

Chaplaincy Bulletin – Issue 13

“Living and learning together as a Catholic community in Christ: religion, reason and kindness are at the heart of our ethos through education.”

Year 8 Retreat – The retreat is from 8th—10th June and is pretty much full. A list of students and accompanying staff will be sent out nearer the time

Chaplaincy Display board— The display board has been changed again to represent the year of mercy. We have put quotes and definitions up to encourage the students to reflect on what mercy means and how they can be more merciful in their lives. The Chaplain also been visiting year 7 tutor groups to ensure that they fully understand what the year of mercy is all about.

Vocations and Mercy — The fourth Sunday of Easter is known as Good Shepherd Sunday. It is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. In order to mark this, as well as to continue marking the year of mercy, we invited Sr. Jacinta, a Franciscan of the divine motherhood, and two Comboni sisters to visit in assemblies and RE lessons. This was a really positive experience for the students and the feedback was really good. Some 6th form students took time to personally thank Sr. Jacinta for her input during the assembly whilst other years were enthralled by the courageous stories from the Comboni missionaries. All the sisters stated how happy they would be to come back in to school at any time.

Good Samaritan Mass – We were invited by Archbishop Peter Smith to the inaugural ‘Good Samaritan’ Mass, which relates to a new initiative of the Diocesan Education Commission and the Catholic Children’s Society. It was the intention to gather pupils and staff from Catholic Secondary Schools across the Diocese together on Tuesday 26th April at 11am at St. George’s Cathedral. A couple members of staff and the chaplain took 21 students to represent St. Michael’s at this Mass. Some of their thoughts are over the page.

Lightfever/Adoration – Last Friday we held adoration/Lightfever in our chapel where students and members of staff came in to the chapel to light a candle and pray for a short while in front of the Blessed Sacrament. It is always a beautiful experience and a lovely opportunity for some silence in our busy lives. The next Lightfever will be on Friday 27th May.

Chaplaincy Team – The chaplaincy team have been doing an amazing job this term in assisting me with Friday Mass and giving out the Wednesday Word every week as well as announcing any chaplaincy events and prayer times. They give up their free time after school every Thursday to meet and pray together as well as allocate jobs and responsibilities. They have all now been trained in how to set up for Mass and help lead the singing every week.

Sisters of Mercy – The RE. staff identified groups of 10 year 7 students from every RE class who they thought would benefit from visiting the Sisters of Mercy Convent in Bermondsey. The chaplain will accompany the students to the convent where they will get a chance to meet the sisters and learn about the rich history of the Sisters of Mercy order.

May Rosary - As in October, May is a month where we traditionally focus on Mary our mother. With this in mind, the chaplaincy team and the chaplain will be leading break time rosary club for any staff and students who are interested. Please feel free to come and join us any break time in the month of May.



I liked going to the Mass because it was different to ones I go to normally. I enjoyed the music.

Yr 7 student

I was pleased I got to represent St. Michael's by reading at the Mass. I would like to do more things like this.

Yr. 10 student

I felt honoured representing our college at the Good Samaritan Mass. It was great to see so many students from different schools. The choir from St. Philomena's was amazing.

Yr 10 student

Going to the Good Samaritan Mass was an amazing experience and listening to the speakers was incredibly inspiring. After the Mass, I felt so motivated to help children living in poverty and contribute to the crisis fund that helps those in need. It also encouraged us to spread the word so that other people can help too.

Yr 8 student

It was good that there was so much variety. There was even a dance at the offertory. I like when Mass is fun as well as prayerful.

Yr. 9 student