

June

The school chaplain has been supporting students with exams by leading a prayer before the exams. This has helped to reassure students that their value is worth more than exam results.

Due to the examinations, there has been no chaplaincy events taking place within the school. However, the chaplain has been regularly with the headteacher regarding obtaining more catholic iconography around the school in relation to the new House Saints and images relating to Catholic Social Teaching.

The chaplain has also been busy with planning three major events in the Catholic Life in the school. He has been working with the transition team on visiting primary feeder schools for the new cohort of Year 7 and explaining to the new students what it means to come to a Catholic School. He has visited the Catholic Primaries within Ipswich and has visited schools in Felixstowe.

Additionally, he has planned a welcome service for the new students that will take place on their transition day on 2nd July and from Wednesday 8th July to 10th July, he will be leading a retreat for 75 Year students in the Diocese of Westminster, and visiting the Catholic Cathedral for Mass.

Friday 26th June




The chaplain, accompanied by the Headteacher and two nominated students to St John the Baptist Cathedral in Norwich to celebrate the Diocese of East Anglia's 50th Anniversary since it was established in 1976.

This Mass was a highlight of the diocese as it welcomed bishops from across the country, and the Papal Representative to the UK imparted a message from the Holy Father on the occasion. It was a great way of uniting parishes, schools, chaplaincies and officials from the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridge together.

Over 2000 people from the across the diocese were in attendance and Mass was celebrated by the Bishop of East Anglia, Peter Collins and the Bishop Emeritus, Alan Hopes. The chaplain also took part in the liturgy of the Mass with serving, at the invitation of the Cathedral.



Monday 29th June



Student Chaplains and St Vincent de Paul Society

- Each group have students that become students' chaplains where they help in the liturgical life of the school through reading, serving and singing in services and help to plan end of term services.
- St Vincent de Paul – this is the charity element where students chose local or national charities and raise money for these causes throughout the year.
- They are known as the Youth SVP and meet regularly to plan events for the local community. In this way, we minister to those on the margins of society, such as foodbanks, visiting the elderly, Christmas shoe box appeal.
 - Last year we raised £2000 for local causes

The chaplain gave an overview to parents of the new cohort of Year 7 of what Catholic Life is like at St Alban's. He showed a PowerPoint of key events that take places across the school year.

Each student can come to Mass at least 3 times in the year as well as taking part in

reflection days and trips related to Catholic life.

He also explained to parents that students can take part in services, and liturgies with reading and serving, and explained the charity side to chaplaincy.



Catholic mission and outlook

- Reflection days- Each Year group have a reflection day where they come off timetable for a day and do team building activities with guest speakers
- Aspects of why having faith is important
- This is lead by guest speakers – Ignite Team from Diocese
- Year 8
- At the end of Year 8, there a residential retreat that focuses on the spiritual development of students that links in with the Catholic Life and Mission of the school. This has taken place in Walsingham and this year London.
- Year 9 and 10
- We have started to introduce a pilgrimage trip highlighting Catholic Life in the universal context
 - 2025- students went on a pilgrimage to Rome
 - We were lucky to be granted a special audience with the Pope