



St. Benedict's  
Catholic High  
School

1971

# MISSION DOCUMENT



*Through love of Christ, delight in Virtue*



# HEADTEACHERS WELCOME

I am delighted that we can share this document with you, outlining our Mission and the Virtues that underpin our mission. The document, more than any other articulates who we are and what we want our students to aspire to be.

St Benedicts places itself at the hear of the community, serving the parishes of Whitehaven, Egremont and Cleator Moor and all the surrounding areas. We serve, placing Christ at the centre of all we do.

It is our intention that our students are guided by this Mission Statement to become virtuous young adults who can make a valuable contribution to society.

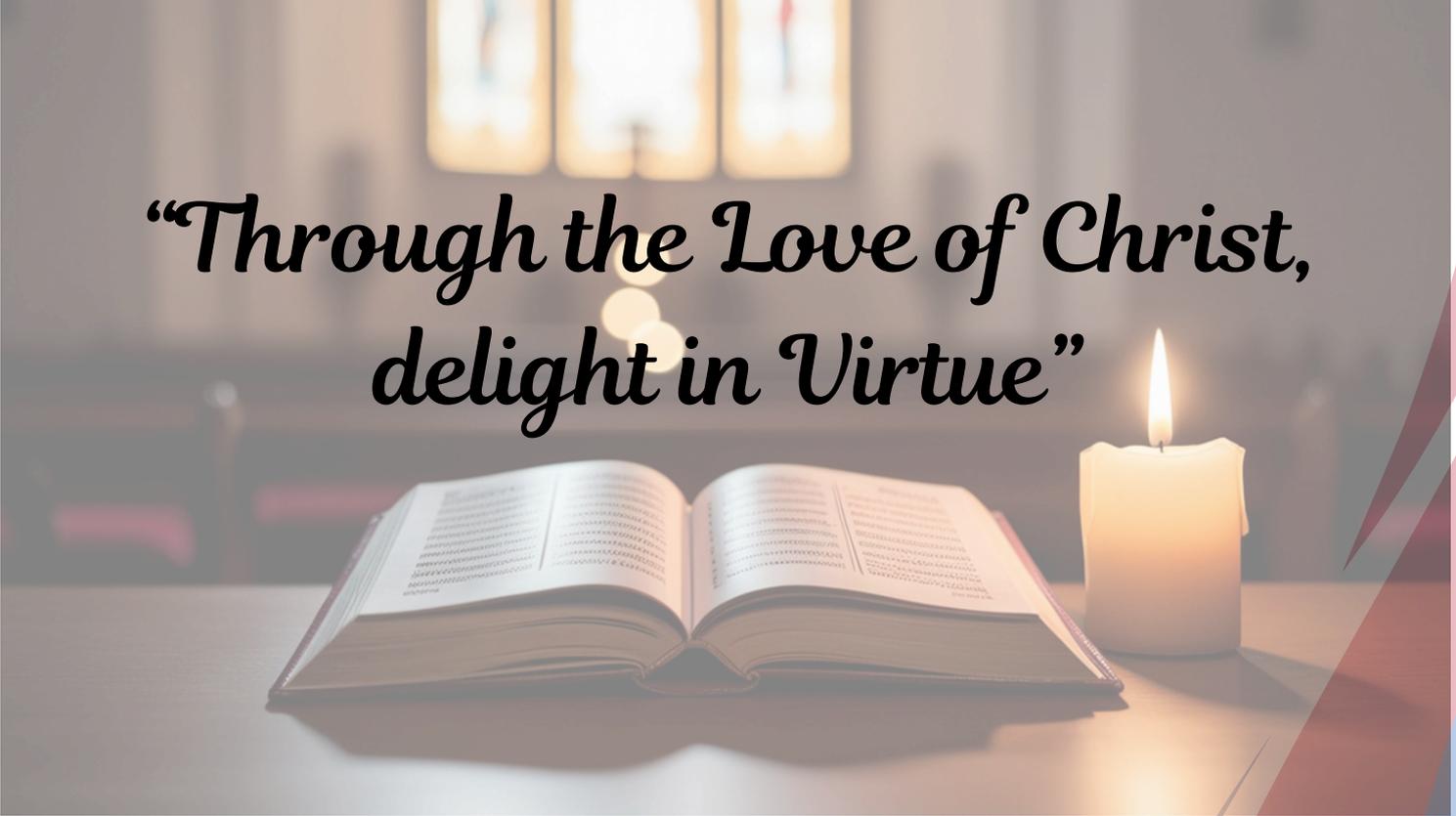
We want our students to be proud and to articulate what makes St Benedicts a special place to love and learn.

*"My question to you is this: What are the qualities you see in others that you would most like to see in yourselves? What kind of person would you really like to be?"* – Pope Benedict 2010

God Bless,  
Emma Jackson



## OUR MOTTO



*“Through the Love of Christ,  
delight in Virtue”*

## OUR MISSION

At St Benedicts Catholic High School, we are a community of faith and learning rooted in Gospel teachings and inspired by the Charism of St Benedict.

Our Virtues and Values are entrenched in the wisdom gifted to us through the Rule of St Benedict and these permeate every aspect of our School Life.

Through our love of Christ, we serve our community and through that service we create global citizens who strive not only for academic excellence, but for a fulfilled life guided by Christ & Virtue.

## OUR VIRTUES

Our love of Christ leads us to a life of Virtue, and we truly believe that Virtue and Christ are synonymous with one another. We embed this ideology into every aspect of our learning at St Benedict's Catholic High School.

Our virtues have been specifically chosen with the modern world in mind but also inspired by our school's founding motto *"Through knowledge to Truth and Beauty."*

The purpose of our Virtues are the gently guide our students into a life of virtue and to give them the opportunity to view the world through the eyes of Christ. To strive for 'Truth' and 'Beauty' through the gift of knowledge.

***"No act of virtue  
can be great if it is  
not followed by  
advantage of  
others"*** Pope  
Francis



## STEWARDSHIP

*“Regard all utensils as if they were the sacred vessels of the alter” (Rule 31)*

We teach our students to be stewards of their lives, caretakers of their wellbeing, the wellbeing of others, the planet, and their God-given gifts.

Our students understand that all creation is sacred and must be revered as such, *‘as if they were sacred vessels of the alter’*

## HUMILITY

*“Let him be humble” (Rule 31)*

Our students understand what it means to be humble, and the demand for humility touches all corners of our existence. When our students are not behaving in a way that is expected of them, we encourage them to discern whether their actions were virtuous and allow them the opportunity to make better decisions in the future.

Similarly, humility is so important during our learning experience, it takes great courage in admitting you are wrong, or are struggling to understand a certain topic.

Our students understand that to be the best they can be, they must be humble on their academic journey with us and seek help in their pursuit of knowledge.

## TRUTHFUL LIVING

*"Through this love, all...will now begin to be observed without effort, as though naturally, for habit...out of love for Christ, good habit, and delight in virtue." (Rule 7)*

At St Benedict's, truthfulness is so important for us to foster an environment for deep transformation of the whole person. Our students understand the importance of honesty, not just honesty with others, but honesty with oneself.

The Holy Scripture tells us 'Let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.' (1 John 3:18).

We teach our students to value an honest life, that truthfulness is not just a frame of mind, it is a way of living. Through honest living we open ourselves to see the face of the ultimate truth, Jesus Christ.

## DILIGENCE

*"They live by the labour of their hands" (Rule 48)*

To be diligent is to show care and consideration in ones work and duties, and that is the mentality we constantly hope to inspire in our students.

To understand the value of work, both academically and in the wider world. To recognise each of us have a purpose in this life and that we are all on a journey that requires encouragement from one another to develop our God-given gifts in the greater purpose of building God's kingdom, here on earth.

## **DIGNITY**

*"No one is to pursue what is judged best for oneself, but instead, what is better for someone else." (Rule 72)*

We live in broken world and humanity can often be ignorant to the issues facing us today. At St Benedicts we raise generations to understand the meaning behind their actions, to revere life and to be the change we wish to see in the world.

We respect each individual as a divinely made Child of God with the potential to be great. Our value for the dignity of life drives us in our charitable works and our community engagement. The positive change we create as a school must transcend our daily lives and filter into all corners of our local communities.

## **FORGIVENESS**

*"Listen...with the ear of your heart" (Rule Book Prologue)*

As we grow, we make mistakes, regardless of whether they are big or small we all require forgiveness, and our students understand that being forgiven is a liberating experience that pushes us to be better people.

What can often be difficult is offering forgiveness to others. It requires strength and courage to forgive someone who has hurt you, but we are all called to 'listen with the ear of our heart' and forgive one another. Even on the cross Christ begged his Father in heaven "Forgive them, for they know not what they do" Luke 23:24)



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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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