

Catholiclife Autumn 2025

No.08

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

Meet Our R.E Team



Kerry Connor Assistant Headteache Behaviour & Catholic Ethos



Dr. Sulumenty Odhiambo Head of R F Faculty

Anna McGrath

R.E Teacher



James Roberts R.E Teacher, Head of Year 8



Polly Harrison





Director of Extended Learning

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

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP





Christmas Tree Service

In December, the school community gathered in the chapel for the annual Christmas Tree Service, celebrating Christ as the Light of the World. Representatives from each form group dressed the Christmas tree, symbolising unity and hope. The Headteacher lit the tree, marking the beginning of the Advent season. Students led prayers, readings, and hymns, reflecting on Christ's light shining through acts of kindness and faith. The service brought together staff and students in a joyful moment of reflection, gratitude, and shared anticipation for Christmas.

Chaplaincy Update



Alex Agotre

Dominic Cunliffe

We began the academic year with a Staff Inset Mass celebrated by Fr Ben from St Cecilia's, North Cheam, who reminded us to find strength, wellness, and wholeness in God's love throughout the busy term ahead. The Mass was well attended and set a reflective tone for the year. Our student Opening Masses, themed "Pilgrims of Love: The Journey Begins," were celebrated by Fr Edwin from Sacred Heart and Fr Michael Barnes, SJ.

Year 7 and the Chaplaincy Team took part in A Definite Service, inspired by St John Henry Newman, discerning their unique call to serve. In October, students led a Rosary Prayer Experience with choir renditions of Ave Maria, and we concluded the half term with the Mass of St Ursula on strength and courage.

November's Remembrance Month included our Memorial Book, Memory Tree, and commemorative Mass, leading into a rich Advent season of prayer, reconciliation, reflection, charity, and assembly worship.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-26: KS3 OVERVIEW

Year 7

- Ursuline Family and Creation and Covenant
- Prophecy and Promise
- Galilee to Jerusalem
- Desert to Garden
- To the Ends of the Earth
- Dialogue and Encounter

Year 8

- Ursuline Family and Creation and Covenant
- Prophecy and Promise
- Galilee to Jerusalem
- Desert to Garden
- To the Ends of the Earth
- Dialogue and Encounter

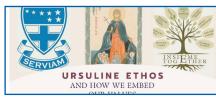
Year 9

- Pilgrimage - Prayer
- Islam
- Our World
- Creation
- Incarnation

Catholic Life in Pictures



The Chaplaincy Team has renewed energy this year, working through focused sub-groups. Students use media, communication, and music to grow in Serviam leadership and faith expression.



ECT staff attended chaplaincy-led training exploring Ursuline ethos, focusing on living out the school's values and embedding Serviam spirit in daily teaching practice.



Year 7 students have begun their "This Little Light" retreats, reflecting on how their personal light can grow, shine brightly, and inspire others throughout their Ursuline journey.



RCIA has entered its third season, inviting staff discerning Catholic faith, baptism, or confirmation to explore belonging, prayer, and vocation through supportive discussion and shared reflection.



"Little Lights" invites Year 7 students to visit the chaplain's office at break times, offering a friendly space to talk, settle in, and build community.



Year 7 and 8 classes were hosted for a reflective Advent liturgy in the Chapel, lighting candles of peace, hope, and love. Students led prayers, readings, and actions promoting faith, kindness, and reconciliation