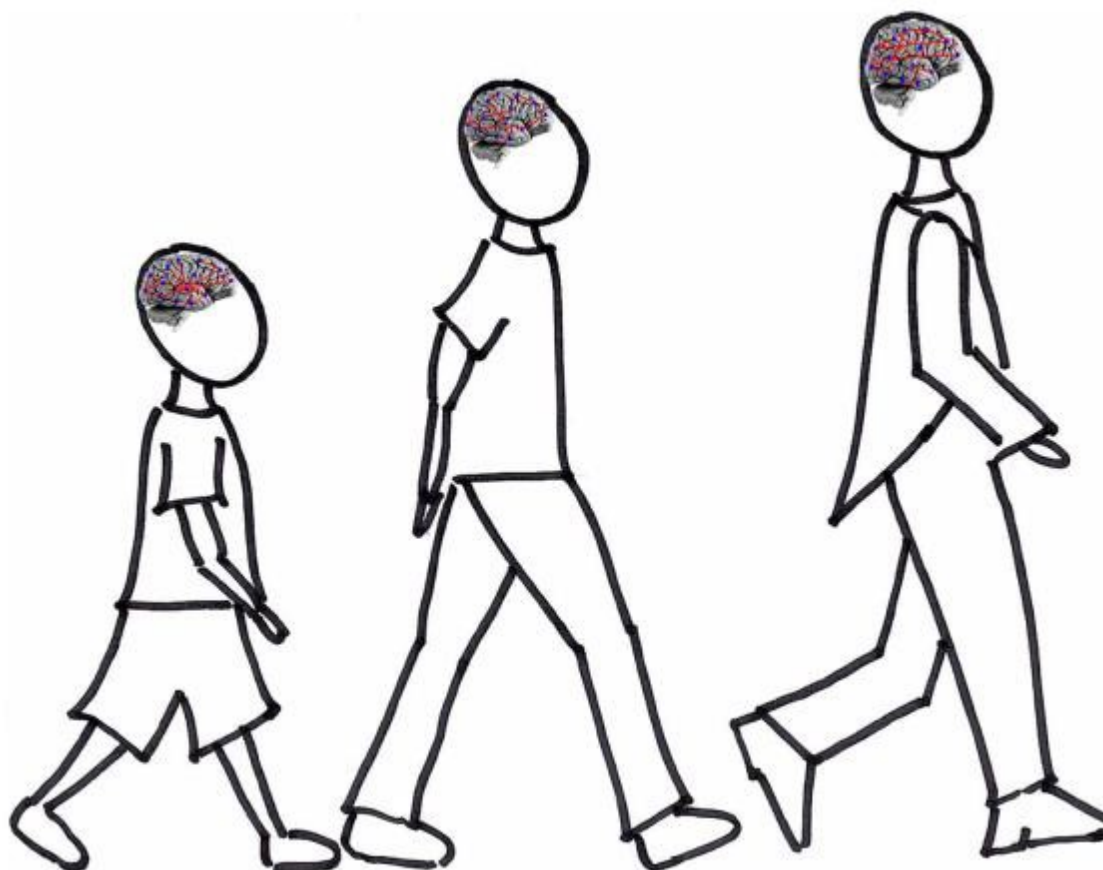


Holy Trinity Academy



Year 11 Leavers' Liturgy

Music: Queen 'You're My Best Friend'

WELCOME (Mr Neal)

INTRODUCTORY PRAYER

(Read by Mr Doust)

Father in Heaven, bless us all as we gather here today to say goodbye to our Year 11 students. We thank you for their years with us and for their contribution to our Christian Community here at Holy Trinity Academy. Bless them all as they move on to the next stage of their life, to work or further study, or both. Thank you for the friendships they have made, for their hard work and their enthusiasm. Thank you for their sense of fun. We thank you too for the way they have enriched our school life. Guide them and keep them safe as they continue to grow and to mature. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING (Mrs Welsh)

"The Secret of Happiness"

I'd like to share with you some words of John Paul II, spoken to young people and families in 1985 and 1987. They contain the secret of happiness according to one of the greatest world leaders of all time:

"The path of goodness has a name; it is called love. In it we can find the key to every hope, for true love has its root in God himself. As St John reminds us 'we have recognised for ourselves, and put our faith in, the love God has for us. God is love.'

The greatest proof of God's love is that he loves us in our human condition, with our weaknesses and needs. Nothing else can explain the mystery of the Cross. Christ's love is more powerful than sin or death.

St Paul explains that Christ came to forgive sins and that his love is greater than any sin whatever, greater than my sins and those of anyone else. This is the Church's faith. This is the Good News of God's love, which the Church has proclaimed down the ages and which I proclaim to you today: God loves you with an everlasting love. He loves you in Christ Jesus his Son. Loving is essentially a giving of oneself to others, a conscious decision of the will to go out to others. To be able to love properly one must give freely. This is the secret of happiness."

SECOND READING **(Read by Mr Doust)**

Disturb us, Lord

Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well-pleased with ourselves, when our dreams have come true, because we have dreamed too little, when we arrived safely, because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when with the abundance of things we possess. We have lost our thirst for the waters of life; having fallen in love with life, we have ceased to dream of eternity, and in our efforts to build a new earth, we have allowed our vision of the new Heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly, to venture on wider seas where storms will show your mastery; where losing sight of land, we shall find the stars. We ask you to push back the horizons of our hopes; and to push into the future in strength, courage, hope, and love.

(Attributed to Sir Francis Drake -1577)

GOSPEL READING Matthew: 7:7-11 **(Mrs Welsh)**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel
according to Matthew

Jesus said, "Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. Is there a man among you who would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or would hand him a snake when he asked for fish? If you then know how to give your children what is good, how much more with your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you
Lord JesusChrist



FAREWELL (Mr Neal)

Closing Prayer (Mrs Welsh)

We thank God for our time here today, to be able to reflect on what friendship is, for the time to look back on how far all of you have come since beginning your time here at Holy Trinity Academy. We should be thankful today for friendship, whichever form it may take. To end our liturgy, let us all say the prayer that Jesus taught us to unite us all:

Everyone:

Our Father, who art in heaven
Hallowed be thy name
Thy kingdom come, they 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
Amen

Music: Lilly Wood 'Prayer in C'



"You have brains in your head
and feet in your shoes,
you can steer yourself in any
direction you choose!"

--Dr. Seuss

*"It's not the things
that we cannot
control that will
define our success."*

Steve Meyers

... and always remember that God loves you

Be thankful
for what you
are now,
and keep
fighting for
what you
want to be
tomorrow.

WWW.STEVEMEYERS.COM

The most important
thing in life is to
stop saying 'I
wish' and start
saying 'I will'.
Consider nothing
impossible, then
treat possibilities
as probabilities.

- Charles Dickens
'David Copperfield'