



Chaplain Update

Christmas Message

What ram-packed Autumn Term! The start of Advent saw the launch of 'The Year of the Word', across all Catholic schools and churches globally. At the Ursuline, it was launched through our year group assemblies- focusing on where in the gospel God teaches us to serve. It was further explored in Year 7/8 Advent services and Year 9/10 Reconciliation Services. The focus of our Advent services was the old testament prophecies, students were asked to research and share where in the old testament Jesus' birth was foretold. Together we then pieced together the prophecies to create the Christmas story. In the Reconciliation Services students used an examination of conscience based on the beatitudes to reflect on their confessions. The 'Year of the Word' has also been explored in R.E lessons with students being asked to complete a piece of homework on their favourite scripture passage- some fantastic work has been created- well done girls!

For the first time this year we supported the Catholic Children's Society Christmas Gift Appeal, in KS3 students were asked to create a gift box, KS4 an individual gift and KS5 made form hampers. We collected 265 sets of gifts and 19 hampers! This was a tremendous number- well done to all staff and students who took part. Throughout our Advent preparations we have focused on the 'true' meaning of Christmas and the importance of keeping Christ at the centre of all of our preparations! This Christmas, may I invite you and your families to focus on that first Christmas and the true miracle of Jesus entering our lives as man. May I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a happy and holy Christmas. Ms Murphy

Our Festive Fundraising included...

Year 7 Christmas Fair: **£727.51** 50% **Sustainable Merton**
 Year 8 Christmas Fair: **£853.96** 50% to **Rainforest Alliance UK**
 Year 9 Christmas Fair: **£770.65** 50% to **Rainforest Alliance UK**
 Year 12 Christmas Fair: **£309.24** 50% to **CAFOD**
 Christmas Jumper Day: **£331.17** 50% between **For Jimmy & Save the Children**
 Christmas Carol Service: **£814.13** for **The Passage**
 *50% of all Year 7-9 & 12 Christmas Fair money will be going to the Mother of Peace Ursuline primary school in Battambang, Cambodia.



PRAYER OF THE 'MONTH'

Holy Jesus,
 by being born one of us,
 and lying humbly in a manger,
 you show how much God loves the world.
 Let the light of your love always shine in our hearts,
 until we reach our home in heaven,
 and see you on your throne of glory.
 Amen.

SCRIPTURE OF THE 'MONTH'

Gospel

John 1 New International Version (NIV)

The Word Became Flesh

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Upcoming Events

Year 10 Retreat (POP B)
 Tues 7th Jan
 All Day,
 Sacred Heart Church

Eucharistic Ministers Day of Reflection
 Tues 14th Jan
 All Day

Feast of St Angela Mass Year 11/12
 Fri 24th Jan
 10.45-11.45am

Lunch for Angela House
 Mon 27th Jan
 (12.40-1.20pm)
 Hall

Feast of St Angela Mass Year 7
 Tues 28th Jan
 2.20-3.10pm

Year 8 Retreat (Pop A) Fri 10th Jan (POP B) Fri 17th Jan
 All Day
 Sacred Heart Church

Feast of St Angela Mass Year 10 /13
 Thurs 23rd Jan
 10.45-11.45am

Feast of St Angela Mass Year 8/9
 Mon 27th Jan
 9.40-10.30am

Year 7 Ethos Day
 Tues 28th Jan
 All Day

Year 10 Retreat (POP A)
 Fri 31st Jan
 All Day,
 Sacred Heart Church

Careers



Lighting of Candles for Deceased Family and Friends on All Souls' Day



Merton Armistice Day Service at Micham Town Centre Memorial



Christmas Fairs



Christmas Tree Service



Reconciliation Services



Joint Christmas Carol Service with WC at Sacred Heart Church