



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

15th December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Sharing in the Prayer Life of St James' Catholic High School – Week 15

Thank you for your continued support in encouraging our pupils to attend the Chapel activities at lunchtime

Monday: Mass Preparation

Tuesday: Whole school Advent Mass at 10 am

Thursday: 1:30 pm Youth SVP

In the week beginning Monday 15th December, we will be focussing on the core value of FAMILY and the Catholic social teaching of **solidarity and hope**.

Preparations are being made for our Whole school Advent Mass, which is on Tuesday 16th December at 10 am.

Sunday, 14th December, was the third Sunday in Advent, which is known as Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means, 'Rejoice!' On Monday 15th December, during staff briefing, we will light the third Advent candle, which is pink. The pink candle on the wreath symbolises Joy! On the **third Sunday, the pink candle** is included, the candle of **Joy** reminds Christians of Jesus' mother, Mary. On Christmas Day, the white candle is also lit representing Jesus Christ as the light of the world.

On Friday, some of our guests at the parishioner's party were accompanied by their grandchildren. Each guest was given a decorated tealight holder as a gift from our Youth SVP members, to remind them that they are valued members of the St. James' family.

We will be selling baubles to raise money for the SVP projects that they want to begin next term. If you would like to buy one to design and display on our tree, they can be purchased for £1. At the end of term, you can take them home to hang on your own tree.

KS3 classes have been visiting the Chapel during an RE lesson to reflect on a theme of 'Advent: God's promises, and prophecy'. They have designed a bauble to remind themselves of the things they reflected on in the session and received an Advent calendar to take home based on the Jesse tree, which takes them on a biblical journey through Advent.

Each pupil has been invited to contribute donations to a hamper for the local foodbank. Donations need to be in school by Tuesday 16th December as they will be collected and delivered on Wednesday 17th December. Please could you ask pupils to bring their donations as soon as possible.

Items always needed- long life food items

- Tinned food. Meat, Fish, Fruit & Veg.
- Stock cubes & spices. Rice, grains & noodles.

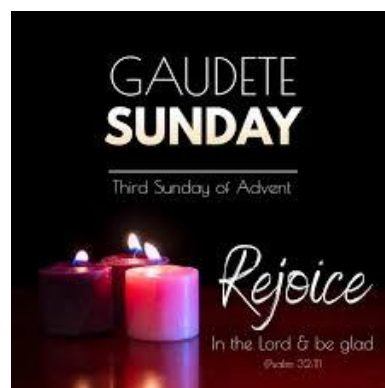




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CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

- Ingredients. Oil & Flour.
- Long life dairy-free milk. Snacks. ...
- Spreads. Jam, Honey, Peanut Butter & Marmite.
- Tea & instant coffee. Toiletries. ...
- Baby products. Large Nappies, Formula 1, 2 & 3.
- Household products.



Prayer for the week ahead:

Dear Lord, we pray for all members of our community who have been affected by bereavement. We pray especially for those who fear the coming of Christmas, which may be filled with sadness or struggle. As we celebrate, help us to be gentle in heart, and remember those who suffer hardship. We pray that we will offer kindness, understanding and prayer. We pray that the peace and joy of Christmas might bring comfort and healing and that everyone will have the opportunity to experience peace and joy. May Christmas bring new hope and happiness to us all.

Amen. St.James, pray for us.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs T McGeough

Lay Chaplain

