



St. John the Evangelist Catholic Academy

“Growing and Learning together in Christ.”
(School Mission Statement)

“Lord be thy Word my rule”
(School Motto)



St. John the Evangelist Catholic Academy is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. The school is a Catholic school, founded on the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and teaching of the Catholic Church. Specifically, St John the Evangelist Catholic Academy, seeks to live as we grow and learn together in Christ’ as our guiding principle.

As a Catholic school, we promote the gospel values derived from the teachings and example of Jesus Christ. The aims of our Mission Statement form the underlying principles for all of our school policies. With this in mind we expect all adults and children in the school to adopt the example of Christ as a model for their actions whilst in school. The faith we uphold should underline every relationship, so that all are respected and value as children of God.

The school works closely with the church of the St John the Evangelist, particularly in the preparation for the Sacraments. We aim to support and work in close partnership with our parents and our parish.



St. John the Evangelist

Saint John the Evangelist was the youngest of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus and the third to be admitted to Jesus’s privileged inner circle, alongside St. James the Greater and St. Peter. He wrote the fourth Gospel and is also known as John the Divine for his lofty theology.



John was the son of Zebedee and the younger brother of James, son of Zebedee (James the Greater). Their mother was Salome. Zebedee (a fisherman) and his sons fished in the Sea of Galilee. The brothers were firstly disciples of John the Baptist. Jesus then called Peter, Andrew and then James and John to follow him.

Before Jesus died, he entrusted his mother, the Virgin Mary, to the care of John, the Beloved Disciple (John 19:27). Pious tradition holds that she lived with John in Ephesus until her Assumption in Jerusalem. After Mary’s Assumption, John began his missionary expeditions throughout Asia Minor. He was arrested under the reign of the Emperor Domitian, who tried to boil him in oil. John was miraculously preserved, not only from death but also from any harm.

He played a leading role in the early church at Jerusalem, shown by his visit with St. Peter to Samaria to lay hands on new converts. He was instrumental in the conversion of St. Paul.

It is traditionally believed that John was the youngest of the apostles and outlived them. He is said to have lived to an old age, dying of natural causes, at Ephesus sometime after AD 98.

Newman Catholic Collegiate Mission statement



GROWING TOGETHER FOR LIFE

By faith only do we know our position in the world, our circumstances, our rights and privileges, our fortunes, our parents, our brothers and sisters, our age, our mortality” John Henry Newman

We have an exceptionally strong tradition of working with our seven partner primary schools and St. Margaret Ward Catholic Academy. Working together for the sake of all our students, we share the same high standards of education based on the founding principles of compassion and respect.

In 2013, our family of schools formalised its successful relationships by joining together to form the Newman Catholic Collegiate.

Together with St Mary's Catholic Academy, the Newman Catholic Collegiate includes:

- St John the Evangelist Catholic Academy, Kidsgrove
- St Peter's Catholic Academy, Cobridge
- Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy, Biddulph
- St Wilfrid's Catholic Academy, Tunstall
- St George & St Martin Catholic Academy, Birches Head
- St Joseph's Catholic Academy, Goldenhill
- Our Lady & St Benedict Catholic Academy, Abbey Hulton
- St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy, Tunstall



St John Henry Newman

St John Henry Newman is the first English person to be declared a Saint by the Catholic Church since the 16th and 17th century Reformation martyrs were canonised in the late 20th century. One of the greatest religious leaders and scholars of his age, Newman had a key role in the Oxford Movement before leaving his priesthood in the Church of England to be received into the Catholic faith, going on to found the Oratorian movement in England.

After his reception into the Catholic Church in 1845 he was confirmed by Bishop Wiseman in the chapel of Oscott College in Birmingham. Wiseman offered Newman the use of the former seminary as his first Catholic home.

The Life of St John Henry Newman

1801	• John Henry Newman was born at Old Broad Street, London.
1816	• Newman underwent his first Conversion. Entered Trinity College, Oxford, as a commoner.
1817	• First communion in Church of England.
1820	• Took his degree at Trinity College.
1822	• Decided to take orders in the Church of England
1824	• Began his pastoral ministry as a curate in the parish of St Clement, Oxford.
1825	• Ordained priest in the Church of England.
1828	• Appointed Vicar of St Mary's, the Oxford University Church.
1833	• Wrote poem later set to music as the hymn "Lead, kindly light".
1839	• First doubts about the position of the Anglican church.
1845	• Received into the Catholic Church at Littlemore by Father Dominic Barberi. Confirmed at Oscott.
1846	• Settled at Old Oscott, renamed Maryvale. Set off to Rome to study
1847	• Pope approved Newman's decision to start an Oratory in England. Ordained as a Catholic priest.
1848	• The English Congregation of the Oratory set up at Maryvale.
1852	• Oratory moved to a new house in Edgbaston (after brief intermediary time in Alcester Street, Birmingham). Preached famous "Second Spring" sermon at Oscott.
1854	• Installed as Rector of the Catholic University in Dublin.
1859	• The Oratory School opened in Edgbaston.
1865	• Newman's poem "The Dream of Gerontius" published.
1879	• Newman is made Cardinal in Rome.
1890	• Died of pneumonia and was buried in Oratorian cemetery at Rednal near Birmingham.