

Inauguration of the Catechism Academic Year 2026–2027: A New Journey of Faith & Formation

Cathedral of Our Lady of the Annunciation

Malviya Nagar

The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Annunciation joyfully inaugurated the Catechism Academic Year 2026–2027 on 5th July 2026, marking the beginning of another year of faith formation for the children and youth of the parish. The celebration was a beautiful expression of the parish's commitment to nurturing young hearts in the love of Christ and His Church.

The programme commenced with a solemn entrance procession, followed by the lighting of the ceremonial lamp, symbolizing Christ, the Light of the World. This meaningful act invoked God's abundant blessings upon the catechism teachers, students, parents, and all those entrusted with the mission of faith formation. The Holy Eucharist was celebrated by our Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Melvin D'Souza, together with Associate Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Siby Mathew. In his thought-provoking homily, Fr. Siby reflected on the words of Jesus: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). He reminded the faithful that life's journey is often marked by trials, temptations, and uncertainties. However, those who hold firmly to God's hand and trust in His divine plan will never walk alone. With steadfast faith and perseverance, God grants the strength to overcome every challenge and protects us from all that seeks to distance us from His love. The liturgy was prayerfully animated by the Friends of Jesus and the parish youth through meaningful readings, hymns, and the Prayer of the Faithful, creating an atmosphere of devotion and active participation. The offertory procession, reverently led by the catechism children, symbolized their willingness to offer their lives, talents, and aspirations to God. A special highlight of the celebration was the warm welcome extended to the new members of the Friends of Jesus, the newly elected office bearers, and the new youth members. Their acceptance into these ministries reflected their commitment to serving God and the parish community with dedication and love.

The parish also took pride in honouring the Academic Toppers of Classes X and XII for their outstanding achievements. Their success was celebrated as a testament to perseverance, discipline, and God's blessings, serving as an inspiration to the younger students to pursue excellence in both their studies and their spiritual lives. The inaugural celebration concluded on a joyful and prayerful note, with the entire parish entrusting the new catechism year to God's loving care. May this academic year inspire every child and young person to grow in wisdom, deepen their faith, strengthen their Christian values, and become joyful witnesses of Christ in their families, schools, and society.

Mrs Sheeba Joice

Animator – Friends of Jesus