

catholiclife Summer 2023

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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



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

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP





Ms Waters Celebratory Mass

On Thursday 13th July we had a very special Mass at Sacred Heart Church to celebrate Ms Waters' service to the school and the wider catholic education community. The Mass was celebrated by Canon Victor Darlington the Episcopal Vicar for Education and attended by representatives from across the community. The school choirs sang beautifully and the liturgical dance was a great addition!

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

Chaplaincy Update

The Chaplaincy Team Retreat at Aylesford Priory provided an opportunity for the team to come together. The retreat was blessed with good weather and offered a blend of prayer, socialising, personal reflection and free time. We held three thanksgiving services to bid farewell to some long serving members of staff. We are grateful for their contributions to our school community and wish them well in their new endeavours.



Dominic Cunliffe

The SS Peter and Paul Mass, celebrated by Fr Francis of St John Fisher Parish, helped us reflect on the significance of these two saints and how we can learn from their lives. Next year's Year 7 students had an induction day at Ursuline. It was an invaluable opportunity for me as chaplain to introduce myself to them ahead of their arrival. Lastly, we marked a momentous occasion—the retirement of Ms. Waters. A celebration mass held in Sacred Heart Church to tribute Ms Waters' years of dedicated service. We honour her remarkable contributions to our school and express immense gratitude for her leadership. We look forward to a new academic year ahead with many more blessings to come.

Dominic Cunliffe, Chaplain

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: RELIGIOUS LITERACY - SUMMER





Year 7 studied a unit on Women in the Bible. Reading about the women in the Bible reveals much more than simply the stories of a few individuals. Our modern understanding of gender may not translate directly onto the functions of gender in the Bible. We may imagine that ancient women were universally oppressed or powerless, relegated to their roles as wives and mothers. This unit challenged these pre-conceived ideas as it seeked to understand women's many roles in biblical stories. Our students studied the stories of Deborah, Miriam, Rachel and Leah, Esther, and Anna.

Year 8 studied a unit on Religion and the Media.

This unit of study enabled our Year 8 students to reflect on their world views and attitudes to religions and develop critical skills and sensitivities to understand how effective communication works within and around religious discourses and world views. They had the opportunity to develop critical tools to understand and assess how effective communication in public life is assisted by improved religious literacy and worked collaboratively with peers in problem-based learning on case studies within the media related to religions.

Catholic Life in Pictures



Year 11 took part in a wellbeing retreat in which they explored the many ways they could fit wellbeing into their life.



Year 12 level 2 students had a liturgy in our chapel with readings and a reflection encouraging them to use their youth, energy, faith and reason in their future endeavours.



Year 13' Leavers Mass at Sacred Heart Church saw each form group share an item that symbolised their time together as a Sixth Form.



Students took part in a special **Chaplaincy** Retreat with Ursuline Prep School on the theme of 'Building Bridges'.



All year groups took part in the Feast of the **Ascension** (Year 9 Chaplaincy team pictured above).



Shirley Ward from careers celebrated her 50th anniversary here at Ursuline. We marked this with a Liturgy of Recognition followed by a series of musical tributes covering five decades.