

# Report on the Inaugural Prayer Service for the Academic Year 2026–2027

*Theme: “Blessings for a New Beginning”*

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The Inaugural Prayer Service at Don Bosco Senior Secondary School, Nerul was held on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> April, marking a solemn and uplifting commencement to the academic year 2026–2027. The event was graced by the school’s esteemed management, faculty members, and the entire student body. The programme was conducted under the inspiring theme “Blessings for a New Beginning,” setting a purposeful tone for the year ahead. Student anchors opened the service with a heartfelt welcome, inviting the community to embrace the new academic year with faith, purpose, and a spirit of service.

The service commenced with an **Opening Prayer**, led by the student anchors, expressing gratitude for the past break and seeking divine wisdom and strength for the journey ahead. This was followed by the **Vision of the Year**, in which students took to the stage holding charts depicting their individual aspirations — a meaningful symbol of the community’s collective commitment to excellence, strong values, and personal growth.

The **Lamp Lighting Ceremony**, accompanied by a Sanskrit devotional song, was led by Rev. Fr. Barnabe Dsouza (Rector), Rev. Fr. Alwyn Misquitta, Mrs Kalyani Chaudhari (Principal), Mrs Jyotsna Dsouza (Headmistress), the Supervisors, and the Curriculum Coordinator, who together kindled the sacred flame — a powerful symbol of wisdom and the pursuit of knowledge. A graceful **Prayer Dance** followed, blending movement with devotion as a welcome of the Lord’s presence into school life.

Readings from the **Holy Scriptures** were then proclaimed, with passages drawn from the Holy Bible, the Holy Quran, the Bhagavad Gita, and the Guru Granth Sahib, reflecting the school’s inclusive spirit and grounding the community in shared moral values. An inspiring **Reflection** was delivered by Rev. Fr. Barnabe Dsouza, who urged students and staff to walk in God’s light and dedicate themselves to learning and service throughout the year.

Five students offered **Intercessory Prayers** on behalf of the school community, lifting petitions for students, faculty, support staff, and the world — calling for peace, healing, and hope. A moment of silence followed each intention. The Fathers then imparted a solemn **Blessing** over the entire assembly as students sang the blessing song, invoking divine grace upon the school community for the year ahead.

A highlight of the service was the **Inauguration of the School Magazine 2026–27**. The editorial team and graphic designer were invited to the stage, and the Fathers formally released the publication — a celebration of student creativity expressed across languages and art forms.

In her **Principal's Address**, Mrs Kalyani Chaudhari warmly welcomed new students and faculty, and urged the community to move forward with purpose and positivity. She highlighted two key words for the year — **Connect** and **Correct** — encouraging students and staff to build meaningful relationships and move forward in friendship, mutual care, and shared purpose.

The service concluded with the school anthem. The Inaugural Prayer Service 2026–27 was a deeply meaningful and spiritually enriching event that set a tone of gratitude, purpose, and faith for the year ahead. The community departed with hearts uplifted, ready to embrace the new academic year with determination and divine grace.