



12th October 2026

Chaplaincy News – Autumn Term 2026

Dear parents and carers,

What a wonderful start to the new school year it has been in Chaplaincy! The first half term has been full of opportunities for our young people to grow in faith, friendship, confidence and compassion, both within school and in the wider community.

In fact, we began before the term had even started, with students joining the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes in August, giving their time to support assisted pilgrims through service, companionship and prayer.

Since September, our students have certainly been busy! Our Youth SVP team has led assemblies on Catholic Social Teaching and organised a fantastic Games Night, raising an incredible £950 for Cynthia Spencer Hospice. Our Choir, Worship Band and Worship Leaders have shared their talents at the Diocesan Schools' Mass in Dunstable, Re Northampton and the *Called to be Saints* day at St Thomas More School.

October has also brought our OLICAT Rosary Marathon, with schools across the Trust aiming to pray 12,000 decades of the Rosary, alongside the launch of our new Rosary Trail around the school. During Catholic Education Week, students reflected on the example of St Francis of Assisi, while our Year 7 and Year 11 students enjoyed their retreat days. This week, 11 of our Year 13 students are also heading to Kintbury for a residential retreat.

There's a Place for Everyone in Chaplaincy!

Alongside these special events, Chaplaincy is a lively and welcoming part of everyday school life, with something happening throughout the week.

- **Monday:** Gospel Gang shares the weekly Gospel message around school, and our Year 7/8 Ethos Team meets at lunchtime, supported by older Faith Leaders.
- **Tuesday:** Youth SVP meets at lunchtime, alongside our weekly Class Masses.
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RESPECT



TRUTH



COMPASSION



JUSTICE



FAITH



ST THOMAS BECKET CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Becket Way, Kettering Road North, Northampton, NN3 6HT

HEADTEACHER Mr Paul McCahill BSc (Hons) NPQH MA SLE

WEBSITE www.st-thomasbecket.org.uk

PHONE 01604 493211

EMAIL office@tbcn.nor.olicatschools.org



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- **Wednesday:** Candlelit Adoration in the Chapel at 8.00am, Worship Wednesday at lunchtime and Mass after school, usually celebrated by Fr Brendan Killeen.
- **Thursday:** Bible Study at lunchtime, offering students an opportunity to explore Scripture, share their thoughts, ask questions and grow in their understanding of faith together.

All students are warmly welcome to our open Chaplaincy activities, whatever their faith background. In particular, Adoration and Wednesday Mass are open to everyone. Students do not need to be Catholic or familiar with Catholic prayer and worship to come along. Whether they wish to pray, reflect, listen, sing or simply enjoy a few moments of peace, there is a place for them.

Our Chapel is a place of welcome, friendship, prayer and belonging, and we would love to see even more young people discovering what Chaplaincy can offer them.

As we approach half term, I want to thank our wonderful students, staff and families for their continued enthusiasm and support. It is a real privilege to see so many young people sharing their gifts, looking out for one another and making a positive difference.

Christ's Love is Our Foundation, and it is wonderful to see that love being lived out in so many different ways.

God bless,

Rose Darwin
School Chaplain



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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Mrs Catherine Burnham

Registered Office: Our Lady Immaculate Catholic
Academies Trust, c/o St Thomas More Catholic
Secondary School, Tyne Crescent, Bedford, MK41 7UL
Company Number: 09436283

