

St Joseph's Catholic High School

"Unlocking Belief in All"



Faith Formation 2023-2024

"Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And look, I am with you always; yes, to the end of time." Matthew 28:19-20

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Mission Statement - "Unlocking Belief in All"



At St Joseph's we ensure all children experience the love of Christ through the presence of each other, the staff, our parents and the Church. St. Joseph's Catholic High School is a voluntary aided co-educational school for 11-18 year olds in the Diocese of Northampton. It serves the Catholic community of Slough and the surrounding area. Our curriculum is rich, varied and includes all of the carefully selected Attributes, Skills and Knowledge essential so that your students shape society for the better.



We are Learned and Wise

*"Anything you say to the wise will make them wiser.
Whatever you tell the righteous will add to their knowledge."
Proverbs 9:9*



Head Teacher's Welcome

Our mission is to **Unlock the Belief** in all our children through the experience of the love of Christ within the presence of each other, the staff, our parents and the Church.

By working together we aim to deliver an education that is second to none within an unashamedly Catholic atmosphere that equips our next generation in a combination of intellect and Spirit, faith and reason, prayer and action, to lead and challenge society for the better.

We are inspired by St Joseph, patron Saint of workers and a member of the Holy Family. We aim to create a place where children aren't just loved but that they know they are loved. It is this ethos that enables our children to become academically successful. Here, all children are developed according to their ability and we make every effort to ensure that we reach out to all regardless of background.

You'll experience a happy atmosphere at St. Joseph's in which the dignity and worth of each pupil and member of staff is recognised, developed and safeguarded. Our school is recognised for its atmosphere of welcome where all feel at home in a sense of safety and security. Staff are willing to be present with the pupils in friendship and to go that one step further, where this is necessary, to meet the needs of young people.



Mr Ciran Stapleton – Head Teacher

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Outline of booklet

This booklet is designed to help further with your understanding of how and why Catholic Life is at the centred of everything we do at St Joseph's and our wider school community. Our aim is for our students to take their faith into the wider world in everything they do, say and believe. The booklet will outline our ethos, values, beliefs and stories which make up the Catholic faith of the school. Whether you are new or old to St Joseph's, very familiar with the Catholic Church and its rituals, or a bit out-of-touch with your local church, we hope you find something of interest and reassurance in the pages which follow.

St Joseph's Catholic High School is strongly committed to building and strengthening the Catholic ethos of the school. Underlying our teaching and our relationships are the Gospel Values and this is seen through our Mission Statement of '**Unlocking Belief in All**'. We aim for students to do this through living out our school Profile of: Learned and Wise, Loving and Compassionate, Truthful and eloquent, Intentional and prophetic, attentive and discerning, faith-filled and hopeful, curious and active, grateful and generous. Our aim, within this context, is that all members of our community show Christ through the presence of each other. St Joseph's, as our patron, inspires us to support one another as family and we do this by prayer and charitable service. We place a great emphasis on home, school and parish links. The school strives to build on the foundations of faith started from the home and seeks to provide an environment where beliefs and values of the Catholic faith are taught, explained, developed and nurtured. Our School is a place where each student believes in their own potential, in an environment where they can succeed and achieve thus '**Unlocking their Belief**'.

St John Bosco's own words *"the primary happiness of a child consists in knowing that they are loved. The young must not only be loved, but they must know they are loved. In every young person, even the most difficult, there is a vulnerable spot for good. The first duty of an educator is to find it. Love must always be the mainspring of the heart."*

Opportunities for spiritual formation so love can be the mainspring of the heart are provided through involvement in a variety of school and community activities and projects from Years 7 to



Parents, Parish and Diocese partnership

Parents

Personal and spiritual growth starts from the family, both the family at home, school and within the parishes. This development does not happen in isolation, and Faith Formation programs need to be aware of and support ministry with children, young adults, parents and the wider community to enable a holistic approach. Families are the primary places for faith development and they are involved in ongoing feedback and discussion throughout the school year. The school newsletter is published weekly to parents and contains information, including stories and reflections, which are aimed at engaging and informing them about what is happening in our Faith Formation. A Faith Formation tab is also seen on our school website. This compliments each of the activities and will become a place for reflections, a record for their own memories and a communication medium for parents to dialogue with their child.

St Joseph's in partnership with others hosts schools and parishes aims to create a number of large community events each year and supports the growth and continued participation in Catholic life for students and parents.

Parish

We encourage all of our students to have an active faith life within their local Parish and beyond the school community. Youth Ministry events such as Youth groups are promoted to our students. Whilst the school plays a vital role in catechesis and evangelisation, it is very important that young people develop strong relationships outside of the school community which will continue to help nurture their faith beyond their involvement at school.

Diocese

With the support of Northampton Diocese we encourage all of our students to have an active faith life beyond Slough. Students actively lead and take part in the Diocesan Mass in October, events such as Flame and formation programmes Encounter and Synod programme run through Northampton. St Joseph's Catholic High School is also honoured to be the chosen school to lead the Catholic Schools Youth Ministry International UK (CSYMI UK), this to support the youth with Youth Ministry and supporting Adults to grow in Faith.

We are Loving and Compassionate

Jesus said, "And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples." John 13:34-35



St Joseph's Spiritual and personal journey






The Catholic Life and Mission of the Church is at the very heart of everything we do at St Joseph's. It is given the highest priority where the development of an authentic Catholic ethos is actively sought by all. Students are empowered to have a thorough understanding of the Church's liturgical year, its seasons, rites and symbols. Within the school community, prayer has a profound and visible effect on the development of all students and staff irrespective of ability or faith background.

As a school, we promote a love of faith; engaging and inspiring our students to take responsibility for promoting the Catholic ethos of our community whilst seeking to lead and develop this further. Developing a greater understanding of vocation is fundamental in giving our students a meaningful reason to live out their faith. Teachers ensure that students are provided with opportunities to develop their thinking and respond to questions of faith. Our school celebrates, develops and enhances the Catholic Life of our students and ensures our Catholic ethos underpins all that we do and strive to achieve.

St Joseph's Spiritual and personal journey

Within each key stage at St Joseph's, students are given the opportunity to learn more about their faith, experience their faith in different ways and live out their faith by contributing and leading on activities. All of these centre around the teaching of the Gospels, illustrating their Catholic Life, Mission and acting out Catholic Social Teaching as well as given the chance to worship individually, as a group and as a whole school. As students grow in their Faith we hope that they will be able to lead others so when leaving St Joseph's, their Spiritual and personal journey can grow in their future endeavours. Examples of how this is built upon can be seen below:

Key Stage 3	Key Stage 4	Key Stage 5
 <p>Year 7, 8 and 9 retreat Whole school Mass Charity fundraising Form reflection in the school Chapel Youth engagement Lectio Divina Sacrament of Reconciliation</p>	 <p>Year 10 and 11 retreat Attendance to Flame Personal testimony Leading charitable work Acting out the formation programme Sacrament of Reconciliation Leadership program Parish Involvement</p>	 <p>Year 12 and 13 retreat Eucharistic Minister training Links with Overseas school and fundraising Outreach to the poor Diocese involvement Live Simply Sacrament of Reconciliation Social Justice</p>

Prayer and liturgy at St Joseph's

Time for prayer

The prayer and liturgical life of St Joseph's are the core of our experiences as a faith community. The school Chaplain oversees times of reflection centred on our the school's theme of the week, the liturgical year, natural events and social justice issues. Students make prayer a part of every day life at least on 4 occasions throughout the day. Staff and student pray is offered every Monday afternoon and Friday morning in the Chapel. All students are encouraged to be part of our liturgies through their prayerfulness, responses and singing. The Chapel is available for use at any time. A book of intentions is in the Chapel and all students are encouraged to write an intercession for themselves, their family and friends or the extended community as they wish. These prayers are offered as intentions during Mass. The School informs all our liturgical celebrations and our communal prayer such as:

Space for prayer

The Chapel is available for students and staff at all times throughout the day. Whether it be to sit silently for private prayer and intentions or to take part in communal worship, the Chapel is always there.

Within all form rooms, a designated table is given to prayer. This consists of:

A crucifix, A sleeping St Joseph, A set of Rosary beads, A New Testament, A St Joseph's prayer booklet

Each table is also clothed in a colour depicting the season of the liturgical year.

Students will then reflect on the Theme of the Week and are allowed reflection time to discuss as a group with the Scripture reading

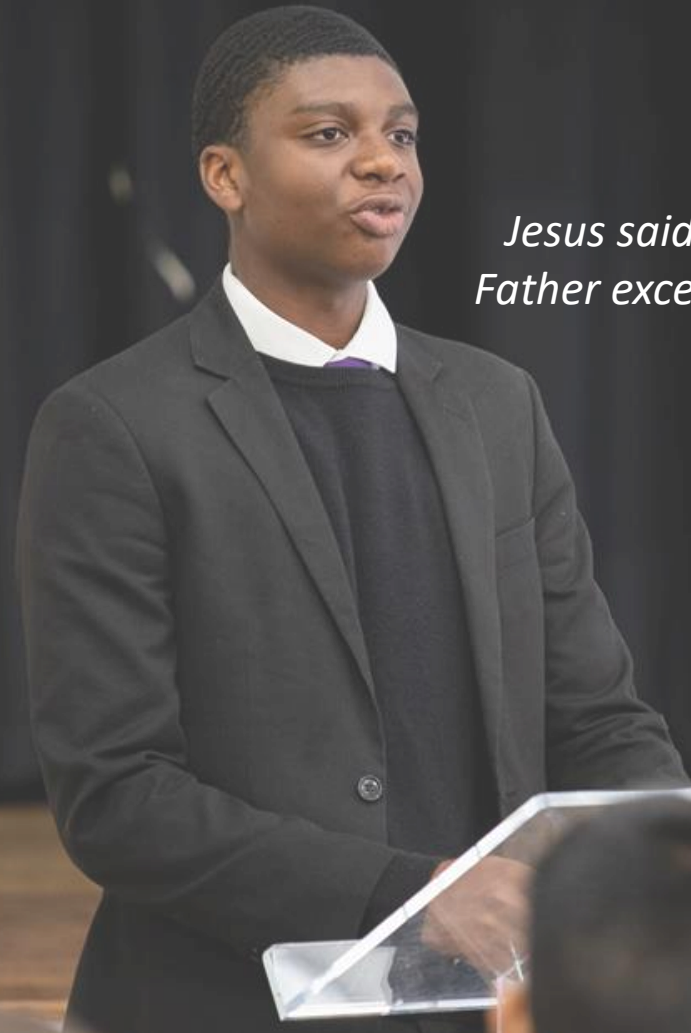
Teachers will provide them with an open-ended questions. This to unpack this text briefly by using the following cues: In this reading.... (outline the actual story briefly) The message we hear from this reading today is... (relate the story via its main theme to students' lives today - this is very important). Students are also invited to pray for special intentions

Prayers such as the Our Father or the Hail Mary are also said by the students

Students complete Morning Prayer with the Sign of the Cross.

We are Eloquent and Truthful

Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.' John 14:6-7



Prayer and liturgy at St Joseph's

Mass

At St Joseph's students are able to celebrate Mass on at least 6 occasions throughout the year. Students will participate in 5 whole school Masses as well as a House Mass. We also arrange for lunch time Masses during the school year.

Liturgies

Throughout the school year students will be able to take part in different liturgies to mark important occasions during the liturgical year. These will on Ash Wednesday, The Feast of the Immaculate Conception, The Feast of St Peter and St Paul. Ascension Thursday The Epiphany and the Presentation of the Lord.

Theme of the week

At St Joseph's each week we reflect on the readings and Gospel of the previous Sunday and try to apply the message to our lives as individuals and as a school.

The chaplain prepares a reflection which provides some context and interpretation of the biblical text, accompanied by a PowerPoint for the use of teachers and students in form prayer/assemblies. This is also published weekly on the Newsletter and Bulletin.

Lectio Divina

This prayer has an extensive history in our Catholic tradition. Lectio Divina means 'divine reading' in Latin. It is a diligent reading of Scripture where the text is read slowly, repetitively and contemplatively. These are the steps of this prayer practice:

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross form an important expression of Holy Week. They represent the final stages in Jesus' life journey. The following mantra can be recited by a leader and a group or two groups who take it in turns to read. All students will attend the Chapel during Lent.

The Rosary

The Rosary is a significant practice in our Catholic tradition. The Rosary, from Latin rosarium, means "crown of roses" or "garland of roses". This form of prayer uses a string of prayer beads used to count the component prayers. The prayers that compose The Rosary are arranged in sets of ten Hail Marys preceded by one Lord's Prayer and followed by one Glory Be to the Father. During recitation of each set, known as a decade, thought is given to one of the Mysteries of the Rosary, which recall events in the lives of Jesus and Mary. Normally, five decades are recited in a session. A standard fifteen Mysteries of The Rosary, based on the long-standing custom, was established by Pope Pius V in the 16th century, grouping the mysteries in three sets: the Joyful Mysteries, the Sorrowful Mysteries and the Glorious Mysteries.

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry

In order for the students at St Joseph's to lead on youth ministry we ensure they are active in and have ownership of the schools youth ministry. They are not just passive recipients of ministry by adults. Youth share leadership for visioning and implementing programs and strategies. They are a witness to their faith with their peers. The opportunities for youth leadership roles are varied: Peer leaders on retreats, planning programs, leading team meetings, leading or co-leading small faith sharing groups, and preparing worship" As such, peer to peer ministry is key to effective faith formation and is fostered and mentored at St Joseph's through a variety of activities and events run by our Chaplaincy Team. Students are invited to be trained, equipped and mentored in Youth Ministry. Senior students are also to join in year 10, 11 and 6th form, which are voluntary and meet weekly for coordination and formation opportunities. These students facilitate assist with:

Masses

Youth ministry help coordinate and lead on Masses throughout the school year. This by composing prayers and music for Mass, as well as coordinating all the logistics of setting up Mass for either the whole school or Houses to celebrate. With the Diocese, the Chaplaincy team are also responsible in organizing the Diocesan Mass in Dunstable.

Liturgies – Ash Wednesday and Holy Days of Obligation

Youth ministry help coordinate and lead on liturgies throughout the year such as Ash Wednesday and organize resources and PPTs for form tutors to celebrate Holy Days of Obligation.

Year 7 Induction day and evening

Youth ministry help coordinate and lead with the Head of Year 7 Induction day and evening for our new intake of students. Students are also involved in Open Evening to showcase the school to visitors looking to apply the following year.

Lenten Fundraising

Youth ministry help coordinate and lead on different charitable events throughout the year especially during Lent with our fundraising activities.

Catholic Workers Farm

Youth ministry visit and support our local charity of the Catholic Workers Farm where students support women and children refugees in live on the farm.

Further Faith Formation opportunities

St Joseph's offers a variety of Faith Formation opportunities outside the school for our students ranging from a one off experience, to regular ongoing activities. It is the responsibility of all to encourage young people to use the skills and passion developed within the boundaries of a faith community to be

- Weekly Mass at the school
- Prayer in RE classes and other classes
- Mentoring Program (Year 11 and 12)
- Catholic Schools Youth Ministry Association (CSYMA) workshops
- Parish Outreach through Sacramental Retreats
- Diocesan Youth Rallies, Camps and Leaders forums
- Diocesan Vocation opportunities





We are *Intentional and Prophetic*

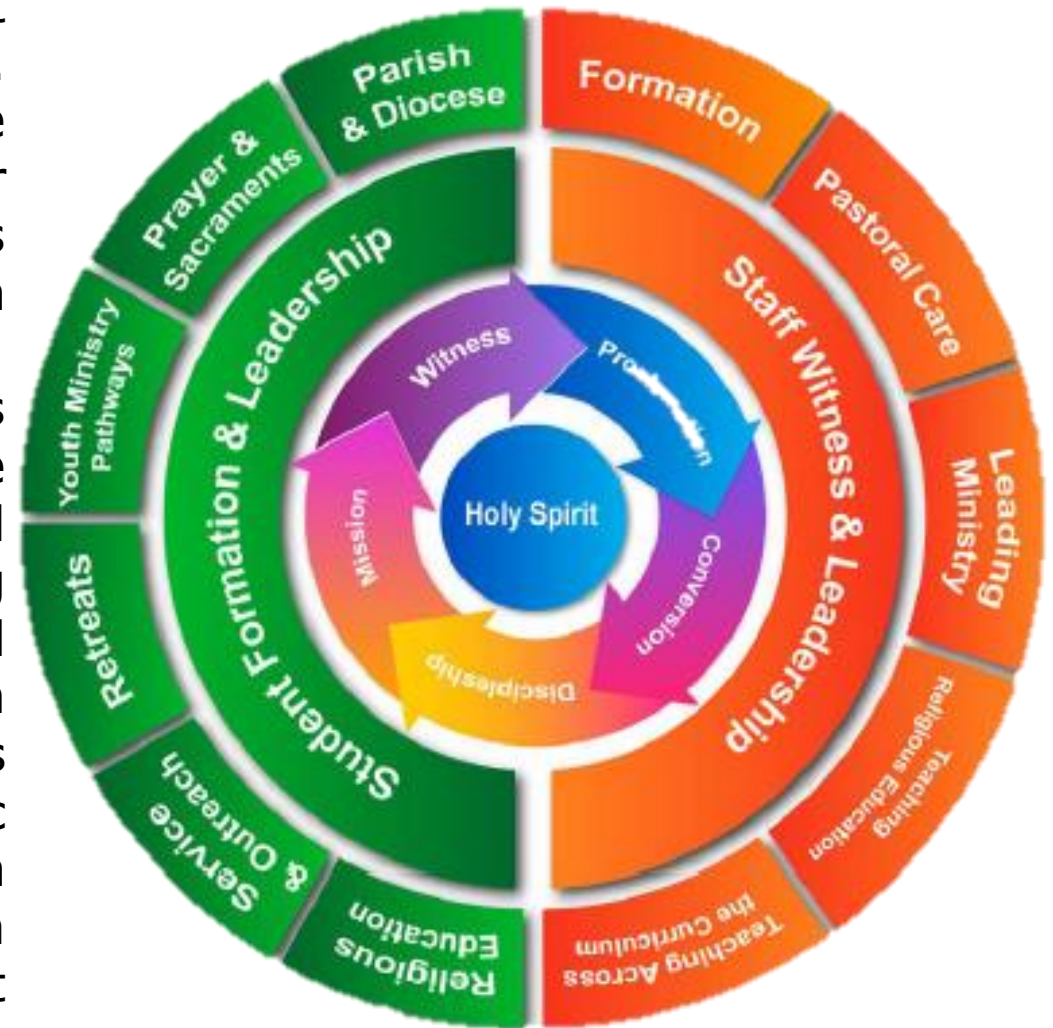
Christ has no body on earth now but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours; yours are the eyes through which he looks with compassion on the world; yours are the feet with which he walks to do good; yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world."

St Teresa of Ávila (1515-82)

#liveouttheholyspirit

#liveouttheholyspirit is the wider formation program used by St Joseph's and is so called because it perfectly encapsulates everything that we are about. School is about so much more than grades and the subjects that you learn. It is about equipping you for the journey ahead. Our vision is to provide students and staff the opportunity to deepen and live their faith to change society for the better

CSYMA is an important component of the Religious Education program at St Joseph's and helps to breathe life into the RE curriculum. St Joseph's launched CSYMA in May 2023 and has utilised its teaching resources, formation opportunities for staff and students, conferences and workshops to enhance Faith Formation at the school. Membership of CSYMA has also provided valuable networking amongst Catholic schools seeking to develop their Faith Formation opportunities and supports local partnerships between schools for outreach opportunities. The most recent addition has been a CSYMA



Serving the most in need in society

We believe that as a Catholic school, St Joseph's should be concerned with the social issues of today's world and bringing them to the awareness of those in our community. In doing so, we would hope that we can develop within our community a spirituality that promotes service to others and creates a commitment to people in need. We aim to uphold these ideals through a variety of methods which seek to make service involvement:

- challenging yet achievable
- far reaching yet accessible
- interesting and hard work
- charitable and personable
- manageable yet requiring a commitment
- sacrificial and rewarding

A strong Service Program allows us to:

- raise our consciousness and inspire our students to work in solidarity with the hopes and aspirations of others so that together we can build a transformed society
- acknowledge, and advocate for, the dignity and the significant role of all people, recognising their equal share in shaping a transformed society
- form "strong minds and gentle hearts" in our young students
- further develop our students to become 'Good Christians and Good Citizens' who have a strong sense of empathy, provide strong role models and mentors for others through wider College involvement i.e. staff and parents.
- support groups and organisations working for the welfare and betterment of all people, especially the marginalised.

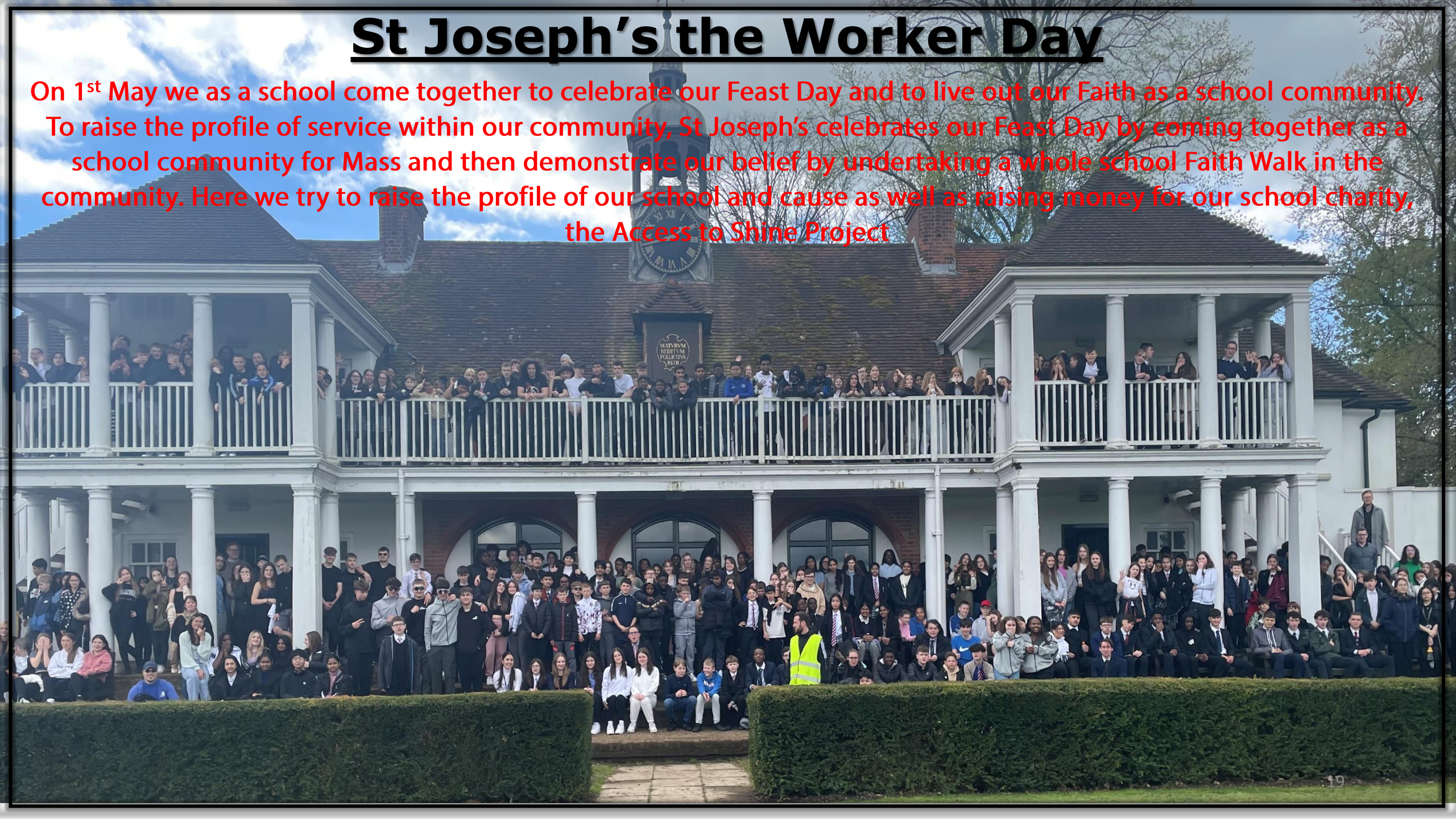


A sandwich and prayer for those most in need

One example of how our students serve those most in need is our '***Sandwich for the homeless campaign***'. Over the course of the school year, every student at St Joseph's will make a sandwich and write a prayer which will be passed on to a homeless person to ensure they know they are cared for and so we all do our bit to help those most in need in society

St Joseph's the Worker Day

On 1st May we as a school come together to celebrate our Feast Day and to live out our Faith as a school community. To raise the profile of service within our community, St Joseph's celebrates our Feast Day by coming together as a school community for Mass and then demonstrate our belief by undertaking a whole school Faith Walk in the community. Here we try to raise the profile of our school and cause as well as raising money for our school charity, the Access to Shine Project



Catholic Elective

At St Joseph's, as part of the Elective programme, students have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of their faith through the Catholic Elective.

Within this elective students will enhance their faith but gaining a deeper understanding of what their faith means to them? What does it mean to have faith? And how can we live out our faith in our words and actions? Over the 7 week course students will learn:



	What is Youth Ministry?		How can I live out Youth Ministry
Week 1/2	Welcome - The relevance of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus to us	Week 5	Light – How can we promote salvation to our brothers and sisters?
Week 3	Who am I? – Exploring my self-worth and what I bring to our school community	Week 6	What reading from the Gospel speaks to me? How to I live this?
Week 4	Love – what does it mean and how do I demonstrate God's love for us	Week 7	Forgiveness and the sacrament of reconciliation

A photograph of several students in school uniforms sitting in a classroom. They are all looking down, appearing to be reading or writing. The students are wearing dark blazers with a crest on the left chest and red and white striped ties. The background shows a classroom setting with a window and a whiteboard.

We are Attentive and Discerning

"I will give them a heart to know me, that I am the Lord. They will be my people, and I will be their God, and they will return to me with all their heart."
Jeremiah 24:7

Integrated Service Learning

St Joseph's offers every student the opportunity to serve the community through a variety of Integrated Service Learning activities which vary from year to year and are designed to increase participation at an age appropriate level. Each of these activities occurs during the timetabled day with the intention of creating an accessible opportunity for all students to engage in service.

- Years 7 – Recycling for a better world / Sandwich for the poor
- Year 8 – Letters to prisoners / Sandwich for the poor
- Year 9 – Nursing home/Thames Valley Hospice visit / Sandwich for the poor
- Year 10 – Service and Social Justice (Catholic Workers Farm) / Sandwich for the poor
- Year 11 – Outreach to poor / Sandwich for the poor
- Year 12&13 – Big brother/sister – Little brother/sister support group



Catholic Workers Farm

St Joseph's supports the Catholic Workers Farm as it's local charity and through our support we aim to put our Faith In Action to support the residences of the farm. The origins of the program come from a group of staff who were keenly involved in the co-ordination and promotion of community service and justice activities for students over a number of years. Their discussions and reflections were guided by the belief that all students and staff at St Joseph's are called to 'do and be more' with the local, national and global communities in which we live. We also hope that out of a true sense of solidarity, our students, both present and past, would increasingly be asking questions about 'why' and 'how' the gap between the rich and the poor in our society is widening and most importantly be asking "What can I do about it?" The Catholic Workers Farm is highlighted to all students through assemblies and then this is further enhanced through form time to engage students and allow them an active opportunity to be involved..




Over the course of the year we take groups of students over to the Farm over for an afternoon to get a tour around and meet some of the guests. Through the Thames Valley Learning Partnership (TVLP) we also invite Scott the Chaplain from the farm to talk about it's work and Social Justice in the world. Over the course of the year students at St Joseph's Festival actively engage in the farm by:

- Drama and music performances
- Share stories with one another
- Provide a fun community for the young children of the farm
- Develop a "Spirituality of Service" amongst our students
- immerse all students, over their time here at St Joseph's, in an area of need within our local community and in our global community.
- provide an avenue for our Alumni to continue their involvement with and support of the school by participating in ongoing initiatives or by being part of an ongoing funding program
- provide recognition of all who give so freely of themselves for Service



#justiceinourworld

The #justiceinourworld program has an award system which acknowledges the efforts of our students in the area of Service. In the same way that the school recognises students' academic, cultural and sporting achievements, this program is a specific way of recognising students' time and contribution to Service on an ongoing basis.

Bronze	Silver	Gold
 25 hours 25 hours school based service	 50 hours Minimum 25 hours Service beyond the St Joseph's school community	 100 hours Minimum 50 hours Service beyond the St Joseph's school community

We are Faith-filled and Hopeful

Jesus said, "Have faith in God. Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Mark 11:22-24



House Service Activities

We believe that within the context of faith, life and justice, service has the potential to be a key formative experience which resonates with the call of the Gospel to act justly, love tenderly and walk alongside all those we meet. St Joseph's has a pastoral care system which is divided into six Houses. Each House along with the school leaders and House Group Leaders, are responsible for the promotion and participation in Service throughout the House. The Four Pillars of Care states that each House Group leader must 'build a sense of belonging and community within their House Group and beyond... by planning and implementing some charitable work'.

House	Charitable cause	Aim/s and impact
Cecilia	Cafod	To raise awareness and money of people living in poverty with practical help, whatever their religion or culture. CAFOD is the official aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales and part of Caritas International.
Peter	SHOC - Slough homeless	To raise awareness and money of SHOC (Slough Homeless Our Concern) is a day centre that exists to provide care for the homeless in Slough and those at risk of becoming so. They offer both crisis care and long term transformational help towards independence
Jerome	Teenage Cancer charity	To raise awareness and money of Teenage Cancer Trust that offers unique care and support, designed for and with young people. They fund specialized nurses, youth workers and hospital units in the NHS, so young people have dedicated staff and facilities to support them throughout treatment.
Teresa	Catholic Children's society	The Catholic Children's Society supports disadvantaged children and families across London, Hertfordshire and the South East. We work with individuals of all faiths and none; our sole aim is to help those in greatest need
Mark	Rainbow trust children's charity	The Rainbow Trust Children's Charity supports families who have a child aged 0-18 years with a life-threatening or terminal illness.
Veronica	Catholic World Mission	The Catholic World Mission aims to bridge the gap of poverty, spiritual gap and ensure the young of the future can be prevented from living in poverty

Access to Shine Project



This Community Secondary School is at Ndi Uduma Awoke, Ohafia L.G.A, Abia State in Nigerian. It is a Mixed, junior secondary school at the moment. (JSS1, JSS2 and JSS3) but wants to start senior secondary school. But because of lack of infrastructure they are not able to do that.

The total federal allocation to education is below 10 percent of the total annual budget. Currently there are over 250 students at this school and they lack sufficient numbers of desks for students to study. In desperate need of school building, books and other school supplies.

6 paid teachers and 4 voluntary teachers. The shortage of teachers in rural schools gives rise to a situation where a teacher is saddled to teach two or more subjects, even outside their area of specialization. Quality education cannot thrive in an environment where basic social amenities are lacking.

Some children Like Kalu and his friends must travel hours to reach school.

Many families see little immediate value in their children sitting behind desks, learning reading and writing and other skills for which there is no use in the village.

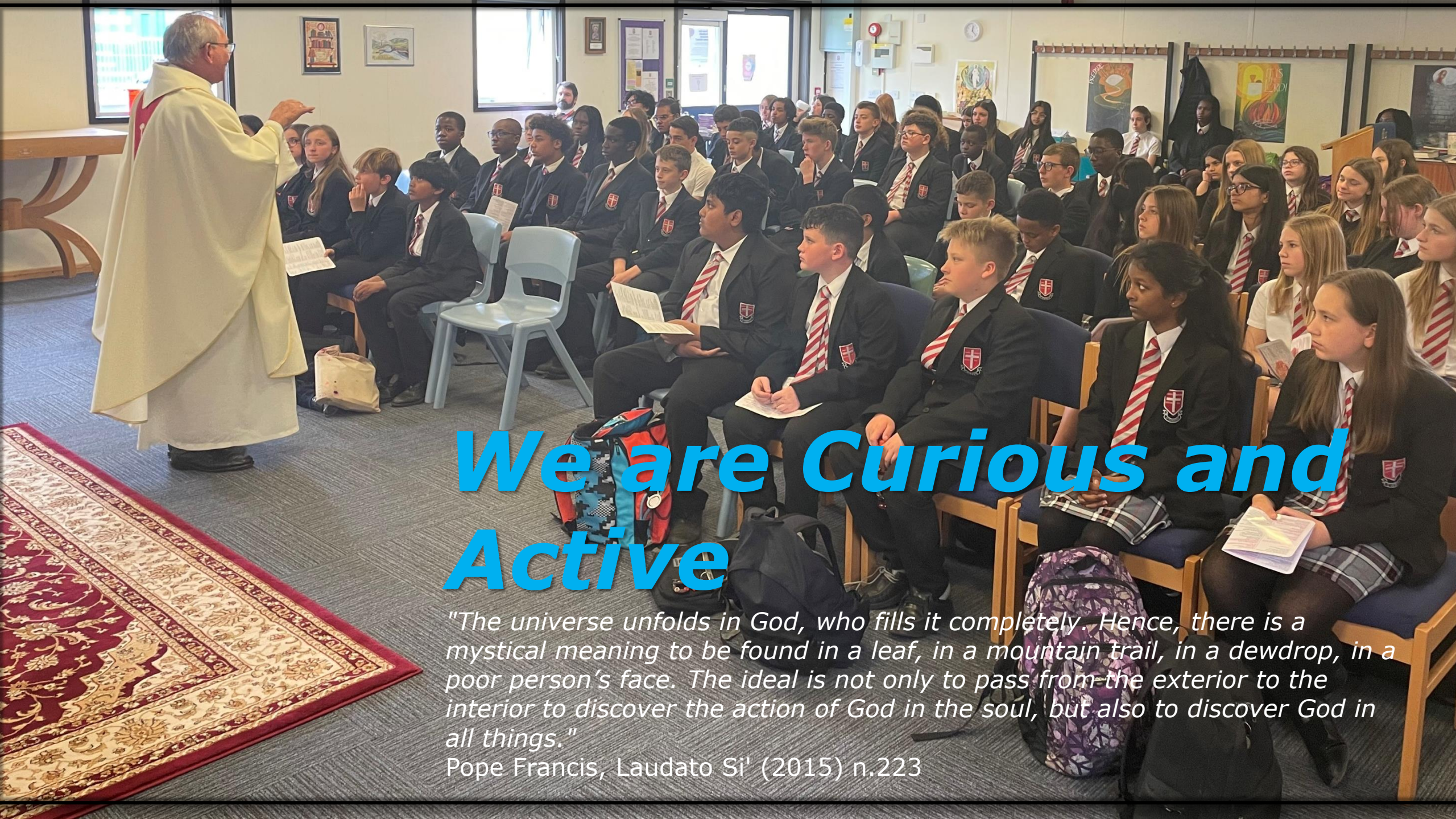
Getting Out of School Children back to Classrooms:

- Improve access to education
- improve educational outcomes for children in rural communities by easing the difficulties they face with mobility to school and back.

Two out of six young people in this community suffering from poor mental health -Mood and anxiety disorders.

We are hoping to raise enough funds to build a school hall, so that they will meet the requirement and be able to start holding exams in the school and take their GSCE, renovate dilapidated classrooms, Lab and library to meet accreditation requirement and Tackle the teacher shortage problem.





We are Curious and Active

"The universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely. Hence, there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face. The ideal is not only to pass from the exterior to the interior to discover the action of God in the soul, but also to discover God in all things."

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'* (2015) n.223

Staff formation

St Joseph's recognises the importance of developing the faith of its staff members and seeks to provide a number of opportunities for staff to deepen their faith within the school community. Pope John Paul II stated the importance of this in his document 'Ecclesia in Oceania' (2001), where he wrote *"the identity and success of Catholic education is linked inseparably to the witness of life given by the teaching staff...School staff who truly live their faith will be agents of a new evangelisation in creating a positive climate for the Christian faith to grow and in spiritually nourishing the students entrusted to their care. They will be especially effective when they are active, practising Catholics, committed to their parish community and loyal to the Church and her teaching"*. Faith Formation activities consist of compulsory and optional opportunities and some require staff to apply.

Informal	Monday and Friday prayer, school Assemblies, House Liturgy Participating in staff prayers Discussions about faith with colleagues and students Participation in Service activities
Formal	workshops – CPDs Middle leaders and acts of worship Mentoring on Retreats, leading Staff and School Prayer School Footsteps – Spirituality Retreat Staff Faith Formation: Twilight Retreat

<p>✓ Targeted Staff Faith Formation</p>	<p>Addressing specific needs to individuals or groups of staff Wellbeing Day – Reflections meditation, yoga, nature walks Staff Retreat experience Immersion preparation</p>
<p>✓ Independent Faith Formation</p>	<p>Personal retreats Personal prayer life Participation in the Sacraments Service Personal spiritual direction Further study in Theology, Scripture and Spirituality</p>

Alumni

Josephites are people who presently have or in the past have had links with St Joseph's and wish to stay more closely connected with the St Joseph's way. Socially, spiritually, through service or by just joining fellow alumni at a variety of activities held throughout the year.

Josephites gather at various times throughout the year. These may include:

- Key events - Mass
- Lenten and Advent Prayer groups
- Exploring Spirituality
- Social events

You are invited to join Josephites and are most welcome to invite other friends and family to events.

Young Josephites is about connecting ex-students of St Joseph's, particularly those who were captured by the spirit of the school exploring further what it means to be a young person with a strong mind and gentle heart in today's world.

Young Josephites aims to connect recently graduated students into the wider school picture through providing a range of opportunities that combine faith, action and reflection. The group is

coordinated by recently graduated students and aims to provide a range of

opportunities such as:

- Regular Fellowship at Prayer
- Social Opportunities
- Key Note Speakers





We are Grateful and Generous

Help one another with the generosity of the Lord and despise no one. When you have the opportunity to do good, do not let it go by."
St Polycarp

Common prayers

The Lord's prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is
in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And
forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who
trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil..
Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women and blessed is the
fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of
God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of
our death.
Amen.

St Joseph's School prayer

Saint Joseph, be with me as I begin another day.
Help me to concentrate on my studies, to listen to
the needs of my Brothers and Sisters in Christ and
to remember I can achieve great things with the
gifts given to me.
Amen.

Prayer for our school

Lord God, we ask for your blessing upon our
school.
Help us to show respect, understanding, affection
and humour in all we do. May we be instruments
of your love and peace, and follow St. Joseph's
example of faith and trust in you always. Saint
Joseph – pray for us.
Amen.

Common prayers

Prayer to St Joseph

Saint Joseph, through trust and faith, your life was changed and directed by the will of God. By your example, help us to have confidence in the plans God has for us. Give us the grace to trust and pray and know that, in God, we have all we need. We make this prayer, through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Prayer to Our Lady

Mother Mary, today I look to you as an example. You were young. You were afraid. You didn't understand what life was going to be like for you. But you had faith. Help me today to understand that I don't need to know all the answers. I just need to try my best, work hard and put my trust in God who loves me.
Amen.

St Cecilia

St. Cecilia, we ask you to help us follow your example as patron of our House. May we be guided by God's love as you were, and have confidence in our faith even when we have doubts and questions.
Amen.

St Peter

St. Peter, we ask you to help us follow your example as patron of our House. Give us determination and courage to follow our faith and listen to God each day.
Amen.

Common prayers

St Jerome

St. Jerome, we ask you to help us follow your example as patron of our House. Help us in our studies; to focus, to learn, to ask questions and rely on God to guide us always.
Amen.

St Teresa

St. Teresa, we ask you to help us follow your example as patron of our House. Help us to always pray and talk to God through every circumstance, putting him first in all things.
Amen

St Mark

St. Mark, we ask you to help us follow your example as patron of our House. May we have confidence in our faith and strive to make God's message known to everyone.
Amen.

St Veronica

St. Veronica, we ask you to help us follow your example as patron of our House. Help us to show God's love and compassion in everything we do, knowing that it will always make a difference.
Amen.



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