Catholic Life at St John's

A Learning Community guided by Gospel Values

TERM 2



Bishop of Durham Retirement

Four of our students had the privilege of representing St John's at an event at Auckland Castle, celebrating the work of Anglican Bishop of Durham, Right Reverend Paul Butler. Students were able to listen to Bishop Paul's story, his thoughts on faith, his relationship with Bishop Auckland and the wider community.

Choir of the Year



Our wonderful Choir competed in the North East Secondary Choir of the Year competition in Durham Cathedral. Although they did not win, all our students showed incredible confidence and self-belief.





Recommissioning Mass



In March, Bishop Stephen invited our school chaplain and two students to St Mary's Cathedral. They along with representatives from schools across the diocese, took part in a recommissioning Mass. Bishop Stephen blessed all the school chaplains as they promised to continue the work they do in our Catholic schools.

Our Wonderful Sixth Form Students and staff took to the catwalk to strut their stuff for two fantastic charities; Cancer Research and Angel Trust. They raised a magnificent £1500 for Cancer Research and a van full of pre-loved clothing for Angel Trust.



Turing Scheme



In January, some of our Sixth Form students had the amazing opportunity to travel New York as part of the Turing Scheme. Whilst in New York students visited Siena College, a Catholic University in Albany. They explored what life would be like if they studied and lived on campus. They also took part in a retreat day, exploring how spirituality can help our mental health and well-being.



Community Cafe

Once a month we hold an Age UK Community Cafe. Our lovely visitors enjoyed tea and cake whilst being entertained by music from the wonderful Marco in Year 11. Some of our students came to chat to our visitors during the afternoon.







CAFOD Soup Lunch



Every Thursday during Lent we held a Lenten Soup Lunch. Students were able to purchase a bowl of soup. All money raised went to CAFOD

Lent



During Lent, staff were invited to participate in Stations of the Cross every Monday. It was the perfect opportunity to take time to be still, pray and reflect on the sacrifice made by Jesus.

Stations of the Cross



Easter Liturgies



All Year groups gathered together at St Mary's Church for an Easter Liturgy led by the school Chaplain, Emma. Students had time to reflect and pray about the upcoming events of Holy Week. Students led them in reflections and hymns.



The Source



Pilgrimage to Lourdes



Our School Chaplain Emma, led a Pilgrimage to Lourdes with a group of students over Easter. Students walked the Way of the Cross, praying at each Station, the lit candles and said prayers at the Grotto. Students got to experience mass with HCPT on Easter Sunday to celebrate Jesus' resurrection





A group of Year 9 and Year 10 students attended an event called The Source at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle. The event gave students the opportunity to listen to two inspirational speakers who use their vocal and instrumental talents to engage with young people, helping them to appreciate their gifts and talents.







Music Retreat Day

In February, our school choir travelled to St Cuthbert's Church. Darlington where they took part in a music retreat day. Throughout the day, they took part in workshops focusing on the significance of music in prayer. They also learnt a piece of Gospel music.











