

Catholiclife Spring 2024

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THE URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER FAITH DEVELOPMENT, CATHOLIC MISSION AND SERVIAM VALUES

Meet Our R.E Team



Kerry Connor Assistant Headteacher Personal Development and Catholic Life Ethos



Ronan Preastuin Key Stage 4 Co-ordinator



Dr. Sulumenty Odhiambo Head of R F Faculty



James Roberts R.E Teacher, Head of Year 9



Dr. Sr. Elizabeth Revai Mudzimu Key Stage 3 Co-ordinator



Na En Park R.E Teacher

Please take a look at our Catholic Life section on our website for further details of our activities and events!

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP





Passion Service, Tuesday 26th March 2024

The theme of our Passion Service this year was "The Eves Of Mercy" in which we focused on the immeasurable love and forgiveness that Christ has for us. We reflected on this with readings, psalms and hymns on this theme, as well as a live dramatic reading voice acted by a group of year 7 students which was based around St Peters journey following Jesus, up to his denial of Christ before his crucifixion. In this drama, we reflected on how, even in the depths of our rejection of Christ, we, like St Peter, are still looked at with eyes of mercy and forgiveness and that no fear should keep us from him.

Chaplaincy Update

In our opening week of term, the Chaplaincy hosted a Lenten reflection for parents of Ursuline. The theme was "Into The Dessert", which aimed to help prepare parents spiritually for the Lenten journey ahead. It was well received and enjoyed by those who attended. We Launched our Lent programme with year group assemblies reminding students what Lent is about and also making them aware of the events to come. These assemblies were led by the student head team.



Dominic Cunliffe

This term has seen through a full Lenten programme of spiritual preparation for Easter, sharing gratitude and encouragement to each other, through our 'Ursuline Gives Thanks' programme, Eucharistic adoration in the Chapel, charity drives, food donations, and, in the final week of term, our Passion Services. The Sacrament of Reconciliation was also opened up for students and staff to avail themselves of. This was hosted in the Chapel and confessions were heard by Fr David and Fr Matthew of Sacred Heart parish. We concluded our full Lenten programme with our Passion Services for all year groups, in which we celebrated the theme of God's love and mercy for us. Six year 7 students helped perform a dramatic reading of the story of St Peter and his journey with Christ.

Dominic Cunliffe, Chaplain

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: RELIGIOUS LITERACY - SPRING

Year 8 have been looking at the below parables during Spring Term.

Parable of The Weeds Amongst the Wheat (Matthew 13:24-30) This parable teaches our students that on Earth, good and bad people will grow and live together. The Kingdom of God will be present amongst the evil of the world. At the end of time, people will be separated into

Parable of The Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13) This parable teaches our students that they must be like the wise virgin and be prepared to wait for Christ. In His timing, we're often called to wait. We must prepare our hearts and souls for the long haul. That includes developing a personal relationship with the Lord, discerning His will for our lives, leading where He follows, and loving one another. Furthermore, it teaches our students that if we turn to Him, He welcomes us with open arms. God gives us every opportunity to come to Him. Your salvation is His greatest wish.

Parable of The Lost Coin (Luke 15:8-10) The Parable of the Lost Coin's moral lesson is that God's love is so great for all of His people that He won't give up on trying to bring every lost person back to Him. Each person who returns to Him is cause for great celebration. It teaches our students that every soul is worth fighting for, God does not stop searching, and that they are as valuable as anyone else.

Parable of The Rich Man and Lazarus This parable sends the message that worldly and earthly possessions are of no benefit in the afterlife. Those who have suffered on Earth will receive their reward in Heaven.

Catholic Life in Pictures



This Lent, students have been encouraged more than ever to step up to lead prayer themselves. The Chaplaincy Team in particular have started to prepare prayers before their team meeting on Thursdays



Eucharistic Adoration has been available during break and lunchtimes and for RE classes and has been really well received.



Students have helped decorate the chapel display board with Lenten decorations. It has provided some good spiritual well-being during break and lunch times.



Students have been encouraged in form time to share prayers in their native tongue and some took part in a video to celebrate this which was shared in form time.





The Ursuline Choir received the blessing of throats on the feast of St Blaise, and we prayed for their singing voices to remain healthy and voice in the Catholic community.



The Mary Garden continues to be an ongoing success, as students work hard with our two lead gardeners, Luciana and Margo, to develop this beautiful space.