

# CATHOLIC LIFE & MISSION

20th September 2024



Members of St Francis House with Head of House, Mr Pauro at their House Assembly this week.

**“Begin now  
to be what  
you will be  
hereafter.”  
Saint  
Jerome**

The All Saints Family have started the year as we mean to go on, placing Christ at the centre of all we do, through prayer, the sacraments, and a focus on living a life of virtue. You can read about all of this in this issue of Catholic Life and Mission.

The year ahead will be an important year in the life of the Church, and particularly in the life of our school. Our whole-school Mission Week will run at the end of this half term, culminating in the early celebration of the feast of All Saints, which this year falls within the half-term holiday. This is an opportunity for each member of our community to assess their own faith journey and ask what God might be asking of them, to deepen their love of Christ and relationships with others to build up the body of Christ.

We will also focus on Pope Francis’ announcement of a year of Jubilee in the universal Church, which you can read more about in this issue, and how we can live out the theme ‘Pilgrims of Hope’ in our daily lives, for the good of each other and the glory of God.

# ASSEMBLY FOCUS

## “Do not be afraid” - w/c 9th September

Assemblies this week were led by heads of year, with a particular focus on overcoming our fears, but also on not being afraid to say when we are struggling or need support.

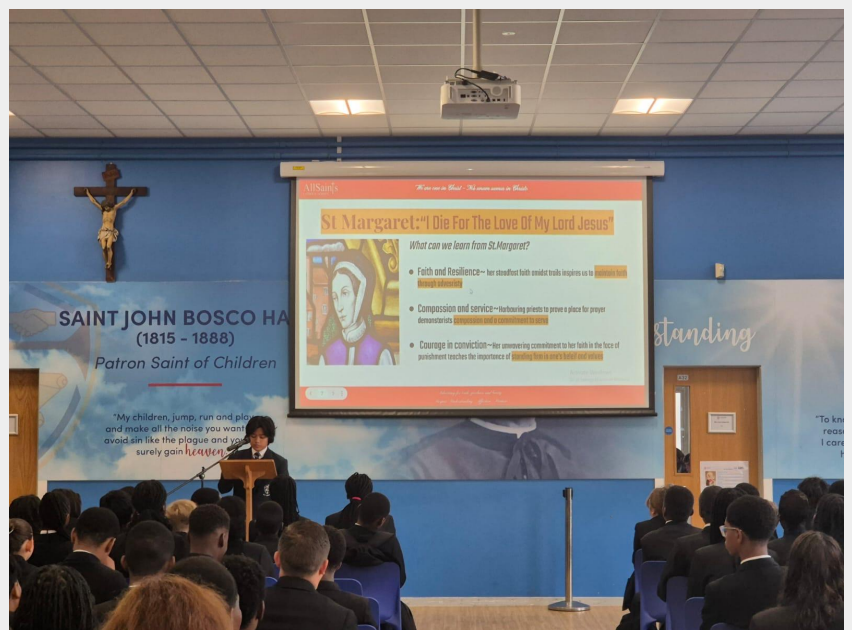
Mr Calver showed a particularly good example in decorated olympic gymnast, Simone Biles, who struggled with mental-health issues in her career, but was not afraid to speak out and take time out from the sport when necessary.

He drew attention to Simone Biles’ frequent references to her Catholic faith as being the grounding which helped her to have the courage to do the right thing.

## House Assemblies - w/c 16th September

Our students have met for the first time this year with their houses and Heads of House in assemblies throughout the week. This is an opportunity for different year groups to come together with a common focus based around the lives and virtues of their patron saint.

Our year 13 student leadership teams have done a fantastic job writing and presenting these assemblies, leading their fellow students in prayerful reflections and introducing our new year 7 students to the activities going on in their houses.





# ST AUGUSTINE HOUSE FEAST



The Augustinians were the first to celebrate their House Feast Day this year, gathering for Holy Mass on Friday 20th September in lieu of St Augustine's actual feast day, which falls during the summer holidays (28th August).

We were delighted to be joined by Father Kris from Rainham parish for Mass in the Bosco Hall. Father preached about the importance and impact of prayer in our lives, highlighting that St Augustine attributed his conversion to the Catholic faith to the 16 years his mother, St Monica, devoted to praying for his soul. The Mass was offered for any loved ones who feel far from God, asking the intercession of St Augustine and St Monica.

Mr Willis, Head of St Augustine House, and the chaplains want to extend particular thanks to our Altar Servers, **Onyekachi (9A)** and **Bethel (7A)**, as well as readers **Amber (10A)**, **Osasere (9A)** and **Cristina (8A)** for their enthusiasm, reverence and prayerful contributions.

# Diary Dates

## Liturgies and Events in School

Friday 27th September  
8.10am - Holy Mass (St John Henry Newman Chapel)

Friday 4th October  
8.10am - Holy Mass (St John Henry Newman Chapel)  
P1 - St Francis House Feast Day Mass

Wednesday 9th October  
Feast of St John Henry Newman - Sixth Form Leadership celebration

Friday 11th October  
8.10am - Holy Mass (St John Henry Newman Chapel)

## Liturgical Calendar

22nd September - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Gospel: Mark 9:30-37  
*"The Son of Man will be delivered. If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself servant of all."*

29th September - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Gospel: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48  
*"Anyone who is not against us is for us. If your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off."*

## YEAR OF JUBILEE 2025

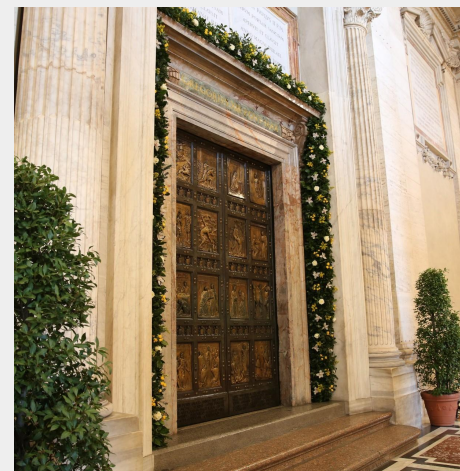
Pope Francis has announced the upcoming Year of Jubilee in 2025, themed "Pilgrims of Hope," which will begin with the opening of the Holy Door in Rome on Christmas Eve.

The Jubilee Year is a time of grace and renewal for the Church, inviting all of us to embark on a spiritual journey, deepening our faith and our sense of community.

The concept of a Jubilee traces back to ancient biblical traditions, where it was a time for restoration and forgiveness. It's a powerful reminder that God's mercy is boundless and available to all. For us, a Jubilee offers a unique opportunity to seek reconciliation, celebrate our faith, and support one another in our spiritual journeys.

The theme "Pilgrims of Hope" encourages us to walk together as a community, trusting in God's providence and inspired by the hope that Christ brings. It's an invitation to reflect on our role as students, parents, educators, and members of the Church.

Throughout the Jubilee Year, All Saints will be host various events and activities to help our students engage with this extraordinary time. Watch this space to find out more.





# Chaplaincy Timetable September / October

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning 8.10am		Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Mass
Breaktime	Chat with Chaplains	Chat with Chaplains	Altar Server Training	Mass Reading Practice	Divine Mercy Chaplet
Lunchtime 12.40-1.10pm	Rosary	Play and Pray	Scripture Study	The Chosen (RE6)	The Big Question (RE)
Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning 8.10am		Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Mass
Breaktime	Chat with Chaplains	Chat with Chaplains	Altar Server Training	Mass Reading Practice	Divine Mercy Chaplet
Lunchtime 12.40 - 1.10pm	Rosary	Play and Pray	Scripture Study	The Chosen (RE 6)	The Big Question (RE)

This timetable details all the activities happening in through our chaplaincy provision this half term.

From Tuesday to Thursday, the chapel is open for morning prayer at 8.10am.

Every Friday morning, we offer Mass in the chapel at 8.10am, with a priest available to hear confessions before or after Mass.

Monday and Tuesday breaktimes are an opportunity for students to come and chat informally with our chaplains, to ask questions or seek spiritual advice.

On Wednesday breaktime we will be focussing on one particular aspect of the Mass with our altar servers and Thursday break time, readers on the rota practice mass readings for the next day.

**WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW SERVERS AND MASS READERS (particularly if you already Altar Serve in your Parish). PLEASE COME AND SEE SISTER BORA OR MRS MCCORMICK IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.**

There are lots of opportunities throughout the week for varied prayer, including the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and our Pray and Play session, which involves discussion, song and prayer together in a friendly group.

We are studying St Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians in our Wednesday scripture study.

On Thursday lunchtime we are screening episodes of the hit TV series, the Chosen, which is about the Gospels and the life of Christ.

On Friday lunchtime, the Chaplaincy and RE teams collaborate to answer a 'big question' about the faith or the Church.