

ROOTED IN FAITH

catholic salesian life and mission bulletin
JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2025

Jubilee 2025



To journey with Pope Francis follow the link:
<https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>

Pope Francis opened the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican to inaugurate the Jubilee Year. Other major basilicas in Rome, such as St. John Lateran, St. Paul Outside the Walls, and St. Mary Major, also have Holy Doors, which opened for the faithful to visit.

Pope Francis describes young people as "pilgrims of hope" in this world, emphasizing their role in bringing hope and renewal to society. He sees young people as vital participants in the journey of faith, capable of inspiring change and promoting peace, justice, and solidarity. By calling them "pilgrims," he underscores their dynamic and forward-looking nature, always moving toward a brighter future. Their hope is not just personal but communal, encouraging others to trust in God's plan and work together to build a better world. We are invited to join in this "journey of hope" during this jubilee year.



Pope Francis opening
the Holy Door in
St Peter's Basilica, Rome



Strenna 2025: "Anchored in Hope"

As we embark on this new year, we are inspired by the Strenna 2025 theme, "Anchored in Hope." This guiding principle encourages us to hold steadfast to our faith, trust in each other, and remain resilient in the face of challenges.

Being anchored in hope means believing in the potential of every young person and working tirelessly to nurture that potential. It calls us to be a source of light and encouragement in our community, fostering an environment where everyone feels supported and valued.

Let this theme guide us throughout the year as we strive to embody the teachings of Don Bosco, spreading hope and positivity in all that we do. Together, let's make 2025 a year of growth, unity, and unwavering hope.

**"Hope is the anchor of the soul,
firm and secure."**

- Hebrews 6:19

Feast of Saint John Bosco on 31st January



Thornleigh Salesian College is looking forward to the upcoming celebration of the Feast of Don Bosco, the patron saint of our community. On January 31st, we will come together to honour the life and legacy of Saint John Bosco, whose work remains a powerful journey of hope for young people around the world.

Don Bosco's dedication to empowering youth, particularly those facing difficult circumstances, continues to inspire us. His commitment to providing young people with the opportunity to be who they are, through education, faith, and personal growth, is the foundation of the Salesian mission we uphold at Thornleigh.

The feast day offers a special opportunity to reflect on Don Bosco's vision of love and support, reminding us of the transformative power of community and education. As we gather to celebrate this important day, we renew our commitment to carrying forward Don Bosco's legacy and providing our students with the opportunities they need to thrive, just as he intended.

Join us on January 31st for a day filled with celebration, prayer, and a shared sense of purpose as we continue our journey of hope in the spirit of Don Bosco.

Happy Feast of Saint John Bosco.

New Year's Resolutions

Focused on personal growth:

- Practice Mindfulness Daily
- Develop a New Skill
- Exercise Regularly
- Improve Time Management
- Set Personal Goals
- Practice Gratitude
- Strengthen Relationships
- Volunteer or Give Back
- Cultivate a Growth Mindset
- Practice Self-Care
- Read More Books
- Limit Screen Time

As we step into this new year, let's embrace the chance to live fully and give generously.

Each day is a fresh start, a new page in our story.

Let's strive to make the most of every moment, learning and growing together as a community.

This year, let's commit to kindness, support each other in our endeavours,
and work towards our goals with determination and hope.

Remember, every small act of giving, whether it's a smile, a helping hand,
or a kind word, makes a difference.

Let's make this year our best yet, living and giving with all our hearts!

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy, and hopeful New Year!

COMMUNITY LINKS



Thornleigh Salesian College Choir had the opportunity to visit the Hyde Lea Care Home to spread festive cheer through carol singing and music. Their performance was especially heartwarming as they entertained residents, including those living with dementia, with a selection of carols and familiar tunes. The visit created a joyful atmosphere, fostering connection and bringing smiles to the residents' faces during the holiday season. Such acts of kindness highlight the power of music in lifting spirits and creating cherished moments in the local community.



LOCAL PARISHES MASS TIMING

Parish of Corpus Christi

(St John the Evangelist, St Columba's, & St Brendan's)

Mass Timing: Saturday Vigil: 5pm Vigil Mass (SB)

Sundays - 9.30am Mass (SJ) 11am Mass (SB)

Parish of Blessed Dominic Barberi

(St Teresa's, St Osmund's)

Mass Timing: Saturday Vigil: 5pm Vigil Mass (SO)

Sundays - 9.30am Mass (St) 11am Mass (SO)

St Cuthbert

(St Joseph's and St Thomas of Canterbury)

Mass Timing: Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm Vigil Mass (ST)

Sundays - 9.30am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (ST)

St. Edmund and St. Patrick Catholic Parish

Mass Timing: Sundays - 10am Mass (SP) 11.30am Mass (SP)

The Holy Infant and St Anthony Parish

Mass Timing: Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm Vigil Mass

Sundays - 10am Mass



SALESIAN NEWS

MAUREEN DEVEREUX MBE



We are delighted to report that Sean's mother Maureen Devereux was presented with her MBE at an investiture ceremony at Windsor Castle in October 2024. Prince William awarded her with her honour which she received on behalf of the Fund. She is seen here with her daughters Theresa and Tania who are also patrons like Maureen. Congratulations to Maureen from all of the SDCF team past and present and indeed our wonderful team in Liberia who continue to deliver education to children in need. We are all very proud of you, as would Sean and Dermot be.

BOSCEP Carol Service



The BoSCEP Christmas celebration is a cherished tradition among Catholic schools in Bolton, encompassing both primary and secondary educational institutions to come together as a community. This annual event is a harmonious blend of music, singing, and drama, intertwined with readings, reflection, and prayer, creating a rich tapestry of festive spirit and spiritual reverence.

Thornleigh Carol Service

Thornleigh Salesian College annual Carol Service was held this year centering on the profound theme of "The Gift of Love" – Jesus. The service uniquely highlighted those closest to Jesus' heart: prisoners, the sick, the young, migrants, the elderly, and the poor. The evening was filled with traditional carols and poignant readings that underscored the true meaning of Christmas.



To Support Sean Devereux Charity
<https://www.seandevereux.org.uk/>



RE Curriculum Updates



This half term in RE we are excited to begin our new topics at KS3; Galilee to Jerusalem. This topic explores the life of Jesus further, understanding key beliefs such as the Trinity and how people can put their faith into action today. In year 10 students are continuing to study Catholic Christianity and will be focusing on Catholic Social Teaching as well as Sources of Wisdom and Authority that inspire Christians to live out their faith. In year 11 students will be completing the course by finishing the Judaism topics and will begin revision for their PPE 2 series. We also have lots to look forward to this half term with many creative projects, mission week and visits from Fr Chris Gorton. It's going to be a very busy and exciting half term!

CHAPLAINCY

UPCOMING EVENTS

MISSION WEEK 2025	Monday 27th - Friday 31st January 2025
FEAST OF ST JOHN BOSCO	Friday 31st January 2025
ASH WEDNESDAY	Wednesday 5th March 2025
LENTEN SEASON	Wednesday 5th March - Sunday 13th April 2025
HOLY WEEK	Monday 14th - Saturday 19th April 2025
EASTER	Sunday 20th April 2025



Laura Vicuña was a young Chilean girl who is venerated as Blessed in the Catholic Church. Born on April 5, 1891, in Santiago, Chile, she is remembered for her piety, devotion, and self-sacrifice. Laura's family faced difficult circumstances, and she was educated at a school run by the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (Salesian Sisters), where she developed a deep spirituality influenced by the teachings of Saint John Bosco.

Her life was marked by a profound commitment to prayer and service, even at a young age. Laura offered her life for the conversion of her mother, who was in a difficult and morally compromising relationship. She passed away on January 22, 1904, at the age of 12, due to a combination of poor health and the sacrifices she made.

Pope John Paul II beatified Laura Vicuña on September 3, 1988, recognizing her heroic virtue and selflessness. She is often seen as a model for young people, particularly for her courage, faith, and dedication to her family and faith. Her feast day is celebrated on January 22.

Sean Devereux was a British humanitarian aid worker and missionary, known for his dedication to helping others, particularly in Africa. Born on November 25, 1964, in Camberley, Surrey, England, he was educated at Salesian College, Farnborough, and later attended the University of Birmingham, where he earned a degree in sports science.

Devereux initially worked as a teacher but felt a strong calling to humanitarian work. He joined the Salesian Lay Missionaries and was sent to Liberia in 1989, where he worked as a teacher and aid worker during the country's civil war. His efforts were focused on providing education and relief to children affected by the conflict.

Devereux - Form Patron for Delta

"While my heart beats, I have to do what I think I can do - and that is to help those that are less fortunate."

Bl Laura - Form Patron for Lampda

"Jesus, I give you my heart, my soul, my everything."

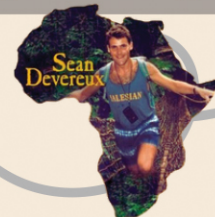
flame 2025

Flame 2025 is a Catholic youth event that will take place on Saturday 15th March, 2025 at Wembley Arena. The event is open to young people from secondary school through to university age. The theme for Flame 2025 is "Unstoppable: Fan the Flame of Hope".

Confirmation candidates and Thornleigh students who would like participate in the event please contact Chaplaincy.



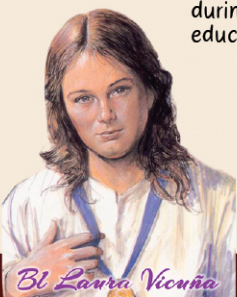
<https://cymfed.org.uk/flame/>



After his time in Liberia, Devereux joined UNICEF and was posted to Somalia, where he continued his work amid challenging and dangerous conditions. He was deeply committed to improving the lives of children and advocating for peace and justice. Tragically, Sean Devereux was assassinated on January 2, 1993, in Kismayo, Somalia. His death was a significant loss to the humanitarian community, but his legacy lives on through the work of the Sean Devereux Children's Fund and other initiatives that continue to support education and development in Africa. His life and dedication are remembered as an inspiration to many.



FORM PATRON SAINTS





Thornleigh Personal and Spiritual Development

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



The new week begins with Eucharistic Adoration in the chapel, offering a serene moment to pray and reflect in the presence of the Eucharistic Lord. This sacred time allows staff to pause and center themselves before the busyness of the week takes hold. It's an opportunity to seek spiritual nourishment, express gratitude, and find peace amidst the chaos of daily life.



EVERY MONDAY
8.15 AM



CHAPEL

STAFF MORNING REFLECTION



Growing together rooted in faith is more than just a shared experience; it's a profound journey that binds individuals through a common spiritual foundation. The staff morning reflection serves as an essential space where team members can come together, listen to inspired stories, share personal reflections, and engage in prayer. It's a beautiful way to ensure that work is not just about productivity, but also about nurturing the soul and supporting one another through life's challenges.



EVERY MONDAY
8.30 AM



CHAPEL

PASTORAL SHARING



Every week, students from each year group have the opportunity to participate in pastoral sharing or personal development assemblies at the start of each weekday, from Monday through Friday. These assemblies are thoughtfully organized by the Personal Development team, which is dedicated to fostering a supportive and growth-oriented environment.



EVERY MONDAY
8.40 AM



CHAPEL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP ASSEMBLY



Every week, students gather for the afternoon Celebration of the Word, an event that brings the entire school community together. These assemblies are meticulously planned and prepared in advance by various departments and form groups, with the support of the staff and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). Each SLT member plays a crucial role in leading the assembly, bringing the program to life with engaging animations and thoughtful presentations.



MON, TUE, WED
12.35 PM - 1.35 PM



CHAPEL

WEDNESDAY MASS



At Thornleigh, the Eucharist stands as the heart and pinnacle of our community's spiritual life. Every week, we hold a special midweek Mass that invites both staff and students to gather in unity, reflecting on their faith and offering personal intentions and prayers.



EVERY WEDNESDAY
8.00 AM



CHAPEL

THURSDAY MASS



At Thornleigh, the practice of praying together and deepening one's faith is seamlessly woven into daily life. The Eucharist, a central part of this spiritual journey, is celebrated with active participation from all members. Each form, or group, takes turns engaging in various roles such as reading scriptures, offering bidding prayers, and presenting the offertory.



EVERY THURSDAY
12.35 PM OR 1.05 PM



CHAPEL

FRIDAY SACRED TIME



"Sacred Time" on Fridays is a wonderful initiative that allows the entire school to pause and engage in moments of silence, reflection, and prayer. This dedicated period not only fosters a sense of calm and mindfulness among students and staff but also provides a unique opportunity for personal and collective growth. During this time, a prepared reflection is offered to guide thoughts and meditations, ensuring a shared experience across the school.



EVERY FRIDAY
FORM TIME



FORM ROOMS

GIFT LEADERSHIP TEAM



Gift Leaders serve a pivotal role in fostering the Catholic ethos within the school community. They actively engage in leading liturgies, ensuring that religious services are meaningful and inclusive for all students. Additionally, they take the helm in organizing and conducting assemblies, creating opportunities for reflection, celebration, and community bonding. Their efforts extend to charity drives, where they inspire and mobilize the school to participate in acts of kindness and generosity, embodying the principles of Catholic social teaching.



FRIDAY
2.35 PM - 3.05 PM



CHAPLAINCY

CAFOD LEADERS



The Young Leadership Programme, exclusively available to Year 12 students, offers a unique opportunity to be specially trained by CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development). Through this program, participants will develop essential leadership skills, empowering them to become the Charity Leaders within their school. These young leaders will play a pivotal role in promoting and supporting various charitable causes, fostering a spirit of compassion and social responsibility among their peers.



EVERY THURSDAY
1.05 PM



CHAPLAINCY

CHAPLAINCY CLUB



On Mondays, students have a wonderful opportunity to come together, celebrate, and grow in a supportive and engaging environment. Hosted by the Salesian Volunteers, this weekly gathering is open to all students and offers a mix of little tasks, fun games, and interactive activities designed to foster camaraderie and personal development.



EVERY MONDAY
3.15 PM



CHAPLAINCY

FAITH IN ACTION



The Faith in Action Award is a commendable initiative designed to recognize and celebrate young individuals who demonstrate a profound commitment to serving others within their local and broader communities. This award not only acknowledges their selfless contributions but also encourages them to grow spiritually through their acts of service and sharing. By participating in various projects and outreach programmes, these young people embody the true essence of faith in action, fostering a sense of compassion, empathy, and social responsibility.



ONCE A WEEK
DURING RE LESSON



RE DEPARTMENT

ST FRANCIS ASSISI CLUB



Caring for every creature on Earth is a noble pursuit, and students have a unique opportunity to experience this through looking after guinea pigs. This activity not only teaches responsibility and empathy but also serves as a calming and therapeutic experience. The hands-on experience of feeding and nurturing guinea pigs can foster a deeper appreciation for all living beings and highlight the importance of compassion and stewardship in our daily lives.



EVERYDAY
MORNING BREAK &
LUNCH BREAK



ST FRANCIS GARDEN

YOUTH SVP



The St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) has set a commendable vision to inspire young people through the transformational experience of volunteering and leadership. By engaging in meaningful service, young individuals are provided with opportunities to develop their skills, build confidence, and make a positive impact on their communities. SVP creates a life-changing, safe, and supportive environment where these emerging leaders can flourish.



EVERY THURSDAY
1.05 PM



RE DEPARTMENT



*"It is not enough to love
the young; they must
know that they are loved."*