

March 2026

Felixstowe chaplain visits St Albans

On Tuesday 11th March, the chaplaincy welcomed Dr Josh Hunt, a chaplain based in Felixstowe and who is on the national Chaplaincy Board for the Church of England. During the morning, he met with several students from Year 7, Year 9, Year 10, and Sixth Form to discuss the different elements that help to form the chaplaincy.



During the meeting, students shared their experiences of being part of a faith community in different way. They spoke about how students help to form and run a student Bible Club that meets each week and Dr Hunt was impressed by the enthusiasm students have for the chaplaincy. He also found out about the many ways in which students can take part in school services.



They also spoke about the chaplaincy helps students to explore, develop and deepen their own religious faiths and that the school is inclusive to all religions. He also heard about the ways in which chaplaincy has helped with charity events and how the school's SVP are a core element to the school regarding supporting local charities.

After the meeting with students, Dr Hunt was given a tour of the school by Mr Millington (Assistant Headteacher) and the school chaplain and was able to see how aspects of faith are shown in each classroom.

Dr Hunt left the school extremely impressed with how the school has developed the chaplaincy in a relatively short time and praised the dedication of students in helping the chaplaincy to thrive.

12th and 13th March.

On Thursday 12th and Friday 13th Year 7 students took part in reflection days when it was a time to come off normal timetable and an opportunity to pause, reflect and explore how faith can support them in their life when it is difficult.



The school was incredibly pleased once again that the Ignite Team from the Diocese of East Anglia were able to lead the sessions which has been built from previous visits to the school.

During the morning activities, students took part in team building activities for Year 7 to mix with other people in their year group. They were able to listen to testimonials from members of the Ignite team and in this way, students were able to reflect on their education journey and what really matters to them.



In the afternoon, serious reflecting took place both in the hall and in the chapel with Eucharistic Adoration. This time of prayer was valuable as it was the highlight of the whole day and a chance for some students to encounter Adoration for the first time. Students commented with the following:

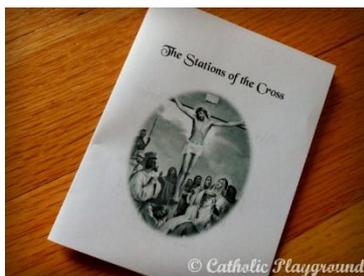
“I did not think the reflection day would help me as much as it did. Hearing the Ignite team talk about their struggles made me feel like it is okay to have bad days, and that faith can really help you through them.” Student in 7LCH

“Adoration in the chapel was so peaceful. I had never done anything like that before, and it made me feel calm and less stressed about things about which I have been worrying.” Student in 7RRO



“The Ignite team were inspiring. Hearing their stories made me think about how I can deal with my own problems in a more positive way.” Student in 7CSI

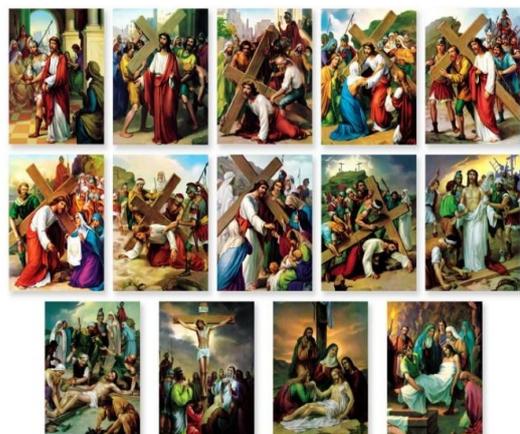
Throughout March



Throughout the month, Year 7 students took part in a moving and reflective Stations of the Cross on the school field to allow students to engage with the journey of Christ.

Led by the school chaplain, students walked to different stations and paused there for a short reading and a moment of reflection.

This act encouraged students to think about themes of compassion, kindness, sacrifice, courage, and the importance of supporting others. The field was used to get students actively involved and to undertake a physical journey.



For many Year 7 students, this was the first chance they could take part in Lenten Stations and allowed them to express a different way of showing faith.

The chaplain encouraged students to hold in their hearts the people they wished to pray for family members, friends, or those facing difficulties such as those affected by recent conflicts in the Middle East.

Friday 20th March



Students from St Alban's Catholic High School, from Year 7 to Year 10 visited St Mary's Catholic Primary School to lead a special assembly on the theme of Lent.

During the assembly, the students explained the meaning of Lent, reflecting on its importance as a time of preparation, prayer, charity, and self-discipline. They shared how Lent helps Christians grow closer to God and develop compassion for others through small acts of sacrifice and kindness.

The presentation was followed by a short question-and-answer session. Pupils from St Mary's asked thoughtful questions about Lenten promises, why the season lasts 40 days, and how young people can meaningfully take part. Our students responded with confidence, offering clear explanations and personal examples.



Wednesday 25th March



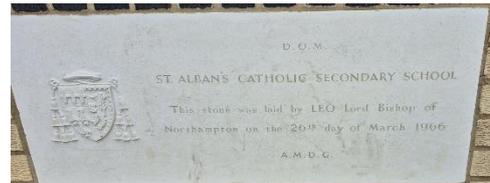
Students from Magdalene House came together to celebrate their feast day with enthusiasm and community spirit. The day was marked by a non-uniform fundraiser, giving students the chance to contribute to the school charities while enjoying a relaxed atmosphere.

At lunchtime, students took part in a lively bingo session and an Easter egg raffle, both of which were exceedingly popular and helped raise additional funds.

The celebrations brought students together in a fun and meaningful way, highlighting the generosity and engagement of the house community.

Thursday 26th March

St Alban's Catholic High School proudly celebrated 60 years of providing education in Suffolk, marking an important milestone in the life of the school community.



As part of the celebrations, the school received a new altar that originally came from a convent in Liverpool. This altar, which contains a sacred relic, will now be used for the celebration of Mass within the school community. It has also been solemnly consecrated by a bishop, giving it deep spiritual significance.

To honour the anniversary, students took part in a special form-time activity, reflecting on the history, mission, and Catholic identity of St Alban's.

This offered a meaningful opportunity for students to appreciate the school's heritage, the role of faith within its ethos, and the importance of continuing the tradition of service and worship that has shaped the school for six decades.



Friday 27th March



The school community came together to mark the end of the school term with a reflective liturgy centred on the moment when Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, a powerful reminder of Christ's humility and the beginning of the Easter journey.

The headteacher delivered a thoughtful reflection on the importance of Easter, encouraging students to consider its message of hope, sacrifice, and renewal as they prepared to enter the most significant season of the Christian year.

Students from across all year groups took an active role, serving as readers and altar servers, helping to create a sense of whole-school unity and shared worship.



The celebration was further enriched by a music group, whose contribution brought a prayerful and uplifting atmosphere to the service.

The bidding prayers offered during the liturgy were especially meaningful. They reflected the needs of the school community, the wider world, and particularly those suffering in places of conflict at this time, encouraging everyone present to hold in prayer all who long for peace, justice, and healing.