



ANNUAL PLAN OF PROVISION

Sacred Heart Catholic Academy, Leicester
Part of the St Thomas Aquinas Multi Academy Trust

**We live and learn in hope & joy,
keeping the Spirit of God alive in
our community**

Mission Statement

ANNUAL PLAN OF PROVISION 2

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens – Ecc 3:1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Annual Plan of Provision (APOP) for Prayer and Liturgy outlines our commitment to fostering a vibrant and inclusive spiritual life within our Sacred Heart Catholic Academy. Rooted in our mission to live and learn in hope and joy, the plan serves as a framework to integrate prayer and Liturgy into the daily lives of students, staff and community.



Purpose and Objectives

The APOP sets out our desire to:

- Deepen the spiritual formation of students and staff through meaningful experiences of prayer, Liturgy, and the Sacraments.
- Celebrate the Liturgical Calendar of the Catholic Church, emphasising major feasts and seasons.
- Encourage a culture of reflection and prayer that respects the diversity of personal faith journeys.
- Strengthen the school's identity as a Catholic community through active participation in Mass, Celebrations of the Word, and community outreach.

Key Components

1. **Overview of the Year:**
2. **Daily Prayer:** Integration of prayer into morning announcements, classroom routines, and staff gatherings to anchor each day in faith.
3. **Liturgical Celebrations:** Regular Celebrations of Mass and prayer services tailored to liturgical seasons, ensuring active student and staff participation.
4. **Sacramental Life:** Opportunities for Reconciliation, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and Sacramental preparation preparation where appropriate.
5. **Faith Formation:** Workshops, retreats, enrichment days and Diocesan programs to deepen understanding and engagement with the wider Church.
6. **Student-Led Worship:** Formation of Chaplaincy teams to empower students in planning and leading of Prayer & Liturgy.
7. **Community Outreach & Charity Work:** Integration of Virtues and social justice themes into Prayer, Liturgy, and the pattern of the school, encouraging prayerful action in service to others.

Implementation Strategies

- Collaboration with clergy and diocesan resources to ensure alignment with Church teachings and support for Sacramental events.
- Engagement with parents and families through shared liturgical events and open invitations to participate in school prayer & Liturgy.
- Ongoing professional development for staff to equip them with tools for leading prayer and fostering a faith-centred environment.

Monitoring and continued development

Regular monitoring and feedback from staff, students & benefactors will ensure that prayer and Liturgy initiatives are impactful and aligned with our mission. Annual evaluations will allow for adjustments based on the needs of the school community.

This plan reaffirms our commitment to living out the Gospel values in every aspect of school life. By integrating prayer and Liturgy as core elements of the educational experience at St Thomas More, we aim to build a faith-filled community grounded in the love of Christ.

*Produced By: Deacon Seamus O'Looskan
Updated on: 4th September 2026
Next Review: 5th Sept*



This is our academic year at a glance. More detail is provided further on in the APOP, but this provides a quick look at our provision and how it changes over the course of the year to match the liturgical year of the Church and the spiritual life of the school.

August

Inset day focus-RE/Catholic life
Welcome assemblies
Comissioning of Chaplains

September

Whole School Mass in Church
Tuesday 8th Mass in Church - Cedar/Oak
Tuesday 15th Mass in Church - Elm
Tuesday 22nd Mass in Church - Willow/Poplar
Tuesday 29th Mass in Church - Silver Birch/Sycamore

October

Rosary in classes
Tuesday Mass in Church
Year 5 Class visit to Our Lady's shrine in garden
Parent/Child COW (29th)
Cafod Harvest service and food bank appeal
All Saints Day
Launch of Minni Vinnies

November

Remembrance service
Eternal Rest prayer used in Class
Tuesday Mass in Church

December

Menphys concert
Tuesday Mass in Church
Reception and Year 1&2 Nativity
Carol Service for KS2
Whole School Mass - Feast of the Immaculate Conception

January

Epiphany blessing of doors
Scripture door mission
St Thomas Aquinas feast day
Tuesday Mass in Church

February

Presentation of the Lord
Ash Wednesday - ashing in classes by Chaplains
CAFOD Lent Fast Day
Reconciliation service with Fr David
Tuesday Mass in Church

March

Big Lent walk
Reception Mothers day prayer
Stations of the Cross produced for Church
KS2 children lead Lent prayer for EYFS & KS1
Lent whole school Mass

April

Easter Candle activity
Tuesday Mass in Church

May

Ascension Day
First Communion Masses in Holy Family Parish
Devotions for Mary- Procession
Tuesday Mass in Church

June

Sacred Heart Feast Day - join with SH School Loughborough
Colour dash fundraiser
Corpus Christi - adoration in Chapel
Tuesday Mass in Church

July

Year 6 leavers mass
Tuesday Mass in Church



ATMOSPHERE & SEASONALITY

Seasonality is something that connects us all on a very human level. When considering our approach to planning and celebrating prayer and liturgy we need to think first of when in the life of the community it's taking place. Just as the changing seasons outside help us get a feel for the time of year, so we must give special consideration to making the different seasons in the Church feel different too - *Planning and Celebrating Prayer & Liturgy*

	Advent Term		Lent Term		Pentecost Term	
	Ordinary Time	Advent / Christmastide	Ordinary Time	Lent	Eastertide	Pentecost / Ordinary Time
Whole School	-Start of Year Mass -CAFOD Fast day-Harvest -Remembrance Day All Saints reflection	-Advent Mission Day -Advent Mass for Feast of Immaculate Conception -CMAT Travelling Crib	-Epiphany blessing of doors Presentation of the Lord	-Lent Mission Day Stations of the Cross CAFOD Big Lent Walk	-Easter Mission Day -Ascension Day Mass First Communion Masses	-SH feast day mass -Yr 6 Leavers Mass
Key Stage / Year Group	-HT Weekly CoW	-HT Weekly CoW -EYFS/KS1 Nativity -KS2 Advent Carol Service COW	-HT Weekly CoW	-Ash Wednesday ashing by Chaplains -HT Weekly CoW -St David's Day -St Patrick's Day	HT Weekly CoW -St George's Day KS1 and reception service for Mary End of branch 5 CoW	-HT Weekly CoW Corpus Christi Adoration service
Class / Form	Mark 10 Mission -Child Led weekly CoW -Class services Class Masses with parishioners at Sacred Heart Church Virtues sessions with Deacon Seamus	-Advent Reflections Advent Wreath in form -Child Led weekly CoW -Mark 10 Mission -Lectio/Visio Class Masses with parishioners at SH Church	-STA Feast Day Build up -STA Feast Day -Mark 10 Mission -Child Led Weekly CoW -Lectio/Visio Class Masses with parishioners at Sacred Heart Church	-Child Led weekly CoW -Stations of the Cross -Mark 10 Mission -Lectio Reception Mothers day service Class masses with parishioners at Sacred Heart Church	Child Led weekly CoW -Adoration -Mark 10 Mission Tuesday class masses at SH Church	-Child Led weekly CoW -Mark 10 Mission -Lectio Tuesday class masses at SH Church Yr 6 Celebration Mass
Small groups	Chaplains planning Mini Vinnies	Chaplains planning Mini Vinnies -Menphys Concert	Chaplains planning Mini Vinnies	Chaplains planning Mini Vinnies	Chaplains planning Mini Vinnies	Chaplains Planning Catholic Life Action plan Mini Vinnies
Individuals	Chapel open for prayer Rosary	Chapel open for prayer	Chapel open for prayer	Chapel open for prayer	Chapel open for prayer Rosary Club	Chapel open for prayer
Staff	Parish Mass Friday Staff Prayer time	-Parish Mass Friday Staff Prayer Time Parish Bazaar -Menphys concert Prayer intentions	-Parish Mass Friday Staff Prayer time	-Parish Mass -First Holy Communion -Friday Staff prayer time	Parish Mass Friday Staff Prayer time	Parish Mass Friday Staff Prayer Time
Parents / Community	Parent/Child COW day Parish Sunday Mass Tuesday Parish Mass led by classes	Parish Sunday Mass Tuesday Parish Mass led by classes Reception and Year 2 Nativity Advent Carol service Parish Bazaar Menphys concert	Epiphany Home Blessings Parish Sunday Mass Tuesday Parish Mass led by classes	Parish Sunday Mass Tuesday Parish Mass led by classes	Parish Sunday Mass Tuesday Parish Mass led by classes Holy Communion Mass	Year 6 Celebration Mass Parish Sunday Mass Tuesday Parish Mass led by classes Sacred Heart Feast Day



ORDINARY TIME

Ordinary Time is the longest liturgical season, offering us a time for growth and deepening our faith. We celebrate the ongoing presence of Christ in our lives and strive to live out the Gospel message in our daily actions.

Classroom and School Environment

- Colour Scheme: Use green fabrics and decorations to symbolize spiritual growth and new life. Create displays that showcase the Principles of Catholic Social Teaching & virtues we are cultivating.
- Hall: Cross is dressed to suit the season. Display created by Chaplaincy Team
- Chapel: Has green cloth on table - Season of Creation in September, Rosary in October, Baptism in January, Mary in May.

Prayer and Liturgy

- Morning Prayer: simple prayers used throughout the day including sign of the Cross in BSL? Makaton
- Celebrations of the Word: Class celebrations of word led once a week by students using weekly Diocesan themes, seasonal themes
- Whole School Mass celebrated in SH - at the beginning of the year and for the Feast of the Sacred Heart
- Tuesday Parish Mass is led by a Class from KS2- with hymns, readers and altar servers.
- Focus on the Rosary in October and Guardian Angels

Overall Tone

Maintain an upbeat and positive tone throughout Ordinary Time. Focus on our missionary role to spread the Good News and encourage students to share their faith with each other and others.

Events

- *Start of Year Mass @ Sacred Heart*
- *Harvest CoW*
- *All Saints Day celebrations*
- *Weekly CoW*
- *Rosary in Oct.*
- *Feast of the SH*
- *Year 6 Leavers Mass*

Resources

- *Displays in Classrooms and green cloth on Hall Cross*
- *Class Prayer tables include Green Cloth and relevant artifacts /focal points.*
- *Liturgi-calendar displayed in classrooms (on screens or prayer tables)*



Classroom and School Environment

- ## Prayer and Liturgy

- ## Overall Tone

Maintain a sense of quiet anticipation and reflection throughout Advent. Encourage students to consider the true meaning of Christmas and how they can prepare their hearts to receive Jesus.

Events

- *Rec/Y1 Nativity*
- *Advent Carol Service for KS2*
- *Food bank Collection*
- *Charity focus for classes*
- *Christmas Jumper Day for "Save the Children"*
- *CMAT Travelling Crib CoW*

Resources

- Advent Wreath set up in classrooms
- Purple cloths on Class prayer tables
- Nativity Sets throughout school



Lent is a season of reflection, repentance, and renewal. We journey with Jesus towards the cross, reflecting on our own need for forgiveness and striving to deepen our relationship with God.
Classroom and School Environment

- Color Scheme: Use purple or violet fabrics and decorations to symbolize penance and preparation. Create a prayerful atmosphere in your classroom.
- Traveling Lenten Image: Introduce a traveling Lenten image, such as a crucifix or stone. The image moves from class to class each day, serving as a visual reminder of the season and prompting reflection.
- Stations of the Cross: Display the Stations of the Cross around the school. Encourage students to walk the stations individually or as a class, reflecting on Jesus' journey to Calvary. Stations of the Cross made for Sacred Heart Church to be displayed

Prayer and Liturgy

- Morning Prayer: Begin each day with a special Lenten prayer. Focus on themes of repentance, forgiveness, and turning back to God.
- Sacrament of Reconciliation: Offer opportunities for students to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Prepare them for this sacrament through age-appropriate discussions and activities.
- Prayer and Liturgy - COW weekly led by classes on Lenten themes - Prayer, Penance and Fasting

Overall Tone

Maintain a sense of calm reverence and reflection throughout Lent. Encourage students to engage in the Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Events

- *Ash Wednesday Liturgies with ashing led by Chaplains*
- *Stations of the Cross CoW led by Chaplaincy Team*
- *Reconciliation service with Fr David with opportunity for confession for Yr4/5/6*

Resources

- *Cross set up with purple cloth in Hall.*
- *Prayer tables set up with purple cloths & swapped crosses for crucifixes.*
- *Stations of the Cross throughout school including widget SOC display with Shamrock*



Eastertide is a season of great joy and celebration, marking the resurrection of Christ. We celebrate the new life that Jesus offers us and rejoice in the hope of eternal life.

Classroom and School Environment

- Color Scheme: Decorate your classroom and designated school areas with bright colors and festive decorations. White and gold are traditional Easter colors, symbolizing purity and joy.
- Easter Candle lit for COW - particular attention to Paschal Candle in Church
- Prayer Garden: During May - Rosary and Prayer intentions (ribbons) at Our Lady's garden

Prayer and Liturgy

- Morning Prayer: Begin each day with a special Easter prayer. The 'Glory Be' is a key prayer during Eastertide, praising the Trinity and celebrating the resurrection.
- Celebrations of the Word: Focus on the resurrection narratives and the joy of Easter. Incorporate music and festive activities into your celebrations.
- Procession in honour of Our Lady during May around the playground

Overall Tone

Maintain a happy and positive tone throughout Eastertide. Encourage students to share their Easter joy with others and to live out the message of the resurrection in their daily lives.

Events

- *Lighting of Easter Candle*
- *Rosary Club in May in the prayer Garden*
- *Ascension Day Mass*

Resources

- *Cross set up with white cloth in Hall.*
- *Prayer tables set up with white/gold*
- *Flowers for Mary's altars*



MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Regular and strategic monitoring and evaluation of Collective Worship and Catholic Life and Mission enable us to gauge how effective our provision is and whether it is relevant to our students and helping them to engage in and reflect on their faith, lives and relationships. It also helps us to know which elements are working well and which elements need tweaking, as well as showing our students that their views are important and that they are listened to.

<i>What is being evaluated?</i>	<i>How is it evaluated?</i>	<i>Who evaluates it?</i>	<i>How often is it evaluated?</i>	<i>What happens as a result?</i>
<i>Class Celebration of the word</i>	<i>Evaluation forms and examples of student generated content collected</i>	<i>Adults and Students</i>	<i>Once every two weeks</i>	<i>A target is set which is used when planning the next CoW.</i>
<i>Lectio Divina/Meditation/Personal prayer</i>	<i>Student voice/Impact slips and student generated content</i>	<i>Adults and Students</i>	<i>One of these types of prayer is evaluated once every two weeks</i>	<i>Collated in class prayer journals.</i>
<i>Mass/Adoration</i>	<i>Student voice/Impact slips</i>	<i>Students</i>		<i>Collated in class prayer journals.</i>
<i>Weekly whole school/key stage celebration of the word</i>	<i>Evaluation forms.</i>	<i>Different students chosen each time.</i>	<i>Once a week.</i>	
<i>Retreat sessions</i>				<i>Feedback is used to adapt future retreat sessions.</i>
<i>Catholic life and Mission</i>	<i>Student voice</i>	<i>CMAT colleagues, Adults, Chaplaincy team, Students.</i>	<i>Once per term</i>	<i>Actions are created, if necessary.</i>
<i>Moderation of class journals and observation of class prayer</i>	<i>Book trawls and prayer observations, with written feedback provided.</i>	<i>CMAT, Chaplain, SLT.</i>		<i>Feedback and, if necessary, actions given. Follow up training and modelling provided for staff.</i>



INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY IN PRAYER

It is important that moments of prayer and reflection within our community are inclusive of everyone. To this end, we need to consider what reasonable adjustments we can and should make in order to enable all members of our community to feel welcome and for them to be able to access our provision. We also need to consider what we can do to ensure that members of our community do not feel singled out or made to feel different. Our faith is one of love, tolerance and unity; this is how we strive to be in our school too.

We are clear in our understanding that prayer and collective worship is not a performance, and our God does not expect us to be perfect. Our children with additional needs can add a real sense of joy and authenticity to all aspects of school life including our prayer life

All our teachers are teachers of SEND pupils and they, and school SENCo's know best how to meet the needs of their pupils therefore the following is not an exhaustive list but some examples as to how all our pupils may best be fully included in prayer life and collective worship.

COGNITION AND LEARNING

This area encompasses difficulties with how children learn and think, including specific learning difficulties. Reasonable adjustments may include :-

- PowerPoints have black backgrounds and white writing to make them as accessible as possible to members of our community who are dyslexic. Other colours of background and text may also be used if it more helpful for specific students.
- Century Gothic Font / Futura (Dyslexia friendly)
- Readings in Mass/ Celebrations of the Word; we provide different coloured paper or font size tailored the student.
- Lyrics for hymns; chunking the lyrics presented over multiple slides.
- Thinking about alternate ways of capturing collective worship including photographs, Widgit or colourful semantics (Twinkl has an up to date and excellent range -most schools have at least one log in available)
- Using visuals for scripture during prayer and RE learning.
- With scripture, it is important to tailor the translation or version to the students. Suitable translations, such as GNT, simpler texts, pictorial resources to accompany the scripture can be used.

Events

- *Makaton signs used for Sign of the Cross and Hail Mary for Yr4/5/6*
- *Shamrock celebrations - using songs and signs*

Resources

- 'Sign Along':
<https://www.shop.signalong.org.uk/product-page/being-with-god>
- Widgit online:
<https://widgitonline.com/en/home>
- Religious Education Directory Guidance for Special Educational Needs and/or Disability:
https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/61165df208d9e689b4d32648/679240c63d2aabe9b225dac8_RED_SEND_guidance.pdf



INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY IN PRAYER

COMMUNICATION AND INTERACTION

This area focuses on difficulties with understanding and communicating with others, including speech, language, and communication needs.

Reasonable adjustments may include:-

- How we enter and exit a space for prayer and ensuring that this is consistent. For example, calm music, hands together, bringing in a candle. Using various symbols to establish and define the times of prayer and worship can be helpful for students to know what to expect from the moment we are about to enter.
- When preparing prayer, utilising the senses, see, hear, think and do to capture and engage their presence.
- Sign language (Makaton for younger children) to support music and worship.
- Brail to be used where necessary.
- Using widgets to communicate notify what is going on.
- Scaffold delivery of information, what will happen next, e.g. in Mass or in Celebrations of the Word.
- Social Stories for students, like what will happen on a retreat day/residential.
- Using senses during times of Adoration, for students to touch or to do something active (such as prayer stations), to keep them engaged whilst maintaining a prayerful atmosphere.
- Many schools have prepared social stories for occasions such as Mass which could be shared when needed.
- Chaplains may choose to wear visual lanyards to demonstrate practice in prayer eg. sign of the cross and hands together.

Events

- *Use of Widgets throughout*
- *Sensory Mass advertised - celebrated monthly in Shamrock room leading to First Holy Communion celebrations*
- *Makaton signing for Sign of the Cross*
- *Use of Sensory dolls/materials to explore Bible stories*

Resources

- *Visual Divina slides*
- *Shamrock room - Jesus and Mary fabric statues*
- *Chapel is open as accessible place with stones and other religious artefacts to hold*
- *Reception build rosaries in October - and explore holding different rosaries.*



INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY IN PRAYER

PHYSICAL AND SENSORY

This area covers difficulties related to sensory processing or physical disabilities that impact learning and participation

Reasonable adjustments may include:-

- Take advice from school SENCO and young person as appropriate as to what best meets their needs.
- Consider the use of adaptive technology as appropriate (iPad, laptops etc).
- Plans and risk assessments for visits should take full account of any pupils with physical needs.
- Visitors (either regular such as Hub Chaplains or occasional speakers) should be made aware of provision that is in place for children with visual or hearing impairments – schools will have effective practice in place for those pupils.
- When planning for prayer and liturgy, thought is given to the space used, the resources required and any adaptations which need to be made to make all young people feel included, rather than excluding or singling out individuals.

Events

- *Chinese is taught in school - exploration of Chinese saints and Mary in art*
- *Chinese character prayers*

Resources

- *Chinese Day in school to include some time of prayer with Chinese saints and with chinese art of Jesus and Mary*



INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY IN PRAYER

SEMH (SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, MENTAL HEALTH)

This area addresses difficulties with social interactions, emotional regulation, and mental health.

Reasonable adjustments may include:-

- Mindfulness and Relaxation Techniques:
 - Introduce mindfulness activities and relaxation techniques to help students manage stress and anxiety.
- Children with SEMH can struggle with anxiety so need plenty of notice when things change such as a whole retreat day or an off timetable themed day . Visuals can be useful in clarifying what this will look like for children.
- When changes are planned to the normal school day, it can be useful to emphasise points in the day that will remain the same.
- Visual Supports:
 - Use visual aids, such as timers, schedules, and social stories, to help students understand expectations and routines.
- Personalised Support:
 - Tailor interventions and support to meet the individual needs of each student.
- Consider a "Worry Box":
 - Introduce a "worry box" where students can anonymously share their concerns.
- Promote positive mental health:
 - Engage in activities that promote positive mental health, such as decorating the classroom with positive affirmations and engaging in mindfulness activities.
- Use a class feelings board:
 - Introduce a class feelings board as part of the class daily routine, where pupils can indicate their emotions by attaching their name or photograph to a class chart that is divided into different feelings.
- Children with SEMH difficulties can often experience anxiety in an activity that involves being exposed. Distraction techniques during a class Celebration of the Word, for example, might be helpful in managing this. This might include being the photographer for that moment of prayer or handing out pens or other equipment.
- Give very specific tasks such as choosing the best sitter or listener can help with focus and engagement.
- Leadership teams, such as the Chaplaincy and Eco team, should include roles for students which do not include standing up to talk in front of large groups.

Events

- *Visio Divina*
- *Lectio Divina*
- *Mediation exercises*

Resources

- *Widgets*
- *Use of Makaton in prayer*
- *Using visuals on the screens*



INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY IN PRAYER

INCLUSIVITY

This area addresses the need to ensure that all members of our community feel recognised, valued and included in the Catholic Life and Mission and moments of Collective Worship within our school.

Considerations may include:-

- Ensuring that there is representation where role models and examples are used. An example of this might include ensuring variation in gender and ethnicity when choosing House Saints.
- Marking Holy days and special events in other faiths and religions. This could include members of the school community, including parents or governors, being invited in to talk to the students about their faith on the relevant day.
- Using clear communication to ensure that students know that leadership positions, such as on the Chaplaincy and Eco team, are not just for Catholic students, they are open to anyone.
- Making relevant use of PP funding and the CMAT Catholic Life Hardship fund to ensure that students who are experiencing financial hardship can still access potentially life changing opportunities to explore their faith, such as retreats and pilgrimages.
- Students of other faiths or none can be made to feel more included by using topics and values for moments of prayer which are relevant to all and rooting them in Gospel values. A resource used to support this is the 'Extra-or-do-nary' calendar.

Events

- *Celebrstion of Diwlai and Ramadan representative of school demographic*

Resources

- *Extra-or-do-nary calendar*



Respectful Dialogue and Consultation: When addressing the needs of students and staff from other faith traditions, the sources stress the importance of open and respectful dialogue with families and, where possible, local religious leaders. This allows the school to understand the perspectives and sensitivities of those involved and make informed decisions about appropriate levels of participation. - **PLD**

Prioritising Sensitivity and Integrity: It is considered inappropriate to ask individuals from other faith traditions to participate in liturgical actions or pronouncements that contradict their beliefs. This includes asking them to recite prayers that are Trinitarian in nature, make the sign of the cross, or read from Christian scriptures during formal prayer or liturgy. - **PLD**

Creating Opportunities for Shared Reflection: While respecting the boundaries of liturgical participation, the sources encourage schools to create opportunities for shared reflection and prayer that acknowledge the common humanity and spiritual journeys of all individuals. This might involve: - **PLD**

Celebrating and marking celebrations and important dates in other faiths

Using the 'World Faiths Calendar', we have planned into our annual overview some opportunities for our young people to mark and celebrate special moments in the lives of our brothers and sisters in other faiths. Some of these have been chosen because they are particularly significant to members of our school or local community. Others have been chosen as it is important for our young people to learn about and understand the beliefs and lives of others. An example of the 'World Faith Calendar' can be found on the following pages.



WORLD FAITH CALENDAR

ADVENT 2026

DATE	TRADITION	EVENT	DESCRIPTION
26 AUG 2026	HINDUISM	Onam / Thiruvonam	Kerala harvest festival honouring King Mahabali.
28 AUG 2026	HINDUISM	Raksha Bandhan	Celebration of sibling bonds.
1 ST SEPTEMBER 2026	SIKHISM	Pahila Prakash Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji	First installation of Sikh scripture.
4 SEP 2026	HINDUISM	Janmashtami	Birth of Lord Krishna.
11–13 SEP 2026	JUDAISM	Rosh Hashanah	Jewish New Year.
14 SEP 2026	HINDUISM	Ganesh Chaturthi	Festival of Lord Ganesha.
20–21 SEP 2026	JUDAISM	Yom Kippur	Day of Atonement.
25 SEP–2 OCT 2026	JUDAISM	Sukkot	Jewish harvest festival.
3–4 OCT 2026	JUDAISM	Simchat Torah	Completion of Torah reading cycle.



WORLD FAITH CALENDAR

ADVENT 2026

DATE	TRADITION	EVENT	DESCRIPTION
11 OCT 2026	HINDUISM	Navratri Begins	Festival honouring the Divine Feminine.
20 OCT 2026	HINDUISM	Dussehra	Victory of good over evil.
8 NOV 2026	SIKHISM	Diwali	Festival of lights. It symbolises the spiritual victory of Dharma over Adharma, light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance.
8 NOV 2026	HINDUISM	Diwali (Main Diwali)	Celebrates Lord Rama's return to Ayodhya and the worship of Goddess Lakshmi for wealth.
8 NOV 2026	JAINISM	Diwali	Commemorates Lord Mahavira attaining Nirvana (spiritual liberation) in 527 BCE.
8 NOV 2026	HINDUISM	Bhai Dooj	A day celebrating the bond and lifelong protection between brothers and sisters.
15 NOV 2026	SIKHISM	Guru Nanak GURPURAB	Birth of Guru Nanak Dev Ji.
24 NOV 2026	SIKHISM	Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur	9th Guru's martyrdom.
4-12 DEC 2026	JUDAISM	Hanukkah	Festival of Lights.



WORLD FAITH CALENDAR

LENT 2027

DATE	TRADITION	EVENT	DESCRIPTION
3 JAN 2027 (APPROX.)	BUDDHISM	Mahayana New Year	New Year in Mahayana traditions.
5 JAN 2027 (APPROX.)	SIKHISM	Guru Gobind Singh Birthday	Birth of 10th Guru.
31 JAN 2027 (APPROX.)	SIKHISM	Guru Har Rai Birthday	Birth of 7th Guru.
7 FEB - 8 MARCH 2027	ISLAM	Ramadan	The ninth and holiest month of the Islamic calendar, marked by a 29–30 day period of dawn-to-sunset fasting (sawm) to honor the revelation of the Quran.
17 FEB 2027 (APPROX.)	BUDDHISM	Losar	Tibetan New Year.
6 MAR 2027	ISLAM	Laylat al-Qadr	Holiest night of Ramadan.
9–10 MAR 2027	ISLAM	Eid al-Fitr	End of Ramadan fasting.



WORLD FAITH CALENDAR

PENTECOST 2027

DATE	TRADITION	EVENT	DESCRIPTION
21–29 APR 2027	JUDAISM	Passover	Exodus festival.
1 MAY 2027 (APPROX.)	BUDDHISM	Vesak	Buddha's birth, enlightenment, passing.
16 MAY 2027	ISLAM	Day of Arafah	Holiest day before Eid-ul-Adha.
29 JUL 2027 (APPROX.)	BUDDHISM	Asalha Puja	Buddha's first sermon.
17 FEB 2027 (APPROX.)	BUDDHISM	Losar	Tibetan New Year.
6 MAR 2027	ISLAM	Laylat al-Qadr	Holiest night of Ramadan.
9–10 MAR 2027	ISLAM	Eid al-Fitr	End of Ramadan fasting.



On Open evenings, staff interviews and inductions, the Catholic Ethos of the school is put at the forefront for potential students, families and staff. The Altar and Prayer tables are included as part of the tour and reference is made to our distinctive Catholic Life and Mission. Open afternoon for parents to participate in COW.

During the first staff INSET, new staff are introduced to prayer and liturgy, the Catholic Ethos and the Mission of the school. Returning staff are given a chance to reconsider how they can bring our Mission and Ethos to life in their classes and wider roles.

Continued CPD from the RE Lead, Prayer & Liturgy Co-ordinator & Chaplain allows staff to explore how to better access the Catholic character of their school both professionally and personally, including; **Collective Worship, Catholic Social Teaching, The Liturgical Calendar, Virtues, Saints & Heroes of the Church & Mass.**

Events

- Staff CPD - CLM & CW
 - First Inset
- Staff CPD - CLM & CW
 - CMAT Insets for staff
- Staff Meeting - CLM & CW
 - 1-2 Times a year as necessary.
- Staff Prayer each Friday with Chaplain

Resources

- Timetables & rota's for all prayer, liturgy & Mass shared at first INSET and regularly updated and shared.
- Diocese website - Chaplaincy Space NRCDES
- Resources on Prayer tables & Displays to enhance prayer and liturgy in school
 - Mission Statement, CST, Liturgical Calendar.
- Let Us Pray 2gether resource for planning CoW
- Weekly Theme Calendar with explanations provided at the start of the academic year