

## Chaplaincy Bulletin – Issue 10

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



 **Friday Morning Mass and Lightfever** – On the 30<sup>th</sup> Nov, 7FO led us in weekly Mass and did an excellent job with the readings, prayers and offertory. 9RU will lead us next (11<sup>TH</sup> Dec). Please remind students that Mass is at **8am** EVERY Friday morning and do feel free to come along yourselves.

The next Lightfever will be **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December** from 12.30 – 1.20pm

 **Advent** – Advent is the period of time before Christmas where for 4 Sundays in a row we light a candle on our wreath. It is a time of preparation both physically and spiritually through prayer, attending services and focussing on the true meaning of Christmas. In St. Michael's we have our own advent wreath that we will light daily in assembly but there will also be weekly prayers in the chapel at break time on a Tuesday and Thursday. All students and staff are welcome to attend.

 **Chaplaincy Team** – We will be updating the chaplaincy board to have an advent theme and the team will be leading Advent prayers on a Tuesday and Thursday break time. The team also give chaplaincy related announcements around the school and distribute the Wednesday Word to year seven. The team also sold wrist bands to raise awareness for Anti bullying week (16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Nov)

 **New Testament and Psalms** – It has been a tradition for a few years that the Gideon Society come in to St. Michael's once a year and hand out a free copy of New Testament and Psalms to every member of year 7 who wants one. This has been a lovely tradition and Andrew Hamm led assembly on the 4<sup>th</sup> December with year 7 in the gym where he distributed the books.

 **Year of Mercy** – Pope Francis has declared that from the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2015 we will have a year of mercy. Pope Francis' invitation to a Year of Mercy provides us with an opportunity to reflect on God's mercy and how we are witnesses of His compassion to those in our lives and communities. At St. Michael's we will be marking the year of mercy in many different ways throughout the year. More details to follow.

## Year 9 and 10 retreat

Mr Kinal, Mr Aggett and I took 21 students to Whitstable in Kent for their residential retreat. The behaviour was superb and the students really did St. Michael's proud. Our theme was "Hope" and this was explored through games, activities, songs, prayer times and discussions. It was truly a blessed time.



**I was sad to leave St. Vincent's as it is my last year for retreats. I wish we could go in year 11. I really appreciated the break to be able to spend time with friends and reflect on my faith.**



**The leaders were so friendly and easy to talk to. We laughed lots and made up a Jesus rap.**

***My favourite part of the retreat was winning at bowling but also the night prayer in the dark on the beach.***



## November Prayers

Following on from the success of rosary club, we launched "November prayers for break times in November. This proved to be very popular as students came in to the chapel daily in order to write prayers and light a candle for their intentions. Some students comment below...

**It is good to have a chance to remember people who have died. I lit a candle and prayed for someone close to me – Yr 11 Student**



**I went every day to November prayers to light a candle for the terrorist attacks. It was really peaceful and I felt like I was doing something good. - Year 7 Student.**

