



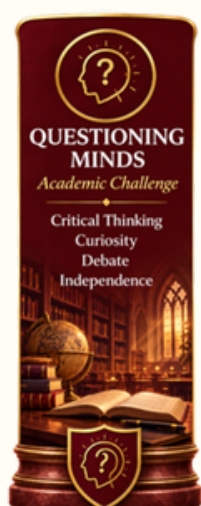
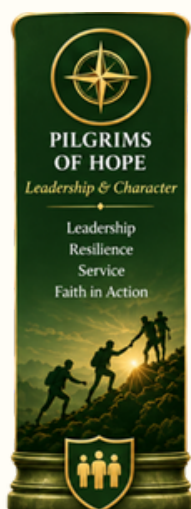
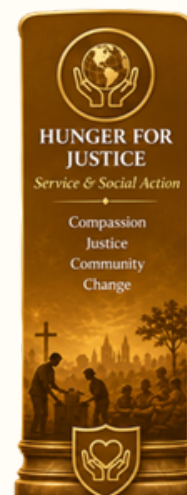
CATHOLIC LIFE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026

DEAR PARENTS AND CARERS,
WELCOME TO OUR CATHOLIC LIFE NEWSLETTER. WE ARE DELIGHTED TO SHARE HOW FAITH, PRAYER, LEARNING AND SERVICE ARE FLOURISHING ACROSS OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY.

WE ARE IMMENSELY PROUD OF OUR CATHOLIC FAITH. CHRIST IS AT THE HEART OF WHO WE ARE, SHAPING HOW WE LEARN, PRAY, SERVE AND CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER, AND GIVING EVERY STUDENT A STRONG SENSE OF IDENTITY, PURPOSE, HOPE AND BELONGING.

WE PLACE CHRIST AND THE TEACHINGS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AT THE CENTRE OF SCHOOL LIFE, FORMING CHRIST-CENTRED PILGRIMS OF HOPE WITH KIND HEARTS, QUESTIONING MINDS, A THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE AND A HUNGER FOR JUSTICE. EVERY STUDENT IS "MADE FOR GREATNESS" AS A UNIQUE AND PRECIOUS CHILD OF GOD.





CATHOLIC LIFE AT ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

LIVING OUR MISSION

During the first weeks of term, students in every year group have explored this mission through Religious Education lessons and Tutor Time. They have reflected on what it means to be a Christ-centred pilgrim of hope and considered how they can live out our mission in their everyday lives.

PRAYER AT THE HEART OF SCHOOL LIFE

Prayer remains at the heart of our community. Three times each day, we pause for Sacred Time: beginning the day in God's presence, reflecting with gratitude at lunchtime and ending the day in prayer.

These moments help students deepen their relationship with God, experience stillness and recognise His presence in daily life.

GROWING IN PRAYER

As part of our commitment to faith formation, we are also weaving traditional prayers of the Catholic Church into school life. These are prayers that the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales recommends young Catholics encounter at different stages of their formation. Each year group has its own Prayer Learning Journey, and across Key Stage 3 students will learn and regularly revisit these important prayers through Tutor Time, assemblies, liturgies and Religious Education lessons. Our aim is not simply for students to memorise the words, but to understand their meaning and discover how prayer can become a meaningful part of their personal relationship with God and our shared worship as a Catholic community.



FAITH IN ACTION

Our Catholic faith also calls us to action. We want our students to recognise the dignity of every person, care for our common home, stand up for justice and understand that even small acts of kindness and service can make a real difference. Faith is not simply something we learn about; it is something we are called to live each day.

LOOKING AHEAD

There is much to look forward to throughout the year, including Masses, feast days, retreats, prayer, charitable activities, Chaplaincy and opportunities for service. Through these experiences, we hope our young people will grow not only in knowledge and understanding, but also in faith, character, compassion and service.

STAY CONNECTED

To help you share in the Catholic life of our school, our Catholic Life Calendar contains key liturgical celebrations, feast days, Masses, retreats, fundraising activities and other opportunities for prayer and reflection throughout the year.

We are excited about all that lies ahead and grateful for the privilege of journeying alongside our students as they grow in faith, knowledge and service. We are proud to be a Catholic school, proud of the witness of our young people and staff, and proud to work in partnership with families as we make Christ known in our community.

Please be assured of our prayers for all students and families as we continue this journey together. May God bless you and your family.



CATHOLIC LIFE NEWSLETTER

A NEW CHAPTER IN OUR SCHOOL'S HISTORY

Celebrating the Opening and Blessing of St John Henry Newman Catholic School

Friday 2 October 2026 was a truly historic and joyful day for our school community as we gathered to celebrate the official opening and blessing of our beautiful new school.

We were honoured to welcome His Grace Archbishop Bernard Longley, who celebrated Mass alongside Bishop Richard Walker, Fr Charles Miller, Fr Peter Conley and Fr Alex Taylor.

Students, staff, governors, families, clergy and invited guests came together in faith and thanksgiving to mark this significant milestone in the life of our school.

The celebration was an opportunity not only to give thanks for our wonderful new facilities, but also to reflect on who we are as a Catholic school community and the mission that unites us.

A New Building, a New Name, the Same Mission

Formerly known as Cardinal Newman Catholic School, our school now proudly bears the name St John Henry Newman Catholic School, reflecting the canonisation of our patron saint and our commitment to following his example of faith, learning and service.

Our new building, constructed on our existing school site, provides a wonderful environment in which our students can learn, grow and flourish.

However, this new chapter is about much more than bricks and mortar. It is an opportunity to celebrate our Catholic identity, strengthen our community and renew our commitment to the mission that has always been at the heart of our school: Knowledge through the Light of Faith.



Inspired by St John Henry Newman, we strive to be a community of:

"Christ-centred pilgrims of hope with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice."

We believe that every young person is a unique and precious child of God, created with gifts, talents and a purpose. Our responsibility is to help every student recognise that they are Made for Greatness and to support them in becoming the very best version of themselves.

These values are not simply words displayed around our school. They shape our relationships, our learning, our worship and the way we serve one another and the wider community.

A Celebration of Faith and Community

At the heart of our opening celebrations was the celebration of Mass, bringing our whole school community together in prayer and thanksgiving.

It was particularly meaningful to have Archbishop Bernard Longley bless our new school, dedicating this next chapter of our journey to God and asking for His guidance over all those who will learn, work and worship here.

Our students played an important part in the celebration, contributing through their participation in the liturgy and helping to create a joyful, prayerful and welcoming atmosphere.

The occasion was a powerful reminder that, although our surroundings may have changed, Christ remains at the centre of everything we do.

Our Headteacher, Emma O'Connor, reflected on the significance of the day:

"It was a truly special and joyful day for our school community. It was an enormous privilege to welcome the Archbishop to celebrate Mass with us, joined by Bishop Richard Walker, Fr Charles Miller, Fr Peter Conley and Fr Alex Taylor."

To gather together in faith at such a significant moment in the life of our school created an extraordinary sense of community, belonging and shared purpose.

I was incredibly proud of our students and staff, whose reverence, warmth and joy made the celebration so memorable.

As we look to the future of St John Henry Newman Catholic School, we do so with great hope, committed to keeping Christ at the centre of all we do and to helping every young person recognise and develop their God-given gifts and talents."



Giving Thanks

A celebration of this significance would not have been possible without the dedication, generosity and hard work of so many people.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Archbishop Bernard Longley for celebrating Mass and blessing our school, and to all the clergy who joined us for this special occasion.

We are also extremely grateful to CJM, whose beautiful music enriched our celebration and helped make the liturgy such a memorable experience.

Our thanks go to our governors, invited guests, Holy Cross MAC and BAM Construction, together with everyone who has contributed to the planning, construction and completion of our new school. We would like to give out a special thank you to the Sisters of Poor Bristol for donating the pews used in the chapel and to Deacon Keith for his amazing support in sourcing and restoring many parts of our Chapel.

Most importantly, we thank our students, staff, parents and families. Their patience, commitment, enthusiasm and continued support have been invaluable throughout this journey.

As we expressed in our Order of Service:

"As we celebrate the opening and blessing of our new school, we give thanks to all who have helped make this day possible."

Looking to the Future as Pilgrims of Hope

As we begin this exciting new chapter, we do so with a renewed sense of purpose and a deep commitment to our Catholic mission.

Our new building, new name and new uniform represent an exciting beginning, but it is the people within our school community who will continue to bring our mission to life each day.

We look forward to strengthening our relationships with our parishes, families and the wider Catholic community, and to the opportunities that will come through working alongside other Catholic schools in Coventry, Warwickshire and the wider Archdiocese.

Above all, we remain committed to ensuring that every young person who walks through our doors experiences a community rooted in faith, love, dignity and hope.

The words of our patron, St John Henry Newman, offer a fitting inspiration for this next stage of our journey:

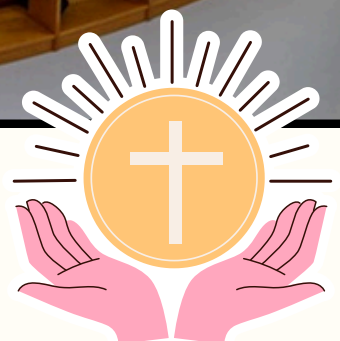
"He has not created me for naught. I shall do good; I shall do His work."



These words remind us that each of us has a unique purpose and that we are called to use our gifts and talents in the service of others.

As we look ahead, we pray that St John Henry Newman Catholic School will continue to be a place where faith is nurtured, knowledge is celebrated, kindness is lived out and every young person is inspired to make a positive difference in the world.

Together, we move forward as Christ-centred pilgrims of hope, continuing our journey of Knowledge through the Light of Faith.

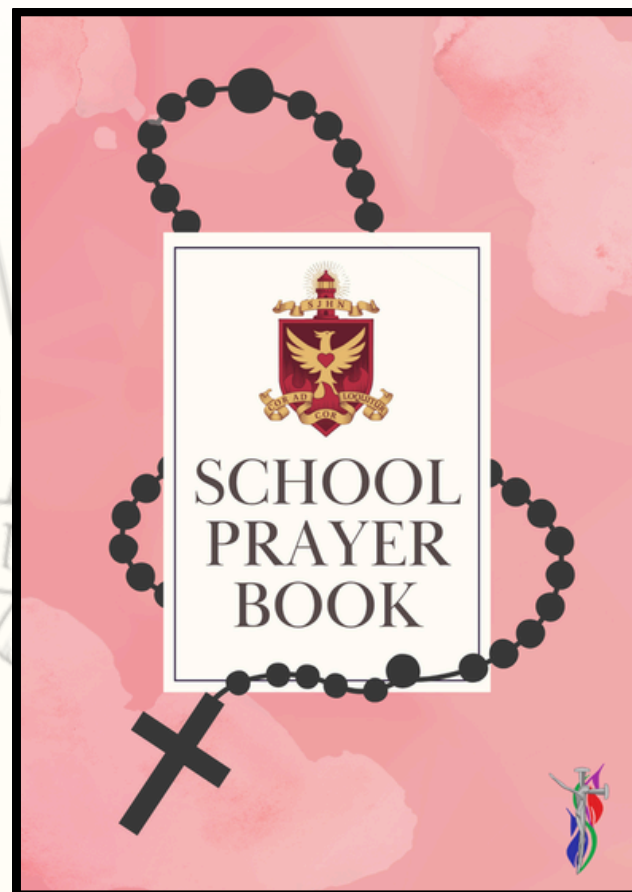






Please follow this link to our school prayer book –

<https://tinyurl.com/mt29npjm>



Please follow this link to our Prayer Journeys –

<https://tinyurl.com/4s5tnhbh>





Heart speaks to Heart

AUTUMN TERM

Key Catholic Dates

WALKING TOGETHER IN FAITH • PRAYER • CHARITY
RECONCILIATION • COMMUNITY



*"To live is
to change,
and to be perfect
is to have
changed often."*

ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

2
OCTOBER



OPENING MASS & BLESSING OF OUR NEW SCHOOL

with Archbishop Bernard Longley



CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day
Friday 2 October

9
OCTOBER



FEAST OF ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN



*Heart
speaks to
Heart*

9
OCTOBER



YEAR 7 FOOD BANK DRIVE

In support of our CAFOD Harvest theme,
helping local people in need.



2
NOVEMBER



ALL SOULS

Month of Remembrance begins



11
NOVEMBER



REMEMBRANCE DAY



29
NOVEMBER



ADVENT BEGINS

A time of hope, preparation
and joyful expectation.



DURING
ADVENT



PRAYER • CHARITY • RECONCILIATION SERVICES

Throughout Advent we will have opportunities
for prayer, charitable action and reconciliation
as we prepare for the coming of Christ.



W/C
14
DECEMBER



CHRISTMAS MASSES

We will come together to celebrate
the birth of Jesus.



SAINT OF THE TERM

ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

*Heart
speaks to
Heart*



- ♥ A man of deep prayer
- ♥ A seeker of truth
- ♥ A champion of education
- ♥ A witness to conscience
- ♥ A model of humility and integrity
- ♥ An inspiration for our school community

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING FOCUS

AUTUMN TERM



STEWARDSHIP

Caring for God's creation
and using our gifts
responsibly for the
common good.



FAMILY & COMMUNITY

Recognising the dignity
of every person and
building communities
of love, support
and solidarity.

*"We are our brother's
and sister's keeper."*

POPE FRANCIS

Forming Christ-centred pilgrims of hope with kind hearts,
questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice.



PRAYER



LITURGY



SCRIPTURE



CHARITY



SERVICE



COMMUNITY



OUTREACH



RECONCILIATION



LEARNING



LEADERSHIP



JUSTICE