



St. Wilfrid's R.C. College



**Service of Remembrance and
De-commissioning of the Prayer Garden**

Thursday 20th May 2021

3:40pm

In God alone is my soul at rest; my help comes from him. He alone is my rock, my stronghold, my fortress; I stand firm. In God alone be at rest, my soul; for my hope comes from him. He alone is my rock, my stronghold, my fortress; I stand firm. In God is my safety and glory, the rock of my strength. Take refuge in God, all you people. Trust him at all times. Pour out your hearts before him for God is our refuge.

We join together for a special service today . We are decommissioning a special part of our school, the prayer garden and remembering many loved individuals who have gone too soon.

Let us come together as we always do, In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen

Merciful God, you give to each one of us the precious gift of memory. When we remember our loved ones who have journeyed ahead of us, they live again in our hearts. Send your Holy Spirit to give us consolation and strength in the hope of the eternal life that you promised us through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Gospel According to John

Glory to you, O Lord

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Loving and merciful God, by raising your son Jesus from the dead you opened the gates of heaven to all who believe in you. Listen to us now as we turn to you in prayer and remember all of our special students and staff who we remember so fondly.

For all the people we know and love who have died, that they may reach the safety of God’s everlasting home.

Lord in your Mercy

Hear our prayer

For all the people who are sad because someone they love has passed, that they may receive the help and support they need.

Lord in your Mercy

Hear our prayer

For all of us who have come together to pray, that we may live well and fully in this life, having hope in the life to come.

Lord in your Mercy

Hear our prayer

For people who do not have faith, that they receive hope from our friendship and support

Lord in your Mercy

Hear our prayer

We say together Psalm 62

In God alone is my soul at rest; my help comes from him. He alone is my rock, my stronghold, my fortress; I stand firm. In God alone be at rest, my soul; for my hope comes from him. He alone is my rock, my stronghold, my fortress; I stand firm. In God is my safety and glory, the rock of my strength. Take refuge in God, all you people. Trust him at all times. Pour out your hearts before him for God is our refuge.

We now come to the Prayers of thanksgiving and decommissioning

Gracious God, We give you thanks for the life of the Gospel in this community through the worship life in the commissioned Prayer Garden here at St. Wilfrid's RC College.

We give thanks
for the Word proclaimed,
the prayers prayed,
the hymns sung,
the students,
the teachers,
the governors
the comfort,
the laughter,
the tears,
the hopes and the fears.

Lord we give thanks that what has taken place in this prayer garden
has sent ripples of hope into the community, things we know of and much hidden from us,
yet signs nevertheless of your love that has led us out
to serve as we have been served
to love as we have been loved
to forgive as we have been forgiven
to trust that God has used us despite our shortcomings.

Today while we acknowledge the passing of the season of this garden
we pray that your hand will continue guide us and bless us in the new season upon us.
Help us to be attentive to you as we seek to serve you in this community.

We remember with gratitude those who we have sat with who are no longer here on earth with us we especially remember Liam, Max, Drew and Alan at this time.

Liam : Mrs Craik

Max: Mrs Tiffin

Drew: Mrs Tiffin

Alan: Mr Given

[a moment of silence]

With a clear understanding that our God is not confined to buildings or gardens made by human hands, we the people of this church and community, grateful for our heritage and mindful of the sacrifices of those who have gone before, dedicate ourselves anew to the service of God in Spirit and Truth, and to the service of all people in the spirit of Christ, as we decommission St. Wilfrid's RC College Prayer Garden in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit and pray the prayer Jesus taught us

Our Father , who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

May God the Father bless us with every good gift. May God's only Son Jesus Christ strengthen us in love for one another and may God's Holy Spirit give us the courage to always turn to him in our need.
Amen

Liam Curry

Throughout Liam's time at St Wilfrid's he played an integral part in school sport. Liam was an excellent left hand bat and wicketkeeper and had an incredible knowledge of cricket from such a young age, which is why he was made team captain. He was also a very keen cyclist and always put 100% into his rides, including the Coast to Coast which he completed in year 9. Liam showed incredible commitment and determination to complete the ride and Ms Nuttall still says to this day that she does not think she would have been able to complete the ride had it not have been for Liam's encouragement and support. Liam put his all into everything he did. He was caring, conscientious, well respected and funny and every group, class or team he was involved with had a wonderful atmosphere, which in part, was because of Liam. To put it simply, Liam was a fantastic lad who is truly missed.

Max Sowden

Max Sowden started St Wilfrid's in September 2013 and within a very short space of time everyone knew who Max was. He had the ability to fill the room with his personality and he had a way of making people smile no matter how they might have been feeling. Even when he was in trouble it was impossible to stay cross with him. Max also had a very caring and sentimental side: he would notice when people needed a friend and he would take them under his wing no matter who they were and no matter what anyone else thought of them. Max made his own decisions and would always do what he felt was needed. He formed very strong relationships with his teachers and took great pleasure in telling everyone that his tutor was even naming his son Max, after him. Max had a smile and a personality that will live on in St Wilfrid's forever.

Drew Broderick

Drew Broderick started St Wilfrid's in September 2016. He arrived with a smile on his face and a determination that he would embrace school life and make the most of every moment. He loved playing football at dinner time and was not put off by any knocks and bumps he received – he just wanted to carry on and be treated just the same as all of his many friends. Drew showed such perseverance and persistence – as his friend said: “You were always so strong even when you were unwell, you kept on being yourself and rang that bell”. A comment in his Year 9 report really captures how Drew was seen by so many: “Drew is a ray of sunshine in our tutor group.” And today, on what would have been his 16th birthday, we remember all the warmth and happiness that he gave to his friends, family and teachers. His light will shine on in St Wilfrid's forever.

Alan Cormack

Alan joined the Governors at St. Wilfrid's in September 2012, and was appointed Chair in 2019. Over the years, his unfailing support for the school has helped shape not only the school we have now, but also the Trust. Alan was instrumental in the foundation of the Northern Saint Catholic Education Trust, which has since become Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust. Alan's primary concern was the education and welfare of our students, many students and their families, have benefitted from the work that Alan took part in here at St. Wilfrid's. We will be forever indebted to him. Those of us who worked with Alan, will always hold a special place for him in our thoughts and prayers. Alan stepped down as Chair of Governors in December 2020. We will continue to pray for the repose of Alan's soul and for the comfort of his family who will be mourning their loss of a much loved husband, father and grandfather.