citizens. As a community we have forged strong links with the wider community, travelled the world, enjoyed watching and participating in the performing arts but most importantly we have upheld the values of our founder Saint John Baptist De La Salle. This Sixtieth Anniversary is a celebration of what has been achieved; let it also be a moment to pause with pride, give thanks and embrace the future our school offers the future generations of young Catholics in Middleton.



As Cardinal Langley looks today, the result of exciting modernisation works and extensions to educate the ever-increasing number of pupils who join our school from Middleton and the surrounding areas.

St John Baptist De La Salle: An Educational Pioneer, Founder, and Patron Saint of Teachers



St John Baptist De La Salle (left) was a visionary in education and for the church. He was a pioneer in founding training colleges for teachers, technical schools, and secondary schools for modern languages, arts, and sciences. His work quickly spread through France and, after his death, continued to spread across the globe. In

1900 John Baptist De La Salle was declared a Saint. In 1950, because of his innovations and inspirational writings, he was made Patron Saint of all those who work in the field of education.

John Baptist De La Salle inspired educators to teach effectively and care for young people; how to meet failure and frailty with compassion; how to affirm, strengthen and heal through education. At the present time there are Lasallian schools in almost 80 countries around the globe.

But what's so special about him?

His story is so human that all educators can find themselves in it. He was attentive to the needs of young people and the Church of his time. Through this openness to the 'present moment,' he found himself doing extraordinary things. This calling developed incrementally over a long period of time, and saw him being led from one small commitment to another.

How did this start?

It is April 1679. John Baptist, a young priest at the time, waits on the doorstep of a convent in Reims, France. He has come to call upon the Sisters of the Child Jesus, a new order whose work is the care and education of poor girls. The young priest has helped them become established, and now serves as their chaplain and confessor. At 28 years of age, he is the eldest son of a wealthy professional family in the city of Reims, ordained for two years and about to receive his doctorate in theology. He is a Canon of the prestigious Cathedral Chapter at Reims, a traditional breeding ground of bishops and cardinals. A man as gifted and as well positioned could have become an important member of the Church hierarchy or a distinguished professor. This young Canon, thoughtful, cultivated, and kind-hearted, could have continued in

his career within the church to become a pious influence at the comfortable and powerful level of society that is his natural world in 17th Century France. But such was not the way the Spirit was leading him.

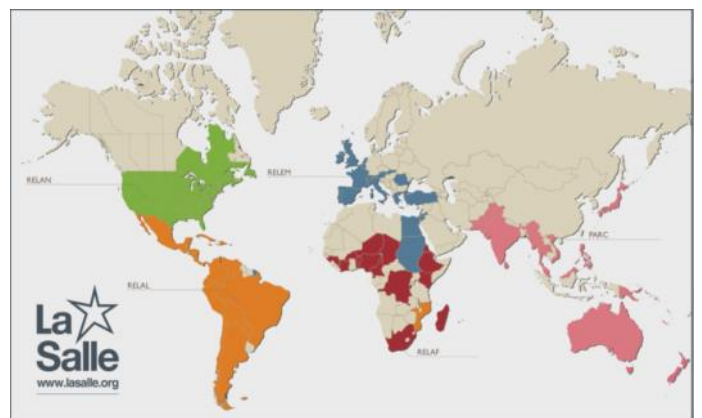


St John Baptist De La Salle working alongside colleagues to improve the education of schoolchildren.

How did it end?

Despite the fierce opposition from the educational establishment and the ecclesiastical authorities, John Baptist and the first band of schoolmasters, who were later to call themselves 'Brothers,' succeed in creating a network of quality schools throughout France. The schools featured instruction in the national language, as opposed to in Latin as was customary at the time. They also grouped students according to ability and succeeded in integrating religious instruction with secular subjects. This was possible due to De La Salle's vision for the need of well-prepared teachers with a sense of vocation and mission, and the involvement of parents. He died at Saint Yon near Rouen early in 1719 on Good Friday, only weeks before his 68th birthday.

Today, there are 3,695 Brothers worldwide, working with 89,062 partners in 80 countries to educate 1,040,804 students. To find out more, go to: www.delasalle.org.uk



The map shows the 80 countries across the world where the Brothers work with over 1 million students and partners.

Prayer of St Jean Baptiste De La Salle

God our Father,
may we look upon
those whom you have entrusted to us
as your sons and daughters.

May we take even more care
over their education
than if they were the children of a king.

Help us to show,
by the care we take of them,
that we have a real love for them,
a great tenderness towards them.

Inspire us to build on the affection
that the young people have for us
to lead them to you.

Amen

15 MAY 2019

FEAST OF SAINT JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE

Dear Brothers, Partners, Students and
Members of the Lasallian Family,

Today we joyfully celebrate the memory and legacy of John Baptist de La Salle. We prayerfully recall that he was impelled by the Holy Spirit to announce the Gospel to the poor. We gratefully acknowledge that he sowed the seeds for today's flourishing Lasallian ministry of human and Christian education. We sincerely thank him for founding the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools and for inspiring Brothers and Partners to be ambassadors of Jesus Christ. We enthusiastically join our students in meditating on the Word of God and serving as agents of the Good News.



Today and during this Lasallian Jubilee Year let us increase both our efforts to insure that our educational communities continue to be experiences of the presence of God and to encourage young men to become Brothers of the Christian Schools.

Happy feast day!

Bro Robert
Brother Robert Schieler, FSC
Superior General

To celebrate the Feast of St John Baptist De La Salle, the Brother Superior - Robert Schieler - wrote to members of the Lasallian Family



The Tercentenary Logo (above) has been widely used during the celebrations of the 300th anniversary of St John Baptist De La Salle's death.



This special anniversary logo was designed by a pupil in Year 8 as part of a competition to redesign the school logo for its 60th anniversary. It depicts 60 people around a globe, representing the 60 cohorts of pupils who have started at Cardinal Langley since its foundation year.