

Today is the feast of St Catherine of Siena. She was a Dominican religious in the 14th century and her biography is truly epic. Her enduring commitment to a total love of God is what stands out to me. Being devoutly and constantly committed to God is difficult in any age, not least our own. There are so many worldly things that compete for our attention and we are grabbed by them. Being 'grabbed' doesn't mean that we are not committed to God; we just sometimes don't put God at the centre of our lives or our decision making. So let us pray today that following the example of St Catherine of Siena we may renew ourselves to living for God. Let our lives be an outward sign to others of our faith and trust in God, especially in these challenging times. Let us take the words of St Thomas More (my *alma mater* school's patron) – ***nil ante deum*** – nothing before God – as our motto for today (and every day).

Edd Hogan, 29/4/20

Master of Ceremonies, St Joseph's Malvern