



BHCET- Spirituality Timetable 2026-27

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock." Matthew 7:24

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In a world that is constantly changing, young people need strong foundations upon which to build their lives.

Jesus tells the story of the wise builder who built his house upon the rock. When the storms came, the house stood firm because its foundations were secure. Through this image, Christ reminds us that the choices we make, the values we live by and the relationships we nurture shape the people we become.

Inspired by St Peter, the fisherman who became the rock upon which Christ built His Church, we will spend this year exploring the foundations that help us grow as disciples, learners and citizens. Peter's story is one of ordinary faithfulness. He knew moments of great courage and moments of failure, times of certainty and times of doubt. Yet through every experience he remained open to Christ's call and discovered that God's grace is always stronger than our weakness.

Throughout the year, every school across Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust will journey together through six “Rocks”: six foundations that help us build lives of faith, character and purpose. Each Rock is rooted in the life of St Peter, inspired by Scripture and shaped by the rhythm of the Church's year.

Together we will discover how Christ, our true Rock, enables us to stand firm amidst the storms of life. As communities with Christ at the centre and children at the heart, we seek to help every child build foundations that last, so that they may flourish, serve others and live life to the full.

Autumn Term 1 - The Rock of Faith

Peter's Story- Peter's Confession of Faith- “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”- (Matthew 16:16)

“You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church.”

A new academic year is a time of new beginnings. Like Simon receiving a new name and a new mission, we begin the year by reflecting upon our own identity and calling. Who has God created us to be? What foundations are we building our lives upon?

Together we discover that faith is the first foundation stone upon which every other virtue is built.

Autumn Term 2- The Rock of Hope

Peter's Story- Walking Towards Christ- “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” (Matthew 14:28)

As the days become darker and we remember those we love during November before preparing for the coming of Christ in Advent, we are reminded that Christian hope shines brightest in the darkness.

Hope gives us the courage to keep our eyes fixed on Christ even when the seas become rough. Like Peter, we learn that Jesus is always reaching out His hand to us.

Spring Term 1- The Rock of Friendship

Peter's Story- The Calling of the First Disciples- “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” (Matthew 4:19)

The season after Epiphany reveals Christ to the world and calls disciples to follow Him. Peter's journey begins not alone, but within a community.

We reflect upon belonging, community and friendship. We celebrate the relationships that help us grow and recognise that we are strongest when we journey together.

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Matthew 7:24

Spring Term 2- The Rock of Compassion

Peter's Story- Feed My Sheep- "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" (John 21:16)

During Lent we journey with Christ towards the Cross, reflecting upon forgiveness, mercy and self-giving love.

Peter experienced failure, forgiveness and restoration. Through his story we discover that compassion begins with receiving God's mercy and sharing that mercy with others.

Summer Term 1 The Rock of Courage

Peter's Story- Pentecost "Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice." (Acts 2:14)

The joy of Easter leads us to Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit transforms fearful disciples into courageous witnesses.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Peter finds the courage to proclaim the Gospel. We reflect upon resilience, confidence and standing up for what is right.

Summer Term 2- The Rock of Service

Peter's Story- Feed My Sheep- "Feed my sheep." (John 21:17)

As another school year draws to a close, we look beyond ourselves towards the people we are called to serve.

Peter's journey ends not with status but with mission. We are reminded that true leadership is always rooted in service. As we celebrate all that has been achieved this year, we ask how we can use our gifts to build God's Kingdom and make a positive difference in the lives of others.

Standing Firm At the heart of this theme is a simple invitation.

To build our lives upon Christ. To stand firm when storms come. To become living stones within God's Church. And, like St Peter, to discover that ordinary people, built upon extraordinary foundations, can change the world.



BHCET THEME 2026-27

LIFE ON THE ROCK

• BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS •

✝

"YOU ARE PETER, AND ON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH."

MATTHEW 16:18



1

AUTUMN TERM 1

THE ROCK OF FAITH

Peter's Confession of Faith
"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
(Matthew 16:16)

 Faith is the foundation of all that we build.



2

AUTUMN TERM 2

THE ROCK OF HOPE

Walking Towards Christ
"Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." (Matthew 14:28)

 Hope keeps our eyes fixed on Christ even in the storm.



3

SPRING TERM 1

THE ROCK OF FRIENDSHIP

The Calling of the First Disciples
"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19)

 We are strongest when we journey together.



4

SPRING TERM 2

THE ROCK OF COMPASSION

Feed My Sheep
"Simon, son of John, do you love me?" (John 21:16)

 Compassion begins with receiving God's mercy.



5

SUMMER TERM 1

THE ROCK OF COURAGE

Pentecost
"Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice." (Acts 2:14)

 Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we stand up for what is right.



6

SUMMER TERM 2

THE ROCK OF SERVICE

Feed My Sheep
"Feed my sheep." (John 21:17)

 True leadership is rooted in service to others.

CHRIST AT THE CENTRE ✝ CHILDREN AT THE HEART

mine and does them will be like a wise man on the rock." Matthew 7:24



Respect

Accepting somebody for who they are, even when they're different from you or you don't agree with them.

Respect in your relationships builds feelings of trust, safety, and wellbeing.



Responsibility

Being accountable
A duty, obligation



Justice

The quality of being just; righteousness
The moral principle determining just conduct



Compassion

A feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another who is stricken by misfortune
Accompanied by a strong desire to alleviate the suffering



Confidence

Having confidence in your own abilities or judgment
A person's belief in their ability to complete tasks and to achieve their goals



Resilience

The ability to recover readily from illness, depression, adversity
To bounce back



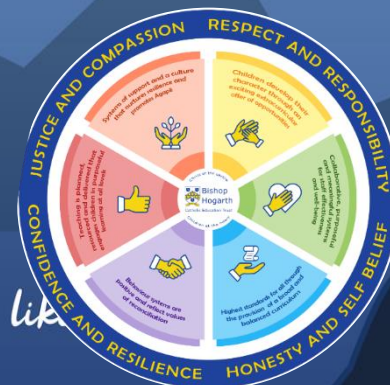
Honesty

The quality of being honest
An aspect of moral character that indicates positive and virtuous attributes such as integrity and truthfulness



Self Belief

Belief in oneself and one's powers or abilities;
Feeling self-confident and assured



Whoever hears these words of mine and does them will be like a man who built his house on the rock." Matthew 7:24

Catholic Social Teaching is a set of rules and ideas that help Catholics understand how to be good and fair in society. It teaches us about treating people with respect and making the world a better place for everyone. Catholic Social Teaching is all about allowing Christ to live in us and our actions being inspired by His Life and Light.

Human Dignity: This means that every person is special and important because we are all made in the image of God. We should treat others with kindness and respect. It's like when the Bible says, "God created humans in His own image" (Genesis 1:27).

Solidarity: This is about sticking together and helping one another. We should care about all people, no matter where they come from or what they look like. It's like when the Bible tells us to "share each other's troubles" (Galatians 6:2).

Subsidiarity: This idea says that decisions should be made by the people who are closest to the situation. It means that we should respect the ideas and choices of individuals and communities. The Bible says, "Use your gifts to serve others" (1 Peter 4:10).

Common Good: This is about making sure everyone has what they need to be happy and healthy. We should work together to create a society where everyone can thrive. The Bible says, "Look out for each other's interests" (Philippians 2:4).

Option for the Poor: This means that we should take extra care of people who are poor or struggling. We should help them and fight against unfairness. The Bible tells us, "If someone is in need and you do nothing to help, what good is that?" (James 2:15-16).

Peace: Peace means living in harmony and resolving conflicts without violence. We should work to create a world where people can live peacefully together. It's like when Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers" (Matthew 5:9).

Rights and Responsibilities: Everyone has certain rights, like the right to be treated fairly and the right to have basic needs met. But along with these rights, we also have responsibilities to respect the rights of others and help make sure everyone is treated well.

Participation: This means that everyone should have a say and be involved in decisions that affect them. It's important for everyone's voice to be heard, and for us to work together to make choices that are fair and inclusive.

Stewardship: Stewardship means taking care of the Earth and everything in it. We should be responsible for protecting the environment, using resources wisely, and leaving a healthy planet for future generations. It's like when God told Adam and Eve to take care of the garden (Genesis 2:15).

Catholic social teaching gives us guidance on how to treat others and make the world a better place. It teaches us to value every person, help those in need, and work together for a fair and just society.

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Carmel College Darlington	Our Lady of Mount Carmel – 16 th July
St Augustine's RC Primary Darlington	St Augustine of Canterbury – 26 th
St Teresa's RC Primary (Hartlepool and Darlington)	St Therese of Lisieux (The Little Flower) – 1 st October
St Bede's RC Primary (Darlington and Stockton)	St Bede the Venerable – 25 th May
Holy Family RC Primary Darlington	The Holy Family- 30 th December
St Michael's Catholic Academy Billingham	St Michael the Archangel- 29 th September
Our Lady & St Bede Catholic Academy Stockton	Our Lady (The Immaculate Conception)- 8 th December St Bede the Venerable -25 th May
St William's RC Primary Trimdon	St William of York- 8 th June
St Gregory's RC Primary Stockton	St Gregory the Great- 3 rd September
Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Billingham	Our Lady of the Rosary- 7 th October
St Joseph's RC Primary (Billingham, Newton Aycliffe, Hartlepool and Coundon)	St Joseph – 19 th March (St Joseph the Worker- 1 st May)
St Paul's RC Primary	St Paul- 29 th June (HDO Sts Peter and Paul) (Conversion of St Paul- 25 th January)
St John the Evangelist RC Primary Billingham and St John's School & Sixth Form Bishop Auckland	St John the Evangelist- 27 th December
English Martyrs School & Sixth Form	The English Martyrs – 4 th May
St Begas Catholic Primary	St Bega- 31 st October
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus- 11 th June
St Chad's Catholic Primary School	St Chad- 2 nd March
St Cuthbert's RC Primary (Crook, Stockton, Hartlepool)	St Cuthbert- 20 th March
Blessed John Duckett Primary	Blessed John Duckett- 7 th September (Date of Martyrdom)
Our Lady & St Thomas RC Primary	St Thomas- 21 st
St Charles' RC Primary	St Charles Borromeo- November 4 th
St Mary's RC Primary (Barnard Castle and Newton Aycliffe)	Devotions to Our Lady in the Month of May
St Wilfrid's RC Primary	St Wilfrid- 12 th October
St Patrick's RC Primary	St Patrick- 17 th March
St John Vianney RC Primary	St John Vianney- 4 th August

man who built his house on the rock. Matthew 7:24

1. Week Commencing: Monday 31 st August 2026						Week 22 Ordinary Time Year A: Matthew 16:21-27
THEME - Strong Foundations- <i>“For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”</i>						
AUTUMN TERM 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF FAITH						
Linked Virtue: Responsibility Linked CST: Human Dignity Linked British Values: Individual Liberty	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
In this Gospel, Jesus reminds Peter and the disciples that faith is not always the easy path. To follow Christ means choosing what is good, true and life-giving, even when it asks something of us. As we begin a new year, we are invited to build our lives on strong foundations: faith, trust, courage and responsibility. Heads: What foundations do I want to build this year? Hearts: Lord, help me to trust your plan even when it is difficult. Hands: Choose one practical way to put Christ first this week.					31 August: International Day for People of African Descent A reminder of the dignity of every person and our call to build communities of justice, respect and belonging. 1 September: World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation A day to renew our responsibility as stewards of God's creation. 5 September: International Day of Charity A call to put faith into action through generosity, service and care for those most in need. 4 September: Janmashtami A Hindu festival celebrating the birth of Krishna. This gives an opportunity to deepen respect and understanding of Hindu communities.	Patronal Feast Days: St Gregory the Great 3rd Translation of St Cuthbert 4th 31 August: St Aidan and the Saints of Lindisfarne 5 September: St Teresa of Calcutta Optional memorial, a powerful witness to charity and service.
						Notes - Welcome assemblies and launch of the new Trust theme: Life on the Rock. - Introduce The Rock of Faith and invite students/staff to reflect on the foundations they want to build this year. - Launch SVP / Faith in Action / Chaplaincy groups. - Staff welcome prayer or paraliturgy for the new academic year. - Mark the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation on 1st September. - Paraliturgy for the Translation of St Cuthbert / diocesan feast. - Prepare a parish display for Education Sunday, Sunday 13th September 2026.

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2. Week Commencing: Monday 7th September 2026

THEME – Reconciliation- “If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.

**Week 23 Ordinary
Time Year A:
Matthew 18:15-20**

 AUTUMN TERM 1 | LIFE ON THE ROCK | THE ROCK OF FAITH

Linked Virtue: Respect / Responsibility Linked CST: Solidarity Linked British Values: Mutual Respect / Rule of Law	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 9th September	11C and 11A	Father Kevin	Wednesday of Week 23 in Ordinary Time – Theme: Kingdom Values – First Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:25–31 – Gospel: Luke 6:20–26 – Liturgical Colour: Green “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.”	8 September: International Literacy Day A reminder that education opens doors and helps every person flourish. UNESCO marks this day each year on 8 September. 10 September: World Suicide Prevention Day A time to promote hope, listening and support for those who may be struggling.	Birthday of Our Blessed Lady 8th St Peter Claver 9th The Most Holy Name of Mary 12th
In this Gospel, Jesus teaches us that strong communities are built on honesty, forgiveness and reconciliation. Faith is not just private belief. It shapes how we speak to one another, how we repair relationships and how we seek peace when things go wrong. As we continue to build our lives on the Rock of Faith, we are reminded that every person has dignity and every relationship matters. Jesus promises that where two or three gather in His name, He is there among them. Peter was called to be a rock for the Church, not because he was perfect, but because he allowed Christ to shape him. This week we learn that strong foundations are built through listening, forgiveness and choosing unity over division. Heads: How can I help build a community where people are listened to and respected? Hearts: Lord, help me to forgive, listen and seek peace. Hands: This week, take one step to repair, strengthen or encourage a relationship.					11 September – Diverse Heritage Day A celebration of the rich tapestry of cultures and identities around the world Reflecting “unity in diversity,” it encourages us to honour each person made in God’s image, reinforcing our commitment to inclusion and respect in line with Catholic Social Teaching	Notes - Continue welcome assemblies and introduction of Life on the Rock. - Celebration of the Word for Our Lady’s Birthday - Launch and promote SVP / Faith in Action / Chaplaincy groups. - Prepare parish display and resources for Education Sunday, Sunday 13th September 2026. - Focus on reconciliation, friendship and building respectful communities at the start of the year.

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3. Week Commencing: Monday 14th September 2026

THEME: Forgiveness- "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven."

**Week 24 Ordinary
Time Year A:
Matthew 18:21-35**

 AUTUMN TERM 1 | LIFE ON THE ROCK | THE ROCK OF FAITH

Linked Virtue: Compassion Linked CST: Solidarity Linked British Values: Mutual Respect / Rule of Law	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 16th September	11R and 11M	Brother Robert	Memorial of Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop and Martyrs – Theme: United Witness – First Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:7–15 – Gospel: John 17:11b–19 – Liturgical Colour: Red "May they be one, even as we are one."	15 September: International Day of Democracy A reminder of the importance of participation, voice, responsibility and the common good. 16 September: International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer An opportunity to reflect on stewardship of creation and our shared responsibility for the planet.	14 September: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross 15 September: Our Lady of Sorrows 16 September: Saints Cornelius and Cyprian, Martyrs 17 September: St Robert Bellarmine / St Hildegard of Bingen
					18 September: International Equal Pay Day A reminder of justice, dignity and fairness in the workplace and wider society.	Notes - Focus on forgiveness, reconciliation and restoring relationships. - Mark the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. This week a focus could be on the Cross of Christ- activities about how can we show love through sacrifice? - Prepare for Home Mission Sunday next weekend. - Link to school behaviour routines: strong communities are built through accountability, mercy and fresh starts.

In this Gospel, Peter asks Jesus how often he must forgive. Jesus' answer is challenging and generous: forgiveness is not limited or counted, but offered from the heart. This week, as we continue with The Rock of Faith, we remember that faith is not only about what we believe, but how we live with others. Strong foundations are built through mercy, patience and the courage to begin again. A community rooted in Christ must be a community where forgiveness is possible. Peter asks the question that many of us ask: How much forgiveness is enough? Jesus teaches him that God's mercy is far greater than human calculation. Peter's journey reminds us that he too would need forgiveness, and later become someone who could offer mercy to others.

Heads: Why is forgiveness difficult, and why does Jesus ask it of us?

Hearts: Lord, soften my heart where I am holding onto anger or resentment.

Hands: This week, choose one small act of peace, patience or forgiveness..

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4. Week Commencing: Monday 20th September 2026

THEME: Generosity “Do you begrudge my generosity?”

**Week 25 Ordinary
Time Year A:
Matthew 20:1-16**

 AUTUMN TERM 1 | LIFE ON THE ROCK | THE ROCK OF FAITH

Linked Virtue: Compassion Linked CST: The Common Good Linked British Values: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 23rd September	11E and 11L	Fr Tony	Memorial of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio), Priest – Theme: Christ Within – First Reading: Galatians 2:19–20 – Gospel: Matthew 16:24–27 – Liturgical Colour: White “Whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”	21 September – International Day of Peace A United Nations day encouraging reconciliation, peacebuilding and respect between peoples. An excellent link to our call to build communities rooted in Christ.	21 September – St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist (Feast) Matthew’s call reminds us that Christ sees potential where others see failure and invites everyone to follow Him. 23 September – St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio), Priest (Memorial) Remembered for his deep prayer, compassion and dedication to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. 24 September – Our Lady of Walsingham (Feast) . We ask Our Lady to watch over our schools, families and Trust community.
In this Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the workers in the vineyard. At first, it seems unfair that everyone receives the same wage, regardless of how long they have worked. Yet Jesus reveals something much deeper: God’s Kingdom is built not on comparison or reward, but on generosity and grace. As we continue to build our lives upon the Rock of Faith, we are reminded that faith changes the way we see others. Instead of asking, “What do I deserve?”, Jesus invites us to ask, “How can I reflect God’s generosity?” Every person is loved equally by God, and every person has a place in His Kingdom. Peter left everything to follow Jesus. Throughout his life he discovered that God’s generosity could never be earned, only received with gratitude. That same generosity transformed Peter into a leader who welcomed others into the Church without favouritism or comparison. Heads: How can I celebrate the gifts and successes of others without comparing myself? Hearts: Lord, help me to receive your generosity with gratitude and to share it freely with others. Hands: This week, perform one unexpected act of generosity without expecting anything in return.					21 September – World Alzheimer’s Day An opportunity to remember those living with dementia, their families and carers, promoting compassion and dignity.	Notes - Celebrate the Feast of St Matthew, reflecting on vocation, discipleship and new beginnings. * Mark the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham with a Marian prayer or Act of Entrustment for your school. * Continue introducing students to The Rock of Faith, encouraging gratitude for God’s generous love. * Promote opportunities for service through SVP, Faith in Action and chaplaincy groups. * Encourage harvest collections or local acts of generosity as preparations begin for the Harvest season. - Mark St Vincet de Paul Feast (Sunday) 1st Chaplaincy meeting of the academic year to take place around now. - Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday.
					23 September – International Day of Sign Languages Celebrating inclusion, communication and the dignity of Deaf communities.	
					25 th September- Macmillan Coffee Morning.	
					26 September – European Day of Languages A celebration of the rich diversity of languages and cultures across Europe. It encourages language learning, mutual understanding and respect for different cultures, reflecting our commitment to building communities where everyone belongs.	

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5. Week Commencing: Monday 28th September 2026

THEME: Actions Speak- "He changed his mind and went."

**Week 26 Ordinary
Time Year A:
Matthew 21:28-32**

 AUTUMN TERM 1 | LIFE ON THE ROCK | THE ROCK OF FAITH

Linked Virtue: Honesty / Responsibility Linked CST: Participation Linked British Values: Individual Liberty / Rule of Law	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 30 th September	11J and 11P	Fr Barrie	Memorial of Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church – Theme: Wholehearted Discipleship – Ferial First Reading: Job 9:1–12, 14–16 – Ferial Gospel: Luke 9:57–62 – Liturgical Colour: White "I will follow you wherever you go."	29 September: World Heart Day A reminder to care for our bodies, support health and recognise the dignity of every person. 30 September: International Translation Day Celebrates translators and interpreters, reminding us of the importance of communication, language and understanding.	28 September: St Wenceslaus, Martyr / St Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs Optional memorials. 29 September: Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels Feast and BHCET Trust feast day. 30 September: St Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church
In this Gospel, Jesus reminds us that faith is more than words. The first son says no, but then changes his mind and acts. The second son says yes, but does nothing. Jesus teaches that what matters is not simply what we say, but whether our lives reflect the will of God. As we continue to build on The Rock of Faith, we are invited to make sure our choices match our values. Strong foundations are built when we act with honesty, take responsibility and allow God to change our hearts. Peter often spoke boldly, but his faith had to grow through action, humility and conversion. Like Peter, we are called not just to say we follow Christ, but to show it through the way we live. Heads: Do my actions match the values I say are important? Hearts: Lord, help me to change my heart where I need to begin again. Hands: This week, do one good thing you have been putting off.	Friday 2nd October 2026 – At St Augustine's Church; conclusion of the Year 7 Ethos Days	ALL YEAR 7 AT ST AUGUSTINE'S	Fr TONY	<i>Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels – Theme: God's Guidance – Memorial First Reading: Exodus 23:20–23a – Memorial Gospel: Matthew 18:1–5, 10 – Liturgical Colour: White – "Their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven."</i>	1 October: Black History Month begins in the UK A month to celebrate Black British history, culture and contributions, and to deepen our commitment to dignity, justice and belonging. 1 October: International Day of Older Persons A reminder to value the wisdom, dignity and contribution of older people in our families and communities. 2 October: CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day A day of prayer, fasting and giving, supporting our global neighbours through CAFOD's work. 4 October: World Animal Day An opportunity to reflect on care for creation and the dignity of all God's creatures.	Notes - Mark the BHCET Trust Feast Day of St Michael on 29th September. - Launch or promote CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day. - Begin preparations for Harvest collections and October Rosary devotions. - Mark the beginning of Black History Month. - Link the Gospel to integrity: saying yes to God through our actions, not just our words. - October is the Month of the Holy Rosary - Little Flower- St Therese focus.
	1 ST AND 2 ND OCTOBER TBC ETHOS DAYS (WHOLE YEAR 7 AT ST AUGUSTINE'S- MASS ON THE 2 ND OCTOBER					

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6. Week Commencing: Monday 5th October 2026

THEME: The Cornerstone “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.”

**Week 27 Ordinary
Time Year A:
Matthew 21:28-32**

 **AUTUMN TERM 1 | LIFE ON THE ROCK | THE ROCK OF FAITH**

Linked Virtue: Responsibility Linked CST: Stewardship Linked British Values: Rule of Law	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 7th October 2026 – The Rosary will be prayed before Mass	7C and 7A	Fr Henry	Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary – Theme: Prayerful Trust – First Reading: Acts 1:12–14 – Gospel: Luke 1:26–38 – Liturgical Colour: White “Let it be to me according to your word.”	Black History Month (throughout October) Celebrating Black history, culture and contribution, while recognising the dignity of every person and our shared responsibility to challenge injustice. 5 October – World Teachers’ Day Giving thanks for teachers and all who help young people grow in wisdom, knowledge and faith. 8 October – World Sight Day Promoting eye health and recognising the importance of caring for those living with sight loss. 10 October – World Mental Health Day Raising awareness of mental wellbeing and encouraging compassion, hope and support for those experiencing mental health challenges. 10 October – World Homeless Day Reflecting upon the dignity of every person and our responsibility to care for those without a safe place to call home.	5 October – St Faustina Kowalska, Religious (Optional Memorial) 6 October – St Bruno, Priest (Optional Memorial) 7 October – Our Lady of the Rosary (Memorial) 9 October – St John Henry Newman, Priest and Doctor of the Church (Feast in England and Wales) 10 October – St Paulinus of York, Bishop and Missionary (Optional Memorial) Notes - October is the Month of the Holy Rosary. Encourage Rosary prayer during form time or collective worship. - Celebrate World Teachers’ Day by giving thanks for the vocation of teaching. - Mark World Mental Health Day with opportunities for prayer, reflection and support. - Continue Harvest and CAFOD fundraising following Family Fast Day. * Reflect upon Christ as the Cornerstone, asking students how they are building lives that bear good fruit..

In this Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the tenants in the vineyard before revealing its deepest meaning through the words of Scripture:

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.”

A cornerstone is the first and most important stone of a building. Everything else depends upon it. Jesus is telling us that although many rejected Him, He is the true foundation upon which God’s Kingdom is built.

This is at the very heart of our Trust theme, Life on the Rock. Christ is our Rock and our Cornerstone. When we build our lives upon Him, we discover purpose, strength and hope. Like the tenants in the vineyard, we are entrusted with many gifts. Our challenge is to use them wisely, producing the fruits of faith, kindness, generosity and service.

Peter would later write about Jesus using these same words:
“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.”
(1 Peter 2:7)
Having experienced rejection, failure and forgiveness himself, Peter came to understand that Christ alone is the sure foundation of every Christian life. Peter became the rock of the Church because his own life was first built upon Christ, the Cornerstone.

Heads: Why is Jesus called the Cornerstone, and what difference does it make if I build my life upon Him?

Hearts: Lord, help me to build my life upon you, the Cornerstone, so that my faith may bear good fruit.

Hands: This week, use one of your gifts to help another person, remembering that every act of kindness helps build God’s Kingdom.

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7. Week Commencing: Monday 12th October 2026

THEME: Everyone is Invited- “Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.”

**Week 28 Ordinary
Time Year A:
Matthew 22:1-14**

 **AUTUMN TERM 1 | LIFE ON THE ROCK | THE ROCK OF FAITH**

Linked Virtue: Respect Linked CST: Participation Linked British Values: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 14th October 2026 – The Rosary will be prayed before Mass	7R and 7M	Fr Kevin	Wednesday of Week 28 in Ordinary Time – Theme: Spirit-Led – First Reading: Galatians 5:18–25 – Gospel: Luke 11:42–46– Liturgical Colour: Green – “Justice and the love of God.”	Black History Month (throughout October) Celebrating Black history, heritage and culture while promoting dignity, equality and belonging. 13 October – International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction Highlighting the importance of resilience, preparation and caring for those most vulnerable in times of crisis. 15 October – Global Handwashing Day Promoting health, hygiene and care for one another. 16 October – World Food Day A reminder that access to food is a basic human right and an opportunity to reflect on hunger, poverty and our responsibility to care for our global family.	12 October – St Wilfrid, Bishop and Missionary (Memorial in England) 13 October – St Edward the Confessor, King (Optional Memorial) 14 October – St Callistus I, Pope and Martyr (Optional Memorial) 15 October – St Teresa of Ávila, Virgin and Doctor of the Church (Memorial) 16 October – St Hedwig, Religious (Optional Memorial) 16 October – St Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin (Optional Memorial) 17 October – St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr (Memorial)
In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the wedding banquet. When those first invited refuse the invitation, the king opens his banquet to everyone he can find. It is a powerful reminder that God's Kingdom is open to all. As we conclude our half term reflecting on The Rock of Faith, we are reminded that Christ is the foundation upon whom everyone is invited to build their life. God welcomes each of us with love, but He also calls us to respond by living lives worthy of that invitation. Like the wedding garment in the parable, our faith should be visible in the way we love, serve and care for others. A life built on Christ is a life that welcomes others, celebrates diversity and seeks to ensure that everyone knows they belong.. Heads: How can I help everyone in our school community feel welcomed and valued? Hearts: Lord, thank you for inviting me into your family. Help me to respond to your love with generosity and faithfulness. Hands: This week, make a special effort to welcome someone, include someone new or show kindness to a person who may feel left out.						Notes - October is the Month of the Holy Rosary. Encourage Rosary prayer during form time or collective worship. - Continue celebrating Black History Month across the curriculum and in collective worship. - Celebrate the Memorial of St Teresa of Ávila, reflecting on the importance of prayer and a deep friendship with Christ. - Mark World Food Day through Harvest collections, foodbank donations or CAFOD activities. - Invite students to reflect on how our schools can be places where everyone is welcomed, valued and included. *

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.” Matthew 7:24

8. Week Commencing: Monday 19th October 2026

THEME: Made in God's Image- "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

**Week 29 Ordinary
Time Year A:
Matthew 22:15-21**

 AUTUMN TERM 1 | LIFE ON THE ROCK | THE ROCK OF FAITH

Linked Virtue: Respect Linked CST: Human Dignity Linked British Values: Individual Liberty	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 21 st October 2026 – The Rosary will be prayed before Mass	7E and 7L	Fr Tony	Wednesday of Week 29 in Ordinary Time – Theme: Responsible Stewardship – First Reading: Ephesians 3:2–12 – Gospel: Luke 12:39–48 – Liturgical Colour: Green – "Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required."	Black History Month (throughout October) Continuing to celebrate Black history, heritage and contribution while promoting equality, dignity and belonging. 20 October – World Statistics Day (held every five years) An opportunity to reflect on how data can be used responsibly to improve lives and support the common good. 24 October – United Nations Day Celebrating international cooperation, peace and our shared responsibility for one another as members of one human family. 24 October – World Development Information Day Encouraging awareness of global development and our responsibility to work for a more just and sustainable world.	19 October – Saints John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues and Companions, Martyrs (Optional Memorial) 19 October – St Paul of the Cross, Priest (Optional Memorial) 22 October – St John Paul II, Pope (Optional Memorial) 23 October – St John of Capistrano, Priest (Optional Memorial) 24 October – St Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop (Optional Memorial) Notes - October is the Month of the Holy Rosary. Encourage Rosary prayer during form time or collective worship. - Conclude The Rock of Faith with opportunities for students to reflect on the foundations they have built during the first half term. - Celebrate the witness of St John Paul II, especially his call: "Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors to Christ." - Continue celebrating Black History Month through curriculum and collective worship. * Prepare for the transition to The Rock of Hope after the half-term break.
The Pharisees try to trap Jesus with a difficult question about paying taxes, but Jesus looks beyond politics to something far more important. Holding up a coin, He asks whose image is upon it. The coin bears Caesar's image and therefore belongs to Caesar. Yet every human person bears the image and likeness of God. As we conclude our first half term reflecting on The Rock of Faith, Jesus reminds us that our greatest identity is found not in what we own or achieve, but in whose we are. We are God's beloved children, created in His image and called to build our lives upon Christ, the Rock who never fails. Faith begins when we recognise that our lives belong to God and respond by living with love, integrity and purpose. Heads: What does it mean to be created in the image and likeness of God? Hearts: Lord, help me to remember that I belong to you and to live each day as your disciple. Hands: Treat every person you meet this week with the dignity and respect they deserve as a child of God.						

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9. Week Commencing: Monday 2nd November 2026

THEME: Blessed to Bring Hope- “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

**Week 31 Ordinary Time,
Year A: Solemnity of All
Saints Matthew 5:1-12a**

 **AUTUMN TERM 2 | LIFE ON THE ROCK | THE ROCK OF HOPE**

Linked Virtue: Resilience Linked CST: Human Dignity Linked British Values: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Tuesday 3rd November 2026	7Jand 7P	Brother Robert	Tuesday of Week 31 in Ordinary Time – Mass offered for the Holy Souls and our beloved dead – Theme: Eternal Hope – First Reading: Philippians 2:5– 11 – Gospel: Luke 14:15–24 – Liturgical Colour: Green – “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!”	5 November: Bonfire Night A traditional UK observance recalling the failure of the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. It offers an opportunity to reflect on peace, reconciliation, religious tolerance and the responsible use of freedom. 5 November: World Tsunami Awareness Day A United Nations observance promoting awareness, preparedness and support for communities at risk from natural disasters. It connects with stewardship of creation, solidarity and care for vulnerable communities. 8 November: Remembrance Sunday A national day of remembrance for those who have served and died in war and conflict. Schools may pray for the fallen, veterans, serving personnel and all who continue to suffer because of war.	2 November – The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls) 3 November – St Martin de Porres, Religious (Optional Memorial) 4 November – St Charles Borromeo, Bishop (Memorial) Trust Patronal Feast Day . 7 November – St Willibrord, Bishop (Optional Memorial)
						Notes * Welcome students and staff back following the half-term break. * Launch The Rock of Hope across the Trust. * Mark November as the Month of the Holy Souls. * Create or introduce a Book of Remembrance, Remembrance Tree or prayer space where the names of loved ones can be remembered throughout the month. * Celebrate the Patronal Feast of St Charles Borromeo (4 November) across the Trust. * Begin preparations for Remembrance Day (11 November), including music, readings, prayers and acts of remembrance. * Begin planning for Advent: * Order Advent wreaths and candles. * Order Christmas trees and Nativity resources. * Begin planning Advent liturgies and charitable outreach. * Encourage departments to consider how Advent will be reflected in displays and collective worship.
We begin a new half term during the month of November, when the Church remembers those who have died and looks forward with hope to the promise of eternal life. In the Beatitudes, Jesus turns the world’s values upside down. He reminds us that true happiness is not found in power, wealth or success, but in trusting God, showing mercy, making peace and remaining faithful through every challenge. As we begin The Rock of Hope, we discover that Christian hope is not simply wishing that things will get better. It is the quiet confidence that Christ walks beside us in every season of life. Even in times of sadness, loss or uncertainty, we keep our eyes fixed on Him, knowing that He is faithful to His promises. Like Peter stepping out onto the water, we learn to trust Christ even when the seas become rough. Heads: How do the Beatitudes challenge the way the world measures success? Hearts: Lord, help me to place my hope in you and to become a person who brings hope to others. Hands: Offer a word of encouragement or kindness to someone who may need hope this week.						

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10. Week Commencing: Monday 9 th November 2026 THEME: Keep Your Lamp Burning- “Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.”						32nd Week in Ordinary Time (Year A) Matthew 25:1-13
 AUTUMN TERM 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF FAITH						
Linked Virtue: Resilience Linked CST: Participation Linked British Values: Individual Liberty	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 11th November 2026 Armistice Day	10C and 10A	Fr Barrie	Memorial of Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop – Remembrance Mass offered for the beloved dead and all who have died through war and conflict – Theme: Remembrance – First Reading: Isaiah 61:1–3a – Gospel: Matthew 25:31–40 – Liturgical Colour: White – “As you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me.”	9 November – World Adoption Day Celebrating the gift of family, belonging and the dignity of every child. A reminder that everyone deserves to know they are loved and valued. 9–15 November – Inter Faith Week (UK) Encouraging dialogue, understanding and cooperation between people of different faiths and beliefs, promoting mutual respect and the common good.	9 November – Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (Feast) 10 November – St Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church (Memorial) 11 November – St Martin of Tours, Bishop (Memorial) 12 November – St Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr (Memorial)
					10 November – World Science Day for Peace and Development Celebrating how science can contribute to peace, sustainable development and improving life for all. 11 November – Remembrance Day Remembering all who have given their lives in war and conflict. Schools may gather for a two-minute silence at 11:00am and pray for peace throughout the world. 13 November – World Kindness Day A wonderful opportunity to celebrate kindness, compassion and the difference small acts of love can make.	Notes Mark Remembrance Day with whole-school or class acts of remembrance and a two-minute silence at 11:00am. * Continue praying for the Holy Souls throughout November using the Book of Remembrance or Remembrance Tree. * Continue preparations for Advent: * Finalise Advent wreaths and candles. * Confirm Christmas trees and Nativity resources. * Begin preparing Advent liturgies, reconciliation services and charitable outreach. * Celebrate Inter Faith Week, promoting respect, dialogue and understanding between different faith communities. * Encourage students to be “lights of hope” through acts of kindness for World Kindness Day. * Use the Gospel to remind students that hope means being prepared to meet Christ each day through faithful living.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. The difference between them was not that they all believed the bridegroom would come, but that some were prepared and ready when he arrived.

As we continue our journey through The Rock of Hope, Jesus reminds us that Christian hope is active, not passive. Hope means living each day with faith, perseverance and expectation, trusting that God is always at work, even when we cannot yet see the outcome.

Like a lamp kept burning through the darkness, our hope shines most brightly when we remain close to Christ through prayer, acts of kindness and faithful living.

Heads: What helps me to keep my faith and hope alive when life becomes difficult??

Hearts: Lord, fill my heart with your light so that I may always be ready to welcome you.

Hands: This week, become a light for someone else through encouragement, kindness or prayer.

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11. Week Commencing: Monday 16th November 2026

THEME: "Do Not Bury Your Hope." - "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Week 33 Ordinary Time,
Year A:

Matthew 25:14-30

 AUTUMN TERM 2 | LIFE ON THE ROCK | THE ROCK OF HOPE

Linked Virtue: Confidence Linked CST: Participation Linked British Values: Individual Liberty	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 18th November 2026	9C and 9A	Fr Henry	Wednesday of Week 33 in Ordinary Time – Mass offered for the Holy Souls and our beloved dead – Theme: Faithful Service – First Reading: Revelation 4:1-11 – Gospel: Luke 19:11-28 – Liturgical Colour: Green – "Well done, good servant!"	16 November – International Day for Tolerance A UNESCO day promoting respect, understanding and acceptance of diversity. It reminds us to build communities where every person is welcomed and valued. 18 November – World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence An opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to safeguarding, dignity and the protection of every child. 20 November – World Children's Day Celebrating the dignity, rights and potential of every child. A reminder of our mission to help every young person flourish. Anti-Bullying Week takes place from Monday 16 to Friday 20 November 2026, with the theme Break the Silence. 20 November – Youth Friday A celebration of the gifts, leadership and vocation of young people as we prepare for World Youth Sunday and the Solemnity of Christ the King.	16 November – St Margaret of Scotland (Optional Memorial) 16 November – St Gertrude (Optional Memorial) 16 November – St Edmund of Abingdon (Optional Memorial) 17 November – St Hilda of Whitby (Memorial in England) 18 November – Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul (Optional Memorial) 20 November – St Edmund, King and Martyr (Optional Memorial) 21 November – The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Memorial) Celebrated in the Eastern Churches as the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple, remembering Mary's dedication to God from childhood.
As the Church approaches the end of the liturgical year, Jesus reminds us that hope is never passive. In the parable of the talents, the faithful servants trust their master and use what has been entrusted to them. Only the servant who is ruled by fear hides his gift away. This is the heart of The Rock of Hope. Christian hope gives us the confidence to step forward rather than hold back. It encourages us to use our gifts, take opportunities, serve others and trust that God is at work through us. A life built upon Christ is never buried in fear. It grows, bears fruit and becomes a source of hope for others. Heads: What gifts has God entrusted to me, and how can I use them well? Hearts: Lord, give me the courage to trust you and to use the gifts you have placed within me. Hands: Use one of your gifts this week to make a positive difference in the life of another person..						Notes Continue praying for the Holy Souls throughout November using the Book of Remembrance or Remembrance Tree. * Celebrate Youth Friday on 20 November, encouraging young people to lead prayer, music and acts of service. * Prepare for World Youth Sunday and the Solemnity of Christ the King (22 November). * Mark World Children's Day, celebrating the dignity, gifts and vocation of every child. * Reflect on the witness of St Hilda of Whitby as a model of wisdom, learning and leadership. * Finalise Advent resources: * Advent wreaths and candles. * Christmas trees and crib preparations. * Advent liturgies and reconciliation services. * Advent charitable outreach and giving. * Encourage students to recognise that God has entrusted each of us with unique gifts and that Christian hope inspires us to use those gifts confidently in the service of others.

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12. Week Commencing: Monday 23rd November 2026						34th and Final Week in Ordinary Time, Year A
THEME: Christ in Others- “As you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me.”						Matthew 25:31-46
🗓️ AUTUMN TERM 2 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF HOPE						
Linked Virtue: Compassion and Justice Linked CST: Preferential Option for the Poor Linked British Values: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 25th November 2026	8C and 8A	Brother Robert	Wednesday of Week 34 in Ordinary Time – Mass offered for the Holy Souls and our beloved dead – Theme: Enduring Hope – First Reading: Revelation 15:1–4 – Gospel: Luke 21:12–19 – Liturgical Colour: Green – “ By your endurance you will gain your lives.”	24 November: Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib Sikhs remember the ninth Guru, who gave his life defending the religious freedom of others. His witness offers a powerful opportunity to reflect on courage, justice, freedom of religion and respect for people of every faith.	Sunday 22 November: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Solemnity and World Youth Sunday. This celebration brings the liturgical year to its conclusion and recognises the place, gifts and mission of young people within the Church. 23 November: St Clement I, Pope and Martyr Optional memorial. 23 November: St Columbanus, Abbot and Missionary Optional memorial. 24 November: Saints Andrew Dũng-Lạc and Companions, Martyrs Memorial. 25 November: St Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr Optional memorial. 26 November: St Leonard of Port Maurice, Religious
					25 November: International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women This United Nations observance raises awareness of violence against women and girls and begins the annual 16 Days of Activism, which continue until Human Rights Day on 10 December. It calls us to protect human dignity, challenge harmful attitudes and build cultures of safety and respect.	Notes
On the Solemnity of Christ the King, Jesus reveals what His Kingdom looks like. Christ reigns not through worldly power, wealth or status, but through love, mercy and service. He identifies Himself with those who are hungry, thirsty, lonely, sick, imprisoned or in need. Jesus teaches that our response to vulnerable people is our response to Him. Faith cannot remain only in words, prayers or good intentions. It must become visible in the way we welcome, protect and care for others. As we continue to explore The Rock of Hope, we recognise that hope becomes real when people experience the love of Christ through us. A life built on Christ notices those who are overlooked, speaks for those whose voices are ignored and responds with practical compassion. Christ is our King, and His Kingdom is built whenever we recognise His face in another person.. Heads: Why does Jesus identify Himself so closely with people who are vulnerable or in need? Hearts: Lord Jesus, help me to recognise your face in every person, especially those who are overlooked or struggling.. Hands: Choose one practical way to help someone in need this week through welcome, generosity, encouragement or service..	25 November: White Ribbon Day White Ribbon UK invites men and boys to become active allies in ending violence against women and girls by challenging harmful behaviours and refusing to remain silent.					* Reflect on the Solemnity of Christ the King and the Gospel call to recognise Christ in those who are hungry, lonely, vulnerable or in need. * Follow up World Youth Sunday, celebrating the contribution, leadership and gifts of young people throughout the Trust. * Continue praying for the Holy Souls through the Book of Remembrance, remembrance tree or dedicated prayer space. * Mark White Ribbon Day and the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women in an age-appropriate way, with a focus on dignity, healthy relationships, speaking out and safeguarding. * Consider foodbank, clothing, hygiene product or Advent giving appeals linked directly to Matthew 25. * Complete Advent preparations: * Advent wreaths and candles ready. * Christmas trees and crib resources in place. * Advent prayer spaces prepared. * Travelling crib arrangements confirmed. * Advent liturgies, reconciliation opportunities and charitable outreach finalised. * Parish Christmas Mass times requested for later communication. * Prepare to begin Advent and the new liturgical year on Sunday 29 November 2026.

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13. Week Commencing: Monday 30th November 2026 THEME: THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM WEEK 1: STAY AWAKE- "Stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come."						1st Week of Advent (Year B) Mark 13:33-37
🕯️ AUTUMN TERM 2 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF HOPE- ADVENT THEME: THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM!						
Linked Virtue: Resilience Linked CST: Human Dignity Linked British Values: Individual Liberty	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Monday 30th November 2026 at 9:00am – Whole-school livestream Blessing of the Christmas Tree and Advent Wreaths –	7C and 7A	Fr Kevin	Theme: The Road to Bethlehem – First Reading: Micah 5:2–5a – Gospel: Luke 2:1–7 – Liturgical Colour: Violet – "Joseph also went up to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem."	30 November – St Andrew's Day Celebrating the Patron Saint of Scotland and one of the first disciples called by Jesus. His immediate response reminds us to be ready to follow Christ. 1 December – World AIDS Day A global day of prayer, awareness and solidarity with those living with HIV/AIDS. It reminds us of our Christian call to compassion, dignity and hope.	Sunday 29 November – First Sunday of Advent 30 November – St Andrew, Apostle (Feast) 3 December – St Francis Xavier, Priest (Memorial) 4 December – St John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church (Optional Memorial)
	Wednesday 2nd December 2026	10R and 10M	Fr Jinty	Wednesday of the First Week of Advent – Theme: Compassion – First Reading: Isaiah 25:6–10a – Gospel: Matthew 15:29–37 – Liturgical Colour: Violet – "I have compassion on the crowd."	2 December – International Day for the Abolition of Slavery A United Nations observance calling for an end to modern slavery, exploitation and human trafficking, affirming the dignity and freedom of every person. 3 December – International Day of Persons with Disabilities Celebrating the gifts and contribution of people with disabilities while promoting inclusion, accessibility and belonging. 5 December – International Volunteer Day Giving thanks for those who freely serve others and recognising the importance of volunteering in building stronger communities.	Notes * Begin Advent and launch the Trust Advent journey: The Road to Bethlehem. * Introduce the Advent focus for Week 1: Stay Awake. * Bless the Advent wreaths before placing them in classrooms and communal prayer spaces. * Light the First Advent Candle (Hope) in Collective Worship. * Bless the school Christmas tree(s) as symbols of Christ, the Light of the World. * Create or refresh Advent prayer spaces throughout the school with purple cloths, wreaths and Advent symbols. * Launch Advent prayer groups for students, staff and, where appropriate, families. * Hold or begin planning an Advent Penitential Service. * Arrange opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Individual Confessions) during Advent with local clergy. * Begin Advent charitable outreach, including foodbank collections, Giving Tree appeals, SVP initiatives or CAFOD Advent resources. * Display local parish Advent and Christmas Mass times. * Begin rehearsals and preparations for Carol Services, Nativity celebrations and Christmas liturgies. * Introduce a Jesse Tree or other Advent reflection resource where appropriate. * Invite students and staff to make an Advent promise as they begin their journey along The Road to Bethlehem.

Advent marks the beginning of a new liturgical year and invites us to begin a journey towards Bethlehem. It is a season of waiting, watching and preparing our hearts to welcome Christ.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus repeatedly tells His disciples to "Stay awake." He is not simply asking us to stay physically awake, but to live with attentive hearts, ready to recognise God's presence in our lives and in the world around us.

As we continue exploring The Rock of Hope, we remember that Christian hope is active. Hope keeps us alert to God's promises, helps us trust Him in uncertain times and prepares us to welcome Jesus with joy when He comes.

The road to Bethlehem begins not with rushing, but with waiting. Advent reminds us that the greatest journeys begin with hearts that are open to God.

Heads: What distractions stop me from recognising Christ's presence in my daily life?

Hearts: Lord, help me to stay awake to your presence and prepare my heart to welcome you this Advent.

Hands: Choose one practical way to prepare for Christmas by spending time in prayer, showing kindness or helping someone in need.

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14. Week Commencing: Monday 7 th December 2026 THEME: THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM WEEK 2: PREPARE THE WAY- "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."						2 nd Week of Advent (Year B) Mark 1:1-8
🕊️ AUTUMN TERM 2 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF HOPE- ADVENT THEME: THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM!						
Linked Virtue: Responsibility	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
Linked CST: Human Dignity	Wednesday 9 th December 2026	9R and 9M	Fr Tony	Wednesday of the Second Week of Advent – Theme: Renewed Strength – First Reading: Isaiah 40:25-31 – Gospel: Matthew 11:28-30 – Liturgical Colour: Violet – "Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."	8 December – Bodhi Day (Buddhism) Many Buddhists celebrate the enlightenment of the Buddha through prayer, meditation and acts of compassion. This provides an opportunity to reflect on the search for truth, peace and wisdom.	7 December – St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (Memorial) 8 December – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity) Patronal Feast Days * St Mary's Catholic School, Newton Aycliffe * St Mary's Catholic School, Barnard Castle * Our Lady and St Bede Catholic Academy, Stockton 9 December – St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin (Optional Memorial) 10 December – Our Lady of Loreto (Optional Memorial) 11 December – St Damasus I, Pope (Optional Memorial)
Linked British Values: Individual Liberty					9 December – International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime A United Nations observance remembering victims of genocide and renewing our commitment to peace, justice and the dignity of every human person.	Notes
John the Baptist appears in the wilderness with a simple but powerful message: "Prepare the way of the Lord." Advent is not simply about preparing our homes, classrooms or gifts for Christmas. It is about preparing our hearts. As we continue The Road to Bethlehem, John invites us to remove whatever stands between ourselves and God. Just as roads are made straight and obstacles removed, we are called to prepare the way through prayer, forgiveness, kindness and acts of love. As we continue reflecting on The Rock of Hope, we remember that hope always looks forward. It trusts that Christ is coming and encourages us to prepare joyfully to welcome Him into our lives once again. Heads: What can I do this Advent to prepare my heart to welcome Jesus? Hearts: Lord, help me to make a straight path for you by choosing what is good, kind and loving. Hands: Choose one thing to do differently this week that will help you grow closer to Christ or bring hope to someone else.					10 December – Human Rights Day Commemorating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and reminding us that every person is created in the image of God and deserves dignity, freedom and respect. 10 December – Christmas Jumper Day (Save the Children) The official Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day for 2026 takes place on Thursday 10 December. It provides an opportunity to raise funds and bring hope to children across the world. The Jewish Festival of Hanukkah falls on 14-22 December in 2026. In 2026, Hanukkah begins at sunset on Friday 4 December and ends at nightfall on Saturday 12 December.	Continue the Trust Advent journey: The Road to Bethlehem – Week 2: Prepare the Way. * Light the Second Advent Candle (Peace). * Celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception with Mass or Collective Worship where possible. * Celebrate the patronal feast days of St Mary's Newton Aycliffe, St Mary's Barnard Castle and Our Lady and St Bede, Stockton. * Continue Advent prayer groups for students and staff. * Continue opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and individual Confessions. * Hold or continue Advent Penitential Services. * Continue Advent charitable outreach, including foodbank collections, Giving Tree appeals and SVP initiatives. * Support Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 10 December. * Continue preparing Christmas liturgies, Carol Services and Nativity celebrations. * Display parish Christmas Mass times and encourage families to celebrate the Sacrament of Christmas together. * Invite students to reflect on how they are "preparing the way" for Christ through prayer, reconciliation and acts of service.

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15. Week Commencing: Monday 14th December 2026 THEME: THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM WEEK 3: REJOICE! - "Among you stands one you do not know."						3rd Week of Advent (Year B) John 1:6-8,19-28
🕯️ AUTUMN TERM 2 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF HOPE- ADVENT THEME: THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM!						
Linked Virtue: Confidence Linked CST: Solidarity Linked British Values: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Monday 14th December 2026 – Evening Whole College Advent Liturgy and Celebration 6pm Tuesday 15th December 2026 – Evening Whole College Advent Liturgy and Celebration 6pm	-	Father Tony Fr Kevin		20 December – International Human Solidarity Day A United Nations observance promoting unity, peace and care for one another, especially those experiencing poverty, injustice or exclusion.	The O Antiphons The Church begins praying the beautiful O Antiphons, ancient prayers that prepare our hearts for the celebration of Christ's birth and reveal the many titles of the promised Messiah. 14 December – St John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church (Memorial) 17 December – Beginning of the O Antiphons The Church's immediate preparation for Christmas begins. 17-24 December – Advent Weekdays before Christmas The final days of Advent with their rich biblical readings preparing for the Nativity.
	Wednesday 16th December 2026 ALL AFTERNOON All clergy invited Advent Sacrament of Reconciliation	8R and 8M	Fr Kevin	Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent – Theme: Good News – First Reading: Isaiah 45:6b–8, 18, 21b–25 – Gospel: Luke 7:19–23 – Liturgical Colour: Violet – "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard."		Notes Celebrate Gaudete Sunday by lighting the Rose Candle and reflecting on Christian joy. * Introduce the O Antiphons from 17 December, using one each day in prayer or Collective Worship. * Continue Advent prayer groups and opportunities for quiet reflection. * Offer any remaining opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Christmas. * Celebrate Christmas liturgies, Carol Services and Nativity performances. * Complete Advent charitable outreach and present donations to local charities, foodbanks or parish initiatives. * Display and promote Christmas Mass times from local parishes. * As schools close for Christmas, encourage families to celebrate the birth of Christ at Mass. * Before breaking up, prepare prayer spaces and resources ready for the new term. * Ensure plans are in place to celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany (6 January) when schools return on Monday 4 January, including blessings of classrooms, Epiphany liturgies and the proclamation of Christ to the nations. * Invite students and staff to continue their journey along The Road to Bethlehem throughout the Christmas holidays by making time for prayer, family and acts of kindness.

This Sunday is Gaudete Sunday, a day of joy in the middle of Advent. The rose candle reminds us that Christmas is drawing near and that Christ's coming fills the world with hope.

John the Baptist points away from himself towards Jesus, declaring:

"Among you stands one you do not know."

His mission was to help others recognise Christ already present among them.

As we continue our journey along The Road to Bethlehem, we are invited to open our eyes to God's presence in the ordinary moments of life. Christ is not distant. He is already among us, often found in prayer, kindness, friendship and service.

Christian hope always leads to joy because Emmanuel, God with us, is closer than we realise.

Heads: Where do I recognise Christ already present in my life?

Hearts: Lord Jesus, help me to recognise your presence and prepare my heart with joyful expectation..

Hands: Bring joy to someone this week through an unexpected act of kindness, encouragement or generosity.

man who built his house on the rock." Matthew 7:24

16. Week Commencing: Monday 4th January 2027 THEME: God Among Us- “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.”						Second Sunday after the Nativity, Year B John 1:1-18
🔗 SPRING 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF FRIENDSHIP!						
Linked Virtue: Respect Linked CST: Human Dignity and Solidarity Linked British Values: Mutual Respect and Tolerance	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	HDO- Wednesday 6th January 2027 Mass time TBC	8E and 8L	Fr Barrie	Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord – Theme: Guiding Light – First Reading: Isaiah 60:1–6 – Gospel: Matthew 2:1–12 – Liturgical Colour: White – “We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”	5 January: Twelfth Night and Epiphany Eve The final evening of the traditional Twelve Days of Christmas, preparing Christians for the celebration of Christ being revealed to the nations. 6 January: Epiphany and Theophany Western Christians celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Magi, while many Eastern Christians celebrate Christ's Baptism and the revelation of the Holy Trinity. Both traditions proclaim Jesus as the Saviour revealed to the world. 7 January: Orthodox Christmas Day Many Orthodox Christians who follow the Julian calendar celebrate the Nativity of Christ on 7 January. This provides an opportunity to recognise the rich diversity of Christian traditions and our shared faith in the Incarnation.	4 January: Weekday of the Christmas Season 5 January: Weekday of the Christmas Season 6 January: The Epiphany of the Lord. Solemnity and Holyday of Obligation in England and Wales. The Epiphany remains fixed on 6 January in England and Wales. 7 January: Weekday of the Christmas Season or St Raymond of Penyafort, Priest (Optional Memorial) 8 January: Weekday of the Christmas Season 9 January: Weekday of the Christmas Season The Christmas season continues until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on Sunday 10 January 2027.
As we return after the Christmas holidays, the Church is still celebrating the mystery of the Incarnation. Christmas is not simply the story of a child born long ago. It is the extraordinary truth that God chose to come among us, share our humanity and make His home with us. John tells us that Jesus is the eternal Word through whom all things were made. In Him is life, and His light continues to shine in the darkness. The darkness cannot overcome it. As we begin The Rock of Friendship, we reflect on the God who does not remain distant. In Jesus, God draws close, lives among His people and invites us into friendship with Him. This friendship becomes the foundation for the way we welcome, respect and accompany one another. During this Epiphany week, we also remember that Christ came for every nation and every person. Like the Magi, we are invited to recognise Him, offer Him our gifts and allow His light to guide us into the new year. Heads: What does it reveal about God that He chose to become human and live among us? Hearts: Lord Jesus, thank you for coming to dwell among us. Help me to recognise your light and grow in friendship with you. Hands: Welcome someone back after the holidays and take time to listen, encourage or reconnect with them.	Wednesday 6th January 2027 – Morning livestream Whole College Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord – Theme: Guiding Light – First Reading: Isaiah 60:1–6 – Gospel: Matthew 2:1–12 – Liturgical Colour: White – “We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”					Notes Welcome students and staff back following the Christmas holidays. * Launch Spring Term 1: The Rock of Friendship. * Prayer spaces should remain dressed in white or gold throughout the Christmas Season. Return to green after the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (Sunday 10 January) as the Church enters Ordinary Time. * Keep Christmas cribs, trees and decorations in place until the conclusion of the Christmas Season where appropriate. * Celebrate an Epiphany Mass on Wednesday 6 January where clergy are available. * Where Mass is not possible, celebrate a Celebration of the Word for the Epiphany. * Publish and promote local parish Epiphany Mass times, as the Epiphany is a Holy Day of Obligation in England and Wales. * Celebrate the blessing of classrooms, chapels or school buildings using the traditional Epiphany Blessing (20 + C + M + B + 27) where appropriate. * Pray for all nations and peoples, reflecting Christ's manifestation to the whole world. * Mark Orthodox Christmas on 7 January and celebrate the richness of different Christian traditions. * Prepare to celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on Sunday 10 January, which concludes the Christmas Season. * Following the Baptism of the Lord: * Remove Christmas trees, cribs and decorations. * Change prayer spaces and liturgical colours from white/gold to green. * Introduce the new focus for Ordinary Time and continue The Rock of Friendship. * Invite students to reflect on how they can reveal Christ through friendship, welcome and belonging during the new term.

Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock." Matthew 7:24

17. Week Commencing: Monday 11th January 2027 THEME: Beloved and Belonging- "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."						1 ST Week of Ordinary Time Year B Mark 1:7-11
🌿 SPRING 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF FRIENDSHIP!						
Linked Virtue: Self-Belief and Respect Linked CST: Human Dignity Linked British Values: Individual Liberty and Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 13th January 2027	10E and 10L	Brother Robert	Wednesday of Week 1 in Ordinary Time – Theme: Healing – First Reading: Hebrews 2:14–18 – Gospel: Mark 1:29–39 – Liturgical Colour: Green – "He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up."	11 January: Plough Monday This traditional English observance falls on the first Monday after Epiphany and marks the historic return to agricultural work after Christmas. It offers an opportunity to give thanks for those who work on the land and to reflect upon our responsibility to care for creation. In 2027 it falls on Monday 11 January.	Sunday 10 January: The Baptism of the Lord Feast concluding the Christmas season. 12 January: St Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot Optional memorial. A particularly appropriate saint for The Rock of Friendship, remembered for his teaching on spiritual friendship. 12 January: St Benet Biscop, Abbot Optional memorial. A significant northern saint associated with learning, worship and the foundation of monastic communities. 13 January: St Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Optional memorial.
					14 January: Orthodox New Year Some Eastern Orthodox communities celebrate the beginning of the civil new year according to the Julian calendar. This encourages respect for the different calendars and traditions found within the worldwide Christian family. 14–15 January: Makar Sankranti This Hindu harvest festival marks the sun's movement into Capricorn and is associated with thanksgiving, renewal, charity and the changing seasons. Calendars vary because the astronomical transition occurs late on 14 January in 2027, with some communities observing the principal celebration on 15 January.	Notes Begin Week 1 of Ordinary Time and change prayer spaces from white or gold to green following the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. * Launch Spring Term 1: The Rock of Friendship. * Reflect on Baptism, identity, belonging and the truth that every person is a beloved child of God. * Consider celebrating St Aelred of Rievaulx through prayer or reflection on the qualities of faithful and life-giving friendship. * Mark Plough Monday with prayers for farmers, agricultural workers and the care of creation. * Begin preparing resources, displays, readings and pupil involvement for Holocaust Memorial Day on Wednesday 27 January. * Ensure Holocaust Memorial Day preparation is age-appropriate and rooted in remembrance, human dignity, the rejection of antisemitism and the responsibility to challenge prejudice. * Prepare to mark Martin Luther King Jr Day on Monday 18 January during the following week. * Continue building communities of welcome after the Christmas break, paying particular attention to pupils who may feel isolated or uncertain. * Encourage schools to revisit baptismal promises or use holy water as a reminder that we belong to Christ and to one another.

At the Baptism of the Lord, the heavens open and the Father declares Jesus to be His beloved Son. Before Jesus begins His public ministry, performs miracles or calls His disciples, His identity is affirmed: He is known, loved and cherished by the Father.

Our own lives need this same strong foundation. Through Baptism, we become members of God's family and are reminded that our worth does not depend upon popularity, success or the opinions of others. Each of us is created in God's image, loved by Him and called by name.

As we begin The Rock of Friendship, we remember that healthy relationships begin when people know that they are valued and belong. Secure in God's love, we can welcome others, celebrate their gifts and help build communities in which everyone is treated with dignity and respect.

Heads: What difference does it make to know that I am loved by God and called by name?

Hearts: Father, help me to recognise that I am your beloved child and to see every person through your loving eyes..

Hands: Help someone feel that they belong this week by welcoming them, listening to them or recognising something good in them.

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock." Matthew 7:24

18. Week Commencing: Monday 18 th January 2027 THEME: Come and See - "Come and you will see."						Week 2 in Ordinary Time, Year B John 1:35-42
🌿 SPRING 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF FRIENDSHIP!						
Linked Virtue: Respect and Confidence Linked CST: Community and Participation Linked British Values: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 20th January 2027	9E and 9L	Father Henry	Week 2 in Ordinary Time – Theme: Choose Good – First Reading: Hebrews 7:1–3, 15–17 – Gospel: Mark 3:1–6 – Liturgical Colour: Green – "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?"	19 January – Timkat (Ethiopian Orthodox Church) A joyful celebration of the Baptism of Christ, marked by colourful processions and the blessing of water. It reminds Christians of the gift of Baptism and our call to live as disciples. 19 January – Martin Luther King Jr. Day (USA) Celebrating the life and legacy of Dr Martin Luther King Jr., whose commitment to justice, equality and peaceful change continues to inspire people across the world. His vision reflects the Gospel call to love our neighbour and uphold the dignity of every person. 24 January – International Day of Education A United Nations observance recognising education as a fundamental human right and a foundation for peace, justice and sustainable development. It celebrates the transformative power of learning and the vocation of schools.	19 January – St Wulstan, Bishop (Optional Memorial) 20 January – St Fabian, Pope and Martyr (Optional Memorial) 20 January – St Sebastian, Martyr (Optional Memorial) 21 January – St Agnes, Virgin and Martyr (Memorial) 22 January – St Vincent, Deacon and Martyr (Optional Memorial)
John the Baptist points two of his disciples towards Jesus, and their lives are changed forever. Andrew immediately goes to find his brother Simon and brings him to Christ. When Simon stands before Jesus, everything changes. Jesus gives him a new name: "You shall be called Cephas" (which means Rock). This new name is more than a title. Jesus sees who Simon can become. Although Peter will make mistakes, deny Jesus and sometimes lose confidence, Christ sees beyond his weaknesses and calls him to become the rock upon which He will build His Church. As we begin exploring The Rock of Friendship, we discover that true friendship leads others to Christ. Andrew brings Peter to Jesus, and Jesus transforms Peter's life. Our friendships should do the same. We are called to encourage one another, help each other grow and recognise the gifts that God has placed within every person. Like Peter, each of us is known, loved and called by Christ to become the person God created us to be. Heads: Who has helped me grow in faith, confidence or friendship? Hearts: Lord Jesus, thank you for inviting me to follow you. Help me to be a friend who encourages others and brings them closer to you... Hands: Invite someone to join you this week, include someone who may feel left out, or encourage a friend who needs support.						Notes * Continue exploring The Rock of Friendship, encouraging students to build relationships rooted in welcome, kindness and respect. * Mark Martin Luther King Jr. Day, reflecting on justice, equality, peace and the dignity of every person. * Celebrate the International Day of Education, giving thanks for the gift of learning and the vocation of Catholic education. * Continue preparing for Holocaust Memorial Day (27 January) through assemblies, classroom activities and prayer. * Encourage students to become "Andrews", inviting others into friendship, belonging and opportunities within school life. * Use St Agnes as an example of courageous faith and steadfast witness. * Continue using green liturgical colours in prayer spaces as the Church journeys through Ordinary Time.

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19. Week Commencing: Monday 25th January 2027 THEME: Called to Follow- “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”						Week 3 in Ordinary Time (Year B)- Sunday of the Word of God Mark 1:14-20
 SPRING 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF FRIENDSHIP!						
Linked Virtue: Respect and Responsibility Linked CST: Participation Linked British Values: Individual Liberty	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 27th January 2027	10J and 9P	Father Tony	Holocaust Memorial Day Wednesday of Week 3 in Ordinary Time – Mass offered in remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides, for survivors and for peace – Theme: Never Again – First Reading: Hebrews 10:11–18 – Gospel: Mark 4:1–20 – Liturgical Colour: Green – “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”	26 January – Republic Day (India) Celebrating the adoption of the Constitution of India in 1950. It provides an opportunity to reflect on democracy, justice, freedom and the dignity of every person. 27 January – International Holocaust Memorial Day Commemorating the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and remembering the six million Jewish people murdered during the Holocaust, alongside all victims of Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides. It calls us to reject hatred, prejudice and discrimination, and to build communities founded upon dignity, respect and peace.	24 January – Sunday of the Word of God (celebrated on the preceding Sunday) Instituted by Pope Francis, this annual celebration invites the whole Church to deepen its love for Sacred Scripture and place God’s Word at the centre of Christian life. 25 January – The Conversion of St Paul, Apostle (Feast) Patronal Feast Day * St Paul’s Catholic School, Billingham 26 January – Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops (Memorial) 27 January – St Angela Merici, Virgin (Optional Memorial) 28 January – St Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church (Memorial)
Jesus begins His public ministry with a simple invitation: “Follow me.” As He walks along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, He calls Simon, Andrew, James and John. They leave their nets immediately because they recognise that Jesus is offering them something greater than they could ever imagine. Friendship with Christ is never passive. It always calls us forward. Jesus does not simply invite the disciples to stay where they are. He invites them into a life of purpose, service and mission. As we continue reflecting on The Rock of Friendship, we discover that true friendship with Jesus changes the way we live. It encourages us to trust Him, to journey alongside others and to use our gifts to build His Kingdom. Like Simon Peter, we are called by name and invited to follow Christ with courage, generosity and joy. Heads: What might Jesus be calling me to do this year?? Hearts Lord Jesus, help me to hear your voice and give me the courage to follow wherever you lead. Hands: This week, choose one practical way to follow Jesus by serving others, showing kindness or standing up for what is right.						Notes Celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God through a Celebration of the Word * Commission or bless Ministers of the Word, student readers and those involved in proclaiming Scripture. * Encourage every classroom to enthrone the Bible or highlight a favourite passage of Scripture during the week. * Celebrate the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul and the patronal feast of St Paul’s Catholic School, Billingham. * Mark Holocaust Memorial Day (27 January) through prayer, reflection and education, promoting remembrance, respect and the dignity of every human person. * Reflect on the witness of St Thomas Aquinas, Patron of Catholic schools and students, celebrating the harmony of faith and reason. * Continue exploring The Rock of Friendship, reminding students that Jesus’ first invitation is simply: “Follow me.” * Continue using green liturgical colours in prayer spaces during Ordinary Time.

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.” Matthew 7:24

20. Week Commencing: Monday 1st February 2027 THEME: Listening to the Voice of Jesus- “He taught them as one who had authority.”						Week 4 in Ordinary Time (Year B) Mark 1:21-28
🔥 SPRING 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF FRIENDSHIP!						
Linked Virtue: Respect Linked CST: Human Dignity Linked British Values: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
As Jesus begins His public ministry, people are amazed because He teaches “as one who had authority.” His words are different because they are not simply information; they are truth that transforms lives. Throughout this half term we have reflected upon The Rock of Friendship. True friendship is built upon listening. Good friends hear one another, encourage one another and speak truth with kindness. Jesus invites us into friendship with Him by first inviting us to listen to His voice. As we prepare to begin Lent next week, this Gospel reminds us that the first step in following Christ is learning to listen. In prayer, in Scripture and in the people around us, God continues to speak. Lent will offer us a fresh opportunity to listen more deeply and allow His Word to shape our lives.. Heads: How do I recognise Jesus speaking to me through Scripture, prayer and the people around me? Hearts Lord Jesus, open my ears to hear your voice and my heart to follow your teaching.. Hands: Take time each day this week to pause, listen and respond to God’s voice through an act of kindness, prayer or service.	Wednesday 3rd February 2027 – Blessing of Throats during Mass	9J and 9P	Father Kevin	Optional Memorial of Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr – Theme: Healing Faith – Ferial First Reading: Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15 – Ferial Gospel: Mark 6:1-6 – Liturgical Colour: Red – “He laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them.”	1 February – St Brigid’s Day / Imbolc Celebrated particularly in Ireland, this day honours St Brigid of Kildare, one of Ireland’s patron saints. It also coincides with the ancient Celtic festival of Imbolc, marking the beginning of spring and themes of renewal, hospitality and care for creation. 2 February – Groundhog Day (North America) A well-known cultural tradition that provides an opportunity to reflect on hope, expectation and looking forward with confidence.	2 February – The Presentation of the Lord (Feast) Also celebrated as Candlemas, commemorating Mary and Joseph presenting Jesus in the Temple and Simeon recognising Him as “a light for revelation to the Gentiles.” Candles may be blessed where appropriate. 3 February – St Ansgar (Oscar), Bishop (Optional Memorial) 3 February – St Blaise, Bishop and Martyr (Optional Memorial) 5 February – St Agatha, Virgin and Martyr (Memorial) 6 February – Saints Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs (Memorial)
						Notes Celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord with a Celebration of the Word. * Bless candles for use in school liturgies throughout the year where appropriate. * Reflect on Christ as the Light of the World and the witness of Simeon and Anna. * Begin preparing for Ash Wednesday next week: * Order or collect blessed ashes. * Finalise Ash Wednesday Masses or Celebrations of the Word. * Prepare ashes, prayer resources and liturgical ministers. * Launch or finalise Lenten almsgiving and charity appeals (CAFOD, SVP, foodbanks or local charities). * Prepare prayer spaces for Lent, ensuring purple cloths and symbols are ready to replace the green after Ash Wednesday. *, prayer materials and activities are ready. * Continue exploring The Rock of Friendship, encouraging students to grow in friendship with Christ by listening to His voice through prayer and Scripture.

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21. Week Commencing: Monday 8th February 2027 THEME: A Heart of Compassion- “He took her by the hand and lifted her up.” LENT BEGINS THIS WEEK ON ASH WEDNESDAY						Week 5 in Ordinary Time (Year B) Ash Wednesday: 10 February 2027 Mark 1:29-39
 SPRING 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF FRIENDSHIP!						
Linked Virtue: Compassion Linked CST: Preferential Option for the Poor and Vulnerable Linked British Values: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
This week's Gospel reveals the compassionate heart of Jesus. He heals Simon Peter's mother-in-law, reaches out to those who are sick and suffering, and then withdraws to pray before continuing His mission. Compassion is more than feeling sorry for someone. Jesus shows us that true compassion notices those who are hurting, reaches out to them, and restores them with love. This week also marks the beginning of Lent. On Ash Wednesday we begin forty days of prayer, fasting and almsgiving as we prepare our hearts for Easter. Lent invites us to become more like Christ by growing in compassion, placing God first and serving those most in need. As we begin The Rock of Compassion, we remember that Peter witnessed Jesus' healing ministry firsthand in his own home. Peter learnt that following Christ means allowing our hearts to be shaped by mercy, kindness and self-giving love Heads: Who needs Christ's compassion today, and how can I respond?? Hearts Lord Jesus, give me a heart like yours, filled with mercy, kindness and compassion for everyone I meet... Hands: Choose one act of compassion this week by caring for someone who is lonely, unwell or finding life difficult.	Wednesday 10th February 2027 – Afternoon, time TBC	8J and 8P Mass for Y7	Father Barrie	Ash Wednesday Mass and Imposition of Ashes – Theme: Return – First Reading: Joel 2:12–18 – Gospel: Matthew 6:1–6, 16–18 – Liturgical Colour: Violet – “Your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”	8 February – St Josephine Bakhita Her feast day is also recognised internationally as a day of prayer and awareness against human trafficking. Her witness reminds us of the dignity and freedom of every human person. 9–15 February – Children's Mental Health Week (UK) (provisional annual week) A national initiative promoting positive mental health and emotional wellbeing among children and young people. Encourages schools to create communities of belonging, compassion and hope. 11 February – International Day of Women and Girls in Science A United Nations observance celebrating the contribution of women and girls in science and encouraging equal opportunities in STEM. 12 February – Darwin Day Recognises Charles Darwin's contribution to science and provides an opportunity to celebrate curiosity, learning and the fruitful dialogue between faith and reason. 13 February – World Radio Day A UNESCO day celebrating communication, education and the power of media to connect communities and share stories. 14 February – St Valentine's Day An opportunity to reflect on the Christian understanding of love as self-giving, faithful and rooted in respect for the dignity of every person.	8 February – St Jerome Emiliani (Optional Memorial) 8 February – St Josephine Bakhita, Virgin (Optional Memorial) 10 February – Ash Wednesday 11 February – Our Lady of Lourdes (Commemoration) World Day of Prayer for the Sick Notes * Ash Wednesday (10 February): Celebrate Mass or a Celebration of the Word with the Distribution of Ashes. * Ensure prayer spaces change from green to purple for the Season of Lent. * Begin the Trust's Lenten journey, introducing the themes of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. * Launch Lenten charity appeals and CAFOD or local almsgiving initiatives. * Encourage staff and students to make a personal Lenten commitment. * Mark the World Day of Prayer for the Sick on 11 February, praying especially for those who are ill, those experiencing poor mental health, healthcare professionals and carers. * Celebrate Our Lady of Lourdes, reflecting on Mary's care for the sick and all who suffer. * Recognise Children's Mental Health Week, promoting wellbeing, belonging and compassionate pastoral care. * Continue developing The Rock of Compassion, encouraging students to see, reach out to and accompany those in need. * HALF TERM IS NEXT WEEK!
	Wednesday 10th February 2027 – Morning whole-college livestream Whole College Ash Wednesday Service of the Word and Imposition of Ashes – Theme: Return – First Reading: Joel 2:12–18 – Gospel: Matthew 6:1–6, 16–18 – Liturgical Colour: Violet – “Your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”					

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22. Week Commencing: Monday 22 nd February 2027						Second Sunday of Lent (Year B)
THEME: Journey to the Cross: Listen to Him- “This is my beloved Son; listen to him.”						Mark 9:2-10
🌱 SPRING 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF COMPASSION! LENTEN JOURNEY: Journey to the Cross						
Linked Virtue: Compassion Linked CST: Human Dignity Linked British Values: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 24 th February 2027	7C and 7A	Father Henry	Wednesday of the Second Week of Lent – Theme: Servant Leadership – First Reading: Jeremiah 18:18–20 – Gospel: Matthew 20:17–28 – Liturgical Colour: Violet – “Whoever would be great among you must be your servant.”	22–23 February – Purim (Judaism) Celebrating God’s faithfulness through the story of Queen Esther. Purim reminds us to stand up for justice, protect the vulnerable and rejoice in God’s saving presence.	22 February – The Chair of Saint Peter, Apostle (Feast) A significant celebration for this year’s Trust theme, reminding us that Christ entrusted Peter with the mission of strengthening the Church. 23 February – St Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr (Memorial)
						Notes
						Continue the Lenten Journey: Journey to the Cross – Listen to Him. * Celebrate the Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, reflecting on Peter’s leadership and Christ’s call to unity within the Church. * Continue developing the school’s Lenten Garden as a focus for prayer and reflection. * Continue using purple liturgical colours in prayer spaces throughout Lent. * Provide opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation or begin preparations for Lenten Penitential Services. * Encourage students and staff to make time each day for silence, prayer and listening to God’s Word. * Continue promoting the three pillars of Lent: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. * Continue Lenten charity fundraising and practical acts of service through CAFOD, SVP and local outreach. * Celebrate World Book Day, encouraging students to encounter Christ through Scripture as well as through reading. * Mark International Women’s Day, recognising the contribution of women in the Church, our communities and throughout history. * Encourage students to reflect on how listening to Christ leads naturally to compassion, forgiveness and service.
As Jesus leads Peter, James and John up the mountain, they glimpse His glory in the Transfiguration. For a moment they see beyond the ordinary and recognise Jesus as the beloved Son of God. Then the Father’s voice speaks: “This is my beloved Son; listen to him.” As we continue our Journey to the Cross, Lent invites us to slow down and listen more attentively to Christ. Before we can follow Him faithfully, we must first hear His voice through Scripture, prayer and the quiet moments of our day. Peter wants to remain on the mountain, but Jesus leads His disciples back down into everyday life. The same is true for us. Moments of prayer and encounter with God strengthen us so that we can live with greater compassion, forgiveness and hope in our homes, schools and communities. As we continue exploring The Rock of Compassion, we discover that listening to Christ changes the way we see others. The more closely we listen to Him, the more our hearts become like His. Heads: What is Jesus asking me to change or let go of during this Lenten journey? Hearts Lord Jesus, help me to listen to your voice above every other voice and allow your love to transform my heart. Hands: Spend five minutes in silence each day this week and seek to bring reconciliation, forgiveness or encouragement to someone else.						

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23. Week Commencing: Monday 1st March 2027

THEME: JOURNEY TO THE CROSS | CLEAR THE WAY- "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade."

Third Sunday of Lent, Year B
John 2:13-25

🌱 SPRING 1 | LIFE ON THE ROCK | THE ROCK OF COMPASSION! LENTEN JOURNEY: Journey to the Cross

Linked Virtue: Honesty and Responsibility Linked CST: Stewardship Linked British Values: Rule of Law —————	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 3rd March 2027	8C and 8A	Father Tony	Wednesday of the Third Week of Lent – Theme: Faithful Living – First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1, 5–9 – Gospel: Matthew 5:17–19 – Liturgical Colour: Violet – "Whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven."	1 March: St David's Day The national day of Wales honours St David, its patron saint. His traditional message to "do the little things" offers a simple invitation to faithful daily service. 1 March: Zero Discrimination Day A global observance promoting dignity, inclusion and equal treatment, challenging us to reject prejudice and recognise every person as made in the image of God.	1 March: St David, Bishop (Feast in Wales) 4 March: St Casimir (Commemoration during Lent)
					3 March: World Wildlife Day This annual United Nations observance celebrates wild animals and plants and encourages responsible care for biodiversity and our common home. 3 March: World Hearing Day A global opportunity to raise awareness of hearing care, accessibility and the importance of listening to those whose needs can be overlooked. 4 March: World Book Day, UK and Ireland World Book Day 2027 falls on Thursday 4 March, celebrating reading, authors and the power of stories to help children flourish. 5-14 March: British Science Week The 2027 celebration begins on Friday 5 March and continues until Sunday 14 March, encouraging curiosity, discovery and wonder through science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Mothering Sunday falls on Sunday 7 March 2027, Laetare Sunday, acknowledged at the beginning of next school week as part of reflection on maternal love, family and the Church as mother.	Notes Continue Journey to the Cross: Clear the Way. * Develop the Lenten garden as a focus for prayer and reflection. * Continue using purple in prayer spaces. * Continue opportunities for individual Confession and prepare or hold Lenten Penitential Services. * Encourage honest examination of conscience and reconciliation with God and others. * Continue the three pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. * Continue CAFOD, SVP and local charitable appeals. * Mark St David's Day, particularly in Welsh communities, through prayer and reflection on doing small things with great faithfulness. * Celebrate World Book Day and begin British Science Week. * Link the cleansing of the Temple to caring responsibly for sacred spaces, our school community and the world entrusted to us.
In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus enters the Temple and finds that a sacred place of worship has become crowded with buying, selling and self-interest. He overturns the tables and calls people back to what truly matters. As we continue our Journey to the Cross, Jesus invites us to clear away anything that prevents us from drawing closer to God. Lent is a time to examine our hearts honestly, remove distractions and make space for prayer, mercy and love. Jesus then speaks about the Temple of His Body, pointing towards His death and Resurrection. The true foundation of our faith is not a building but Christ Himself. Through prayer, fasting and almsgiving, we allow Him to rebuild and renew us from within. <i>Heads: What has become too important in my life and may be distracting me from God?</i> <i>Hearts Lord Jesus, clear away everything within me that prevents me from loving you and others fully.</i> <i>Hands: Remove one distraction this week and use the time or resources you save for prayer or an act of generosity.</i>						

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock." Matthew 7:24

24. Week Commencing: Monday 8th March 2027

THEME: JOURNEY TO THE CROSS | COME INTO THE LIGHT- "God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year B | Laetare Sunday

John 3:14-21

SPRING 1 | LIFE ON THE ROCK | THE ROCK OF COMPASSION! LENTEN JOURNEY: Journey to the Cross

Linked Virtue: Compassion and Honesty Linked CST: Human Dignity Linked British Values: Individual Liberty and Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 10th March 2027	9C and 9A	Brother Robert	Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Lent – Theme: New Life – First Reading: Isaiah 49:8–15 – Gospel: John 5:17–30 – Liturgical Colour: Violet – “Whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life.”	Mothering Sunday falls on Sunday 7 March 2027, Laetare Sunday, acknowledged at the beginning of next school week as part of reflection on maternal love, family and the Church as mother. 8 March: Commonwealth Day Commonwealth Day is observed on the second Monday of March, which falls on 8 March in 2027. It celebrates cooperation among the nations of the Commonwealth and offers an opportunity to reflect on diversity, peace and our shared responsibility for the common good. 8 March: International Women’s Day A global observance celebrating the achievements of women and renewing the commitment to dignity, equality and opportunity for women and girls. Around 9-10 March: Eid al-Fitr Muslims celebrate Eid al-Fitr at the conclusion of Ramadan with prayer, charity, family gatherings and thanksgiving. The precise date depends upon the sighting of the moon, with current calendars placing it around 9 or 10 March 2027. 5-14 March: British Science Week continues A national celebration of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, encouraging curiosity and wonder at the created world. 14 March: Pi Day An educational celebration of mathematics held annually on 14 March, reflecting the numerical form 3.14. In 2027 it falls on Sunday 14 March.	Sunday 7 March: Fourth Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday Rose may be used as the liturgical colour. It is also Mothering Sunday in the United Kingdom. 8 March: St John of God, Religious Commemoration during Lent. 9 March: St Frances of Rome, Religious Commemoration during Lent.
On Laetare Sunday, the Church pauses in the middle of Lent to rejoice. The rose vestments and candle remind us that Easter is drawing closer and that the darkness will not have the final word. In this Gospel, Jesus reveals the depth of God’s compassion: “God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son.” Christ did not come to condemn us, but to save us. His light reveals the truth about our lives, not so that we should hide in shame, but so that we can receive mercy, change and begin again. As we continue our Journey to the Cross, Jesus invites us to step out of darkness and come into His light. Lent calls us to be honest about the choices we have made, confident in God’s forgiveness and willing to allow His love to transform us. Through The Rock of Compassion, we remember that God’s response to human weakness is not rejection but saving love. Having received that compassion, we are called to bring light, dignity and hope to others. <i>Heads: What might I need to bring into Christ’s light so that I can grow or begin again?</i> <i>Hearts: Lord Jesus, thank you for loving me and coming to save me. Lead me from darkness into your light.</i> <i>Hands: Bring light to another person this week through encouragement, forgiveness or a compassionate act.</i>					Notes Continue Journey to the Cross: Come into the Light. * Mark Laetare Sunday by using rose where available and reflecting on joy and hope as Easter draws closer. * Acknowledge Mothering Sunday, giving thanks for mothers, grandmothers, carers and all who offer maternal love. * Continue constructing or developing the Lenten garden or desert as a focus for prayer. * Continue using purple in prayer spaces, with rose permitted for Laetare celebrations. * Continue offering opportunities for individual Confession and hold or prepare Lenten Penitential Services. * Continue the Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. * Continue CAFOD, SVP, foodbank and local charitable appeals. * Mark International Women’s Day by celebrating the contribution of women in the Church, education and wider society. * Recognise Eid al-Fitr sensitively, remembering that the exact date is confirmed by the sighting of the moon. * Continue British Science Week and celebrate Pi Day where appropriate. * Encourage students to bring mistakes and difficulties into Christ’s light, trusting that He came not to condemn but to save. .	

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25. Week Commencing: Monday 15th March 2027 THEME: JOURNEY TO THE CROSS BEAR MUCH FRUIT- “Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.”						Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year B John 12:20-33
 SPRING 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF COMPASSION! LENTEN JOURNEY: Journey to the Cross						
Linked Virtue: Resilience and Responsibility Linked CST: Solidarity Linked British Values: Individual Liberty	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 17th March 2027 MASS AT ST AUGUSTINE'S	THE SVP	FR TONY	Preceded by Stations of the Cross Feast of Saint Patrick, Bishop and Missionary – Theme: Mission – First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4–9 – Gospel: Luke 10:1–12, 17–20 – Liturgical Colour: White – “The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few.”	17 March: St Patrick's Day Celebrating the patron saint of Ireland and his missionary witness. His life invites us to share the Gospel with courage, humility and faith. 18 March: Global Recycling Day An annual observance encouraging people and communities to recognise recyclable materials as valuable resources and to care responsibly for the planet. It connects with stewardship and care for our common home.	17 March: St Patrick, Bishop and Missionary Feast. Patronal Feast Day: St Patrick's Catholic College, Stockton 18 March: St Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Commemoration during Lent. 19 March: St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary Solemnity. Patronal Feast Days: St Joseph's, Hartlepool St Joseph's, Newton Aycliffe St Joseph's, Coundon 20 March: St Cuthbert, Bishop, Patron of the Diocese Feast. Patronal Feast Days: St Cuthbert's, Hartlepool St Cuthbert's, Bishop Auckland
					20 March: Spring Equinox Astronomical spring begins in the UK on Saturday 20 March 2027. The changing season offers a natural image of renewal, growth and new life as Easter approaches.	Notes * Continue Journey to the Cross: Bear Much Fruit. * Enter Passiontide, the final two weeks of Lent, with a more focused preparation for Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum. * Schools may veil crucifixes, statues and sacred images with purple cloth from the Fifth Sunday of Lent, according to local custom. * Celebrate the patronal feast of St Patrick's Catholic College, Stockton, including prayer, worship or appropriate celebrations. * Celebrate the Solemnity of St Joseph with Mass, a Celebration of the Word or Holy Communion where appropriate, particularly in the schools under his patronage. * Pray for the Diocese and celebrate St Cuthbert, Patron of the Diocese, on 20 March. * Celebrate the patronal feast days of the St Cuthbert's schools in Hartlepool and Bishop Auckland. * Continue developing the Lenten garden or desert as a focus for prayer. * Continue using purple in prayer spaces. * Continue opportunities for individual Confession and Lenten Penitential Services. * Continue the Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. * Continue CAFOD, SVP, foodbank and local charitable appeals. * Begin final preparations for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and the Easter Triduum. * Encourage students to reflect on how sacrifice, service and compassion can bear fruit in their communities.
As we enter the final weeks of Lent, Jesus uses the image of a grain of wheat falling into the earth. A seed appears to be lost when it is buried, yet from that small act of surrender comes new life and abundant fruit. Jesus is speaking about His own death and Resurrection. He knows that the road ahead will lead to the Cross, but He also knows that the Cross will not be the end. Through His self-giving love, salvation and new life will be offered to the whole world. As we continue our Journey to the Cross, we are invited to consider what we may need to surrender so that something better can grow. Lent teaches us that prayer, fasting, forgiveness and generosity are not empty sacrifices. When offered with love, they bear fruit in our lives and in the lives of others. Through The Rock of Compassion, we recognise that true love is willing to give of itself. Like the grain of wheat, our smallest acts of service can grow into something that brings life, hope and healing to others. <i>Heads: What might I need to let go of so that something good can grow in my life?</i> <i>Hearts Lord Jesus, help me to follow you with trust and to believe that love and sacrifice can bring new life..</i> <i>Hands: Make one generous sacrifice this week and use it to bring help, encouragement or hope to another person.</i>						

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26. Week Commencing: Monday 22nd March 2027 THEME: JOURNEY TO THE CROSS WALK WITH THE KING “ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”						Holy Week (Year B) Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
 SPRING 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF COMPASSION! LENTEN JOURNEY: Journey to the Cross						
Linked Virtue: Compassion and Courage Linked CST: Human Dignity and Solidarity Linked British Values: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 24th March 2027	10C AND 10A	FR KEVIN	Wednesday of Holy Week – Theme: Faithfulness – First Reading: Isaiah 50:4–9a – Gospel: Matthew 26:14–25 – Liturgical Colour: Violet – “Not I, Lord?”	25 March – The Annunciation of the Lord (Transferred) Because 25 March 2027 falls on Holy Thursday, the Solemnity of the Annunciation is transferred to Monday 5 April 2027, after the Easter Octave. It is not celebrated during Holy Week. 27 March – World Theatre Day Celebrating theatre and the performing arts as a means of storytelling, dialogue and understanding the human experience. 27 March – Earth Hour A worldwide environmental initiative encouraging care for creation by switching off lights for one hour as a sign of commitment to our common home. 28 March – British Summer Time Begins Clocks move forward by one hour, reminding us that longer days accompany the coming celebration of Christ's Resurrection..	21 March – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord 22 March – Monday of Holy Week 23 March – Tuesday of Holy Week 24 March – Wednesday of Holy Week (Spy Wednesday) 25 March – Maundy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper. 26 March – Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord 27 March – Holy Saturday 28 March – Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
Holy Week is the most sacred week of the Church's year. We begin with the joyful cries of “Hosanna!” as Jesus enters Jerusalem, yet within days those same streets will lead Him to the Cross. Throughout this week we walk beside Christ as He gives Himself completely in love. We accompany Him through the Last Supper, His agony in Gethsemane, His Passion and Death, waiting in hope for the joy of Easter morning. Our Journey to the Cross now reaches its destination. During Holy Week we are invited not simply to remember these events but to enter into them through prayer, silence and worship. As we conclude The Rock of Compassion, we see that compassion reaches its fullness on the Cross. Jesus gives everything for the salvation of the world, revealing that the strongest foundation is self-giving love. <i>.Heads: What does the Cross teach me about the depth of God's love?</i> <i>Hearts Lord Jesus, help me to stay close to you throughout Holy Week and to accompany you with love, prayer and gratitude..</i> <i>Hands: Make time each day of Holy Week for prayer, attend the Sacred Triduum where possible and carry Christ's compassion into your relationships with others.</i>						Notes Continue Journey to the Cross: Walk with the King. * Celebrate Palm Sunday through palm processions or Collective Worship where appropriate. * Share Holy Week and Easter Mass and service times from local parishes. * Encourage attendance at the Sacred Triduum: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. * Continue using purple in prayer spaces until the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. * Schools may continue the custom of veiling statues and crosses until the Easter Vigil. * Complete the school's Lenten Garden and use it as a focus for reflection throughout Holy Week. * Continue and conclude Lenten almsgiving before the Easter holidays. * Offer final opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation where possible before Easter. * Celebrate a Service of the Word for Holy Week or a Passion Liturgy before schools break up. * Prepare Easter prayer spaces with white or gold cloths, ready for the beginning of the Easter Season. * Remember that the Solemnity of the Annunciation is transferred to Monday 5 April because it falls during Holy Week. LENTEN LITURGIES THIS WEEK.
Thursday 25th March 2027 – Maundy Thursday: services throughout the day Whole College attending in year-group rotations Maundy Thursday Services of the Word and Lenten Liturgies – Theme: Servant Love – First Reading: Exodus 12:1–8, 11–14 – Gospel: John 13:1–15 – Liturgical Colour: White – “I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.” Wednesday 24th March 2027 – Afternoon Confessions; time TBC Confessions offered to all students and staff All clergy invited Lenten Sacrament of Reconciliation – Theme: Mercy – Liturgical Colour: Violet – “Create in me a clean heart, O God.”						

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27. Week Commencing: Monday 12th April 2027 THEME: BEYOND THE STONE PEACE BE WITH YOU- "Peace be with you."						Third Sunday of Easter (Year B) Luke 24:35-48
🕊️ SUMMER 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF COURAGE – EASTERTIDE- BEYOND THE ROCK						
Linked Virtue: Courage and Confidence Linked CST: Participation Linked British Values: Individual Liberty	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 14 th April 2027	7R AND 7M	FR BARRIE	Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Eastertide – Theme: Sent – First Reading: Acts 12:24–13:5a – Gospel: John 12:44–50 – Liturgical Colour: White – "I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness."	14 April – Vaisakhi (Sikhism) Celebrating the founding of the Khalsa and the values of faith, equality, courage and service. An opportunity to celebrate community and respect for different faith traditions. 14 April – World Chagas Disease Day A World Health Organization observance highlighting a neglected tropical disease and reminding us of our responsibility to care for the poorest and most vulnerable. 15 April – World Art Day Celebrating creativity and the arts as gifts that enrich communities and help us express truth, beauty and hope. 18 April – International Day for Monuments and Sites (World Heritage Day) Encouraging appreciation and protection of our shared cultural, historical and religious heritage.	13 April – St Martin I, Pope and Martyr (Optional Memorial) 16 April – St Bernadette Soubirous, Virgin (Optional Memorial) Liturgical Colour: White or Gold throughout the Easter Season.
	The stone has been rolled away. Death has been defeated. Christ is risen! As we begin our Easter journey, Beyond the Stone, we discover that the Resurrection changes everything. The disciples who had hidden away in fear now encounter the risen Jesus, who stands among them and says: "Peace be with you." Jesus shows them His wounded hands and feet, opens their minds to understand the Scriptures and reminds them that His suffering, death and resurrection were always part of God's loving plan. Finally, He gives them a mission: "You are witnesses of these things." Easter is not simply a celebration of something that happened long ago. It is an invitation to live as people of the Resurrection. As we begin The Rock of Courage, we remember that the risen Christ replaces fear with peace and sends us into the world as courageous witnesses of His love. Heads: How does the Resurrection change the way I see the challenges and opportunities in my life? Hearts: Risen Lord, fill me with your peace and help me to live each day with hope and courage. Hands: Share the joy of Easter this week by bringing peace, kindness or encouragement to someone who needs it..					Notes * Welcome students and staff back following the Easter holidays. * Launch the Eastertide journey: Beyond the Stone. * Celebrate the Resurrection through an Easter Mass or Celebration of the Word. * Keep prayer spaces dressed in white or gold throughout Eastertide. * Display the Paschal Candle prominently as the symbol of the risen Christ. * Create or refresh an Easter Garden or Empty Tomb display. * Create a Flower Cross as a sign of resurrection, hope and new life. * Renew or reflect upon our Baptismal promises, celebrating the new life we share in Christ. * Celebrate Vaisakhi, recognising the values of courage, equality, service and community. * Encourage students to become witnesses of the Resurrection, sharing Christ's peace through acts of kindness, forgiveness and service. * Begin preparations for the celebrations of Ascension and Pentecost later this term.

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28. Week Commencing: Monday 19th April 2027 THEME: BEYOND THE STONE FOLLOW THE SHEPHERD- "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."						Fourth Week of Eastertide, Year B John 10:11-18
SUMMER 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF COURAGE – EASTERTIDE- BEYOND THE ROCK						
Linked Virtue: Responsibility and Compassion Linked CST: Human Dignity and the Common Good Linked British Values: Mutual Respect The Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as Good Shepherd Sunday and is also the Church's World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Each year, the Church hears Jesus describe Himself as the shepherd who knows His people, protects them and freely lays down His life for them. Jesus is not a distant leader. He knows each one of us personally and calls us to recognise and follow His voice. The Good Shepherd does not abandon His flock when danger comes. He remains faithful, gathers those who are scattered and gives everything for those entrusted to His care. As we journey Beyond the Stone, we remember that the risen Jesus continues to guide His Church. The Resurrection gives us the courage to listen for His call and follow wherever He leads. Through The Rock of Courage, we reflect on vocation. God calls every person to holiness and gives each of us a particular way to love, serve and build His Kingdom. Courage means listening carefully and responding generously. <i>Heads: How can I recognise the voice of Jesus among all the other voices competing for my attention?</i> <i>Hearts: Good Shepherd, help me to hear your voice, trust your guidance and follow the path you have prepared for me.</i> <i>Hands: Care for someone entrusted to you this week by listening, encouraging, including or helping them.</i>	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 21 st April 2027	10R AND 10M	Brother Robert	Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Eastertide – Theme: Sent – First Reading: Acts 12:24–13:5a – Gospel: John 12:44–50 – Liturgical Colour: White – "I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness."	22 April: International Mother Earth Day This United Nations observance calls people across the world to protect the environment and recognise their responsibility for the future of our common home. It connects strongly with stewardship and care for all that God has entrusted to us. 22 April: Stephen Lawrence Day A national day of reflection and action commemorating Stephen Lawrence. Schools are invited to challenge racism and injustice, celebrate diversity and help young people build a fairer future. 23 April: World Book and Copyright Day UNESCO celebrates the power of books, reading and authors on 23 April. It provides an opportunity to reflect on how stories, especially Sacred Scripture, broaden understanding and build bridges between people and cultures. 23 April: English Language Day and Shakespeare Day The United Nations marks English Language Day on 23 April, traditionally associated with William Shakespeare. The day celebrates language, literature and cultural diversity. 25 April: World Malaria Day This World Health Organization observance raises awareness of malaria and the continuing need to protect communities affected by the disease, particularly children and vulnerable populations.	Sunday 18 April: Fourth Sunday of Easter Good Shepherd Sunday and World Day of Prayer for Vocations. 21 April: St Anselm of Canterbury, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Optional Memorial. 23 April: St George, Martyr Solemnity in England. 24 April: St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr Optional Memorial. 24 April: St Adalbert of Prague, Bishop and Martyr Optional Memorial. Liturgical Colour: White or Gold throughout the Easter Season.
						Notes * Continue the Eastertide journey: Beyond the Stone Follow the Shepherd. * Mark Good Shepherd Sunday and the World Day of Prayer for Vocations through prayer for priests, deacons, religious, married life and all forms of Christian vocation. * Invite students to reflect on how God may be calling them to love, serve and use their gifts. * Celebrate the Solemnity of St George, Patron Saint of England, with Mass, a Celebration of the Word or appropriate prayer. * Mark Stephen Lawrence Day through age-appropriate reflection on dignity, equality, racism and standing courageously against injustice. * Celebrate International Mother Earth Day through prayer and practical stewardship activities. * Continue using white or gold in prayer spaces and display the Paschal Candle prominently. * Continue developing the Easter Garden, flower cross or empty tomb display. * Encourage staff and students to listen for the voice of Christ through Scripture, prayer and the needs of others. * Continue preparations for Ascension and Pentecost later in the term.

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29. Week Commencing: Monday 26th April 2027 THEME: BEYOND THE STONE REMAIN IN ME- “Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit.”						Fifth Week of Easteride, Year B John 15:1-8
 SUMMER 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF COURAGE – EASTERTIDE- BEYOND THE ROCK						
Linked Virtue: Resilience and Responsibility Linked CST: Participation and the Common Good Linked British Values: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 28th April 2027	9R AND 9M	Father Henry	Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Eastertide – Theme: Bear Fruit – First Reading: Acts 15:1–6 – Gospel: John 15:1–8 – Liturgical Colour: White – “I am the vine; you are the branches.”	26 April: World Intellectual Property Day This international observance celebrates creativity and innovation and encourages respect for the ideas and work of others. It offers an opportunity to reflect upon how human creativity can serve the common good. 27 April: Day of Prayer for Survivors of Sexual Abuse The 2027 calendar for the Catholic Church in England and Wales identifies Tuesday 27 April as a day of prayer for survivors of sexual abuse. Schools should mark this sensitively through prayer for healing, justice and the safeguarding of every person.	28 April: St Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr Optional Memorial. 28 April: St Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort, Priest Optional Memorial, remembered especially for his devotion to Our Blessed Lady. 29 April: St Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church Feast and Patron of Europe. 30 April: St Pius V, Pope Optional Memorial. 1 May: St Joseph the Worker Optional Memorial. Patronal Feast Day: St Joseph's Catholic Academy, Billingham
					28 April: World Day for Safety and Health at Work This annual United Nations and International Labour Organization observance promotes the prevention of workplace accidents and illness. It connects with the dignity of work and our responsibility to create safe, healthy communities. 29 April: International Dance Day A worldwide celebration of dance as a form of creativity, expression and communication that can bring people and cultures together. 30 April: International Jazz Day UNESCO marks this day to celebrate jazz and its contribution to intercultural dialogue, freedom, unity and peace. 1 May: International Workers' Day A day recognising workers and the importance of dignity, justice and safe conditions in the workplace. It connects naturally with the feast of St Joseph the Worker and Catholic teaching on the dignity of work. 1 May: The Month of Mary begins May is traditionally dedicated to Our Blessed Lady. Schools may have a May crowning, pray the Rosary and invite students to follow Mary's example of faithful discipleship.	Notes * Continue the Easteride journey: Beyond the Stone Remain in Me. * Continue using white or gold in prayer spaces and display the Paschal Candle prominently. * Use the image of the vine and branches in prayer spaces, collective worship or classroom reflection. * Invite students to identify the habits that keep them connected to Christ through prayer, Scripture, worship and service.. * Celebrate the Feast of St Catherine of Siena, reflecting on her courage, wisdom and commitment to peace and reform. * Celebrate the patronal feast of St Joseph's Catholic Academy, Billingham, through Mass, a Celebration of the Word or appropriate prayer. * Mark St Joseph the Worker and pray for workers, those seeking employment and everyone experiencing unsafe or unjust working conditions. * Begin the Month of Mary with May altars, Marian prayer or the Rosary. * Encourage practical care for growing plants, gardens or school grounds as a visible link to the Gospel image of the vine bearing fruit. * Continue preparations for the Ascension of the Lord on Thursday 6 May and for Pentecost on Sunday 16 May 2027.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus describes Himself as the true vine and His disciples as the branches. A branch cannot grow or bear fruit when it is separated from the vine. In the same way, our lives flourish when we remain close to Christ.

To remain in Jesus means building a living friendship with Him through prayer, Scripture, the sacraments and loving service. It does not mean that life will always be easy. Jesus speaks about pruning, reminding us that growth sometimes requires change, perseverance and letting go of things that prevent us from flourishing.

As we continue Beyond the Stone, we remember that the risen Christ remains with His people. The disciples could only become courageous witnesses because their lives remained rooted in Him.

Through The Rock of Courage, we discover that courage does not come from relying only upon ourselves. It grows from knowing that we are connected to Christ and supported by one another. When we remain in Him, our lives bear the fruits of kindness, justice, compassion and service.

Heads: What helps me remain connected to Jesus, and what sometimes draws me away from Him?

Hearts: Lord Jesus, help me to remain in you so that my life may bear the fruits of your love.

Hands: Choose one habit this week that will help you remain close to Christ, then use the strength it gives you to help another person...

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30. Week Commencing: Monday 3rd May 2027 THEME: BEYOND THE STONE REMAIN IN MY LOVE "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."						Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year B) John 15:9-17
🕯️ SUMMER 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF COURAGE – EASTERTIDE- BEYOND THE ROCK						
Linked Virtue: Compassion and Courage Linked CST: Solidarity Linked British Values: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Thursday 6th May 2027 HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION – ASCENSION	8R AND 8M MASS FOR THE WHOLE OF YEAR 8 TIME TO BE CONFIRMED	Father Barrie	Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord – Holy Day Mass – Theme: Witnesses – First Reading: Acts 1:1–11 – Gospel: Mark 16:15–20 – Liturgical Colour: White – "Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation."	3 May – Early May Bank Holiday (UK) A national public holiday offering an opportunity to give thanks for family, community, work and rest. 5 May – International Day of the Midwife Celebrating the dedication of midwives who care for mothers and babies, recognising the dignity and sanctity of every human life. 5 May – World Portuguese Language Day A UNESCO celebration of language, culture and international friendship, reminding us of the richness of our global community. 6 May – International No Diet Day An awareness day promoting positive body image, wellbeing and respect for the dignity of every person. 8 May – World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day Celebrating humanitarian service throughout the world and recognising those who care for people affected by conflict, disaster and poverty.	3 May – Saints Philip and James, Apostles (Feast) 4 May – The English Martyrs (Feast) Patronal Feast Day: English Martyrs Catholic School, Hartlepool 6 May – The Ascension of the Lord (Solemnity – Holy Day of Obligation in England and Wales) 7 May – St John of Beverley, Bishop (Optional Memorial)
As Easter tide continues, Jesus gives His disciples one of His greatest commandments: "Love one another as I have loved you." The love Jesus speaks about is more than kindness or friendship. It is a self-giving love, willing to serve, forgive and sacrifice for others. Jesus Himself will show the fullness of this love through His Death, Resurrection and Ascension. This week the Church celebrates the Ascension of the Lord. Although Jesus returns to the Father, He does not abandon His disciples. Instead, He entrusts them with His mission and promises the gift of the Holy Spirit. As we journey Beyond the Stone, we discover that Christian courage is always rooted in love. The disciples are now ready to continue Christ's work because they remain in His love. Through The Rock of Courage, we learn that our faith is not simply about believing in Jesus but about living as His friends, loving others as He has loved us and becoming witnesses of His Gospel in the world. Heads: How can I remain in Christ's love throughout my everyday life? Hearts: Lord Jesus, help me to love others as you have loved me and give me the courage to witness to your Gospel. Hands: Show Christ's love this week through a deliberate act of friendship, forgiveness or service.						Notes Continue the Easter tide journey: Beyond the Stone Remain in My Love. * Celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension with Mass where possible, or a Celebration of the Word if Mass is not available. * Publicise local parish Mass times for the Holy Day of Obligation. * Celebrate the Feast of the English Martyrs, especially at English Martyrs Catholic School, Hartlepool, reflecting on courage, faithfulness and witness. * Continue the Month of Mary with Mary devotions. * Pray the Rosary regularly during May. * Pray the Angelus daily where appropriate. * Create or continue a shrine to Our Lady with flowers dedicated to Our Blessed Lady. * Encourage students to offer flowers or written prayers to Mary throughout the month. * Continue using white or gold in prayer spaces and display the Paschal Candle prominently. * Begin preparing students for the celebration of Pentecost, reflecting on the coming gift of the Holy Spirit. * Invite students to consider how Christ calls each of us to remain in His love and to share that love through acts of friendship, service and witness.
Thursday 6th May 2027 – Morning God TV livestream Whole College College-led Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord – Whole-college Holy Day celebration – Theme: Witnesses – First Reading: Acts 1:1–11 – Gospel: Mark 16:15–20 – Liturgical Colour: White – "Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation."						

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31. Week Commencing: Monday 10th May 2027 THEME: BEYOND THE STONE ONE IN CHRIST- "May they be one, even as we are one."						Seventh Week of Eastertide, Year B John 17:11b-19
🕊️ SUMMER 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF COURAGE – EASTERTIDE- BEYOND THE ROCK						
Linked Virtue: Respect and Responsibility Linked CST: Solidarity Linked British Values: Mutual Respect and Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 12th May 2027	7E AND 7L	Father Tony	Wednesday of the Seventh Week of Eastertide – Theme: Unity – First Reading: Acts 20:28–38 – Gospel: John 17:11b–19 – Liturgical Colour: White – "May they be one, even as we are one."	9–15 May: Christian Aid Week Christian Aid Week celebrates its 70th anniversary in 2027. It invites churches and schools to pray, fundraise and act alongside communities experiencing poverty and injustice around the world. This connects naturally with Jesus' prayer for unity and the Catholic call to global solidarity. 12 May: International Nurses Day	Sunday 9 May: World Communications Day The Church marks World Communications Day on the Seventh Sunday of Easter, inviting reflection on how media and communication can serve truth, dialogue, human dignity and unity. 10 May: St John of Avila, Priest and Doctor of the Church Optional Memorial. 12 May: Saints Nereus and Achilles, Martyrs Optional Memorial. 12 May: St Pancras, Martyr Optional Memorial. 13 May: Our Lady of Fátima Optional Memorial. Catholics remember the appearances of Our Lady of Fátima and her invitation to prayer, conversion and peace. This is particularly appropriate during May, the month traditionally dedicated to Our Blessed Lady. 14 May: St Matthias, Apostle Feast. Sunday 16 May: Pentecost Sunday Pentecost concludes the Easter Season and celebrates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and the birth of the Church's mission
					A day of gratitude for nurses and their service to the sick and vulnerable, observed each year on the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth. It offers an opportunity to pray for healthcare workers and recognise nursing as a vocation of compassionate service.	Notes Continue the Eastertide journey: Beyond the Stone One in Christ. * Prepare for Pentecost Sunday, including readings, music, symbols of fire and wind, and prayers in different languages. * Ensure red cloths and Pentecost resources are ready for prayer spaces. * Consider holding a Pentecost vigil, Mass or Celebration of the Word. * Invite students to write or speak prayers in different languages, reflecting the universal Church. * Mark Christian Aid Week through prayer, fundraising and action for global justice. * Celebrate International Nurses Day by praying for nurses, healthcare workers, the sick and those who care for them. * Mark Our Lady of Fátima and continue May devotions through the Rosary, Angelus etc. * Celebrate the Feast of St Matthias, reflecting on vocation, discipleship and each person's place within the Church. * Use World Communications Day to reflect on responsible communication, truth and the way our words can build unity rather than division. * Continue using white or gold in prayer spaces until Pentecost, when the liturgical colour changes to red. * Remove the Paschal Candle from its prominent Easter position after Pentecost and return prayer spaces to green for Ordinary Time.
					15 May: International Day of Families A United Nations observance celebrating the importance of families and drawing attention to the opportunities and challenges they experience. It encourages us to support family life and recognise families as communities of love, belonging and care.	

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32. Week Commencing: Monday 17th May 2027 THEME: BEYOND THE STONE GUIDED BY THE SPIRIT- "The Spirit of truth will guide you into all the truth."						Week 7 in Ordinary Time, Year B Pentecost Sunday Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:12-15
🕊️ SUMMER 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF COURAGE – EASTERTIDE- BEYOND THE ROCK						
Linked Virtue: Confidence and Responsibility Linked CST: Participation and Solidarity Linked British Values: Mutual Respect and Individual Liberty	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 19 th May 2027	9E AND 9L	Father Kevin	Wednesday of Week 7 in Ordinary Time – Theme: Working Together – First Reading: Sirach 4:11–19 – Gospel: Mark 9:38–40 – Liturgical Colour: Green – "The one who is not against us is for us."	17 May: International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia A global day challenging discrimination, hostility and violence directed towards LGBT people. It offers an age- appropriate opportunity to affirm the dignity of every person and our responsibility to reject bullying, hatred and prejudice. 17 May: World Telecommunication and Information Society Day This annual observance recognises the importance of communication technology and highlights the need to overcome the digital divide so that all people can participate fully in society. 20 May: World Bee Day A United Nations observance recognising the vital importance of bees and other pollinators to food production, biodiversity and healthy ecosystems. It connects naturally with stewardship of creation. 21 May: World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development A celebration of the richness of the world's cultures and the importance of dialogue, understanding and peaceful relationships between communities. 22 May: International Day for Biological Diversity A United Nations day raising awareness of the variety of life on Earth and our shared responsibility to protect ecosystems and care for our common home.	Sunday 16 May: Pentecost Sunday The conclusion of the Easter Season and the celebration of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. 17 May: Mary, Mother of the Church Memorial. Mary remains with the disciples in prayer and is honoured as Mother of the Church. 18 May: St John I, Pope and Martyr Optional Memorial. 19 May: St Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury Optional Memorial. 20 May: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest Feast in England and Wales. 21 May: St Christopher Magallanes and Companions, Martyrs Optional Memorial. 21 May: St Godric of Finchale, Religious Optional Memorial. 22 May: St Rita of Cascia Optional Memorial.
						Notes
						Celebrate Pentecost through Mass or a Celebration of the Word, using symbols of fire, wind and the dove. * Invite students to proclaim readings or prayers in different languages, reflecting the universal mission of the Church. * Change prayer spaces from red for Pentecost to green for Ordinary Time. Use white for Mary, Mother of the Church and for the Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest. * Celebrate Mary, Mother of the Church and continue May devotions through the Rosary, Angelus and May altars. * Reflect on the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit and how they can shape daily choices. * Pray for priests on the Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest. * Mark the cultural and awareness days through themes of dignity, communication, diversity and care for creation. * Conclude Beyond the Stone by reminding students that Easter sends us out. The risen Christ gives us His Spirit so that we can live courageously and continue His mission.

At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit comes upon the disciples and transforms them from people filled with uncertainty into courageous witnesses to the Gospel.

Jesus promises that the Spirit of truth will guide His followers, help them understand His teaching and give them the strength to bear witness to Him. The disciples are not expected to continue Christ's mission through their own strength. They are guided, encouraged and united by the Holy Spirit.

As we conclude our Eastertide journey Beyond the Stone, we remember that the Resurrection leads to mission. The stone was rolled away, the risen Christ appeared to His disciples, and now the Spirit sends them into the world.

Through The Rock of Courage, we recognise that Christian courage is not about facing everything alone. The Holy Spirit remains with us, helping us to speak truthfully, make wise choices and use our gifts in the service of others.

Heads: Where might the Holy Spirit be guiding me to make a courageous or truthful choice?

Hearts: Come, Holy Spirit. Guide me in truth, strengthen my faith and help me to become a courageous witness to Christ.

Hands: Use one gift of the Holy Spirit this week to bring encouragement, peace, wisdom or understanding to another person..

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33. Week Commencing: Monday 24th May 2027 THEME: ORDINARY TIME LIVING IN THE LIFE OF THE TRINITY- "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."						Week 8 of Ordinary Time- he Most Holy Trinity (Year B) Matthew 28:16-20
 SUMMER 1 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF COURAGE						
Linked Virtue: Community and Responsibility Linked CST: Community and Participation Linked British Values: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 26th May 2027	8E AND 8L	Brother Robert	Memorial of Saint Philip Neri, Priest – Theme: Serve Others – Ferial First Reading: Sirach 36:1–2, 5–6, 13–22 – Ferial Gospel: Mark 10:32–45 – Liturgical Colour: White – "The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve."	24–30 May – National Smile Month (UK) The UK's largest oral health campaign continues this week, encouraging healthy habits and wellbeing. Caring for ourselves enables us to care for others. 25 May – Africa Day Celebrates the cultures, history and achievements of African nations while promoting unity and development across the continent. It reminds us of the universality of the Church and our solidarity with people across the world.	Sunday 23 May – The Most Holy Trinity Solemnity 25 May – St Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor of the Church Feast Trist Feast Day: * St Bede's Catholic Academy, Stockton * St Bede's Catholic Academy, Darlington 26 May – St Philip Neri, Priest Optional Memorial 27 May – St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop Feast Trist Feast Day: * St Augustine's Catholic Primary School, Darlington 30 May – The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) Solemnity Liturgical Colour: Green throughout the week. White for Trinity Sunday, the Feasts of St Bede and St Augustine, and Corpus Christi.
					28 May – World Hunger Day Raises awareness of global hunger and sustainable solutions. It links strongly with Catholic Social Teaching on the dignity of every person and our responsibility to care for those living in poverty.	Notes Celebrate Trinity Sunday, reflecting on the mystery of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and the Sign of the Cross. * Celebrate the patronal feasts of St Bede's, Stockton, St Bede's, Darlington, and St Augustine's, Darlington. * Prepare liturgies and resources for the Solemnity of Corpus Christi the following Sunday. * Continue encouraging pupils to pray the Glory Be and make the Sign of the Cross with understanding and reverence. * Reflect on our baptismal calling to be missionary disciples. * Mark Africa Day through prayer and celebration of the diversity of the universal Church. * Highlight World Hunger Day, supporting food banks or CAFOD where appropriate. * Continue using green in prayer spaces, with white for feast day celebrations. * Break for May half-term on Friday 28th May. * Encourage pupils to continue praying each day over the holiday and to return ready to celebrate Corpus Christi and continue growing in faith.

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34. Week Commencing: Monday 7th June 2027 THEME: ORDINARY TIME UNITED IN CHRIST- "Whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother." 						10th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) Mark 3:20-35
 SUMMER TERM 2 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF SERVICE						
Linked Virtue: Compassion Linked CST: Community and Participation Linked British Values: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus challenges those who misunderstand Him and reminds His disciples what truly unites God's people. He teaches that "a house divided against itself cannot stand." Instead of allowing division, fear or misunderstanding to separate us, Jesus calls us into a new family, one built upon faith, love and obedience to God's will. Looking around at those gathered with Him, Jesus says: "Whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother." The Church is a family where everyone belongs. We are united not because we are the same, but because we share one faith, one baptism and one mission. As we continue The Rock of Service, we remember that service begins with belonging. Strong communities are built when each person uses their gifts to support, encourage and serve one another. Like stones built together into one strong foundation, we become stronger when we stand together in Christ. Heads: How can I help build unity in my class, my family and my school community? Hearts: Lord Jesus, make us one family in you. Help us to build communities of welcome, kindness and faithful service. Hands: Look for someone who may feel left out this week and make a conscious effort to include, encourage or help them.	Wednesday 9th June 2027	10E AND 10L	Father Henry	Memorial of Saint Columba (Colum Cille), Abbot – Theme: Living Faith – Ferial First Reading: 2 Corinthians 3:4–11 – Ferial Gospel: Matthew 5:17–19 – Liturgical Colour: White – "Whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven."	8 June – World Oceans Day A United Nations observance celebrating our oceans and encouraging responsible stewardship of God's creation. 12 June – World Day Against Child Labour A United Nations awareness day promoting the dignity, protection and rights of every child throughout the world.	7 June – St Robert of Newminster, Abbot Optional Memorial. 8 June – St William of York, Bishop Optional Memorial. Trust Patronal Feast: St William's Catholic Academy, Trimdon 9 June – St Ephraem, Deacon and Doctor of the Church Optional Memorial. 9 June – St Columba (Colum Cille), Abbot Optional Memorial. 11 June – St Barnabas, Apostle Memorial.
						Notes Welcome everyone back following the half-term break. * Celebrate the patronal feast of St William's Catholic Academy, Trimdon. * Reflect on how our school community is strengthened when everyone uses their gifts in service of others. * Celebrate St Barnabas, the "Son of Encouragement", and encourage pupils to become people who build others up. * Mark World Oceans Day through prayers for creation and practical stewardship activities. * Pray for children around the world on World Day Against Child Labour, reflecting on the dignity and rights of every child. * Continue preparations for Corpus Christi celebrations. * Continue preparations for Year 6 transition, end-of-year liturgies and summer celebrations. * Use green in prayer spaces throughout Ordinary Time.

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35. Week Commencing: Monday 14th June 2027 THEME: ORDINARY TIME GROWING GOD'S KINGDOM- "The kingdom of God... is like a grain of mustard seed."						11th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) Mark 4:26-34
SUMMER TERM 2 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF SERVICE						
Linked Virtue: Resilience Linked CST: Participation Linked British Values: Individual Liberty	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
	Wednesday 16th June 2027	10J and 10P	Father Barrie	Memorial of Saint Richard of Chichester, Bishop – Theme: Quiet Generosity – Ferial First Reading: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11 – Ferial Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18 – Liturgical Colour: White – "Your Father who sees in secret will reward you."	14 June – World Blood Donor Day A World Health Organization observance celebrating voluntary blood donors and the gift of saving lives through generous service. 15 June – World Elder Abuse Awareness Day A United Nations awareness day promoting the dignity, care and protection of older people and encouraging respect across generations.	16 June – St Richard of Chichester, Bishop Optional Memorial. 19 June – St Romuald, Abbot Optional Memorial.
	POTENTIAL-FRIDAY 18th June 2027	YEAR 13 LEAVERS MASS TIME TBC	Father KEVIN	READINGS TO BE CONFIRMED	17 June – World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought A United Nations observance highlighting our responsibility to care for creation and use the Earth's resources wisely. 18 June – Autistic Pride Day Celebrates neurodiversity and encourages schools and communities to recognise the gifts, dignity and unique contribution of autistic people. 20 June – World Refugee Day (Sunday) A United Nations observance recognising the courage and resilience of refugees and reminding us of Christ's call to welcome the stranger.	Notes Reflect on the theme Growing God's Kingdom throughout collective worship and prayer. * Encourage students to recognise that small acts of kindness, prayer and service can have a lasting impact. * Pray for blood donors, healthcare professionals and all who care for the sick on World Blood Donor Day. * Mark World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, encouraging respect, gratitude and care for older members of our families and communities. * Reflect on our responsibility to care for creation on the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought. * Celebrate the gifts and uniqueness of every person through Autistic Pride Day. * Pray for refugees and displaced people ahead of World Refugee Day, reflecting on hospitality and solidarity. * Continue preparations for Year 6 transition, end-of-year liturgies and celebration events. * Invite students to reflect on the seeds of faith, learning and service that have grown throughout the year.

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36. Week Commencing: Monday 21st June 2027 THEME: ORDINARY TIME FAITH THROUGH THE STORM- "Peace! Be still!"						12th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) Mark 4:35-41
SUMMER TERM 2 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF SERVICE						
Linked Virtue: Courage	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
Linked CST: Solidarity Linked British Values: Individual Liberty	Wednesday 23rd June 2027	8J and 8P	Father Kevin	Memorial of Saint Etheldreda (Audrey), Abbess – Theme: Good Fruit – Ferial First Reading: Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18 – Ferial Gospel: Matthew 7:15–20 – Liturgical Colour: White – "You will recognise them by their fruits."	20 June – World Refugee Day (Sunday) A United Nations observance recognising the courage and resilience of refugees and displaced people. We are reminded of Christ's call to welcome the stranger and accompany those seeking safety and hope. 21 June – World Music Day (Fête de la Musique) An international celebration of music, encouraging people to share their gifts and build community through creativity and joy. 21 June – Summer Solstice The longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere, inviting us to give thanks for the beauty of creation and the changing seasons. 23 June – United Nations Public Service Day Celebrates those who serve their communities through public service, recognising the importance of leadership, commitment and the common good. 26 June – International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking Promotes healthy choices, wellbeing and communities free from addiction and exploitation. 26 June – United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture Calls us to uphold the dignity of every person and pray for all who suffer injustice, violence or persecution.	21 June – St Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious Optional Memorial. 22 June – Saints John Fisher, Bishop, and Thomas More, Martyrs Feast 23 June – St Etheldreda (Audrey), Abbess Optional Memorial. 24 June – The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist Solemnity
As evening falls, Jesus invites His disciples into the boat and across the lake. Suddenly a violent storm arises. The waves crash over the boat, and the disciples are overwhelmed with fear. Yet Jesus remains calm. With just three words, He speaks to the storm: "Peace! Be still!" Immediately, the wind dies down and the sea becomes calm. As another busy school year approaches its end, we all experience storms in different ways. There may be worries about change, moving year groups, exams, friendships or what lies ahead. This Gospel reminds us that Jesus is present in every storm. Even when He seems silent, He has never left the boat. Through The Rock of Service, we learn that people of faith become a source of calm for others. Trusting Christ enables us not only to find peace ourselves but also to bring peace, encouragement and hope to those around us. Heads: What storms or worries do I need to place into Jesus' hands? Hearts: Lord Jesus, when I am afraid, help me to trust that you are always with me. Speak your peace into my heart. Hands: Bring peace to someone this week through a kind word, a listening ear or an act of encouragement.						Notes Prepare for the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul (29 June) with Mass or a Celebration of the Word where possible. * Share local parish Mass times for the Holy Day of Obligation with students, staff and families. * Reflect on the witness of Saints Peter and Paul as foundations of the Church and models of courageous discipleship. * Continue preparations for Year 6 transition, end-of-year liturgies and celebration events. * Encourage students who may be anxious about change or transition, reminding them that Christ remains with us through every storm. * Continue using green in prayer spaces throughout Ordinary Time.

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36. Week Commencing: Monday 28th June 2027 THEME: ORDINARY TIME ARISE IN FAITH- "Do not fear, only believe."						13th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) Mark 5:21-43
SUMMER TERM 2 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF SERVICE						
Linked Virtue: Resilience & Self-Belief Linked CST: Life and Dignity of the Human Person Linked British Value: Individual Liberty	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
This Sunday's Gospel tells two remarkable stories of faith woven into one. A woman who has suffered for many years reaches out to touch Jesus' cloak, believing He can heal her. At the same time, Jairus begs Jesus to save his daughter. Even after news comes that she has died, Jesus simply says: "Do not fear, only believe." Taking the little girl by the hand, Jesus says. "Talitha cumi!" – "Little girl, arise." Immediately she gets up and walks. As another school year draws towards its conclusion, many of us begin thinking about change, new beginnings and what comes next. This Gospel reminds us that faith gives us the courage to keep moving forward, even when situations seem difficult or uncertain. Through The Rock of Service, we discover that serving others often begins by giving them hope. Like Jesus, we are called to lift others up, encourage them when they struggle and remind them that they are never alone. Faith allows us to rise above fear and trust that Christ is always leading us onwards. Heads: Where is Jesus asking me to trust Him more instead of giving in to fear? Hearts: Lord Jesus, when I feel anxious or uncertain, take me by the hand and help me to trust in you. Hands: Look for someone who needs encouragement this week. Offer a kind word, help them practically or simply remind them that they are valued.	NB- TUESDAY 29TH June 2027	7J and 7P ALL Y7 TO ATTEND PM MASS TIME TBC	Father BARRIE	Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles – Holy Day Mass – Theme: Foundation – First Reading: Acts 12:1–11 – Gospel: Matthew 16:13–19 – Liturgical Colour: Red – "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church."	29 June – Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles The Church celebrates the two great apostles whose faith and witness became the foundation of the Church. 30 June – World Social Media Day Encourages positive, respectful and responsible use of digital communication. 1 July – Canada Day Celebrates Canada's history, culture and diversity. 3 July – International Plastic Bag Free Day Encourages practical action to reduce waste and care for God's creation.	28 June – St Irenaeus, Bishop, Doctor of the Church and Martyr Memorial. 29 June – Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles Solemnity – Holy Day of Obligation 30 June – The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church Optional Memorial. 1 July – St Oliver Plunkett, Bishop and Martyr Optional Memorial. 3 July – St Thomas, Apostle Feast Liturgical Colour: Green, changing to Red for the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul and the Feast of St Thomas.
	HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION					Notes * Celebrate the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul with Mass or a Celebration of the Word where possible. * Share local parish Mass times for the Holy Day of Obligation with students, staff and families. * Reflect on the witness of Saints Peter and Paul as courageous leaders who built the Church through faith and service. * Celebrate the Feast of St Thomas the Apostle, reflecting on how honest questions can lead to deeper faith. * Mark World Social Media Day, encouraging students to use technology with kindness, truth and responsibility. * Reflect on our responsibility to care for creation through International Plastic Bag Free Day. * Continue preparations for transition events, end-of-year liturgies and celebration assemblies. * Pray for students, staff and families facing change or new beginnings, asking Christ to help them hear His words: "Do not fear, only believe." * Continue using green in prayer spaces throughout Ordinary Time, changing to red for the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul and the Feast of St Thomas.

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37. Week Commencing: Monday 5th July 2027 THEME: ORDINARY TIME LIVING OUR FAITH WITH COURAGE- "A prophet is not without honour, except in his home town."						14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) Mark 6:1-6
SUMMER TERM 2 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF SERVICE						
* Linked Virtue: Confidence & Honesty * Linked CST: Participation * Linked British Value: Mutual Respect	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
This Sunday's Gospel takes us back to Jesus' hometown of Nazareth. Those who had known Him since childhood struggled to believe that God could be working through someone so familiar. Instead of listening to His wisdom, they judged Him by what they thought they already knew. Jesus reminds them: "A prophet is not without honour, except in his home town." This Gospel challenges us to look beyond first impressions and recognise the gifts God has placed within every person. Sometimes we can overlook the goodness, talents and potential of those closest to us simply because they are familiar. As the school year draws to a close, we celebrate the gifts that have grown within our school communities. Through The Rock of Service, we recognise that God calls ordinary people to do extraordinary things. We are each invited to use our unique gifts with confidence, honesty and humility, serving others wherever we are called. Heads: Do I recognise and value the gifts that God has given to the people around me? Hearts: Lord Jesus, help me to see others as you see them. Give me the confidence to use my own gifts and the humility to celebrate the gifts of others. Hands: Take time this week to thank or encourage someone for the gifts and talents they bring to your school, family or community.	Wednesday 7th July 2027	9J and 9P	Father KEVIN	Wednesday of Week 14 in Ordinary Time – Theme: Mission – First Reading: Genesis 41:55–57; 42:5–7a, 17–24a – Gospel: Matthew 10:1–7 – Liturgical Colour: Green – "The kingdom of heaven is at hand."	6 July – International Day of Cooperatives Celebrates the importance of working together for the common good and reminds us that communities flourish through cooperation and shared responsibility. 7 July – World Chocolate Day A light-hearted international celebration that offers an opportunity to reflect on gratitude, generosity and sharing God's gifts with others.	5 July – St Anthony Mary Zaccaria, Priest Optional Memorial. 6 July – St Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr Optional Memorial. 9 July – St Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions, Martyrs Optional Memorial.
					11 July – World Population Day (Sunday)	Notes
					A United Nations observance highlighting the dignity of every person and our shared responsibility to build a just and sustainable world.	* Reflect on the theme Living Our Faith with Courage throughout collective worship and prayer. * Encourage students to recognise and celebrate the gifts and talents of others, especially those they may sometimes overlook. * Celebrate examples of leadership, service and achievement from across the school community as the academic year draws to a close. * Pray for Year 6 pupils preparing to join our schools and for students moving into new year groups. * Continue preparations for end-of-year liturgies, celebration assemblies and transition events. * Reflect on the importance of cooperation and serving the common good through International Day of Cooperatives. * Encourage gratitude for the many gifts God has given our school community during the past year.

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38. Week Commencing: Monday 12th July 2027 THEME: ORDINARY TIME SENT ON MISSION “He began to send them out two by two.”						15th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) Mark 6:7-13
SUMMER TERM 2 LIFE ON THE ROCK THE ROCK OF SERVICE						
Linked Virtue: Responsibility & Confidence	Dates of C of W/ Mass/ Other Lit	Class leading/ Participating	Celebrant for Holy Mass	Mass int/ Feast/ Theme	World Religious/Cultural events this week	Feasts and Memorials this week
Linked CST: Call to Family, Community and Participation Linked British Value: Democracy As the school year comes to its close, Jesus gathers the Twelve and sends them out on mission. He does not ask them to rely on possessions, wealth or status. Instead, He sends them with faith, courage and trust in God. The disciples go two by two, reminding us that we are created to journey together. We encourage one another, share responsibility and support each other in living the Gospel. Their mission was not simply to travel, but to bring hope, healing and God's love wherever they went. This is a fitting Gospel for our final week of the academic year. Throughout this year we have been building our lives upon The Rock. We have grown in Faith, Hope, Friendship, Compassion, Courage and Service. Now Christ sends us out to live what we have learned. As we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, we give thanks for Mary's faithful witness. She trusted God completely and devoted her whole life to	THURSDAY 15 TH JULY	WHOLE COLLEGE END OF YEAR MASS	ALL CLERGY INVITED	End-of-Year and Patronal Mass – Theme: Faithful Service – Either anticipated celebration of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on the eve of the College feast, with readings TBC, or Memorial of Saint Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church – Saint Bonaventure readings: Ephesians 3:14–19 and Matthew 23:8–12 – Liturgical Colour: White – Final readings and Gospel quotation to be confirmed nearer the time	15 July – World Youth Skills Day A United Nations observance celebrating the gifts, talents and potential of young people, encouraging them to flourish and contribute positively to society. 18 July – Nelson Mandela International Day (Sunday) A United Nations day celebrating service, reconciliation and justice, inspiring us to make a positive difference through compassion and servant leadership.	13 July – St Henry Optional Memorial. 14 July – St Camillus of Lellis, Priest Optional Memorial. 15 July – St Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Memorial. 16 July – Our Lady of Mount Carmel Feast. Notes

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following His will. May she inspire us to continue living as disciples of Christ throughout the summer holidays and beyond. Heads: <i>How can I continue living my faith and serving others during the summer holidays?</i> Hearts: <i>Lord Jesus, thank you for every blessing of this school year. Give me the confidence to share your love wherever you send me.</i> Hands: <i>Thank someone who has helped you to grow this year and look for one opportunity during the summer to serve another person with kindness.</i>			* Pray the Angelus or another Marian devotion during the week. * Carmel College, Darlington celebrates its Patronal Feast on 16 July. Schools may wish to remember the Carmel community in their prayers. * Hold end-of-year Masses or Celebrations of the Word, giving thanks for the blessings of the academic year. * Commission students and staff for the summer holidays, praying that they will continue to be missionary disciples wherever they go. * Pray for Year 6 pupils joining our schools, students moving into new year groups, and those leaving for sixth form, university, apprenticeships or employment. * Celebrate the achievements, leadership, service and witness of students and staff throughout the year. * Mark World Youth Skills Day, recognising the God-given gifts and vocation of every young person. * Use white in prayer spaces on 16 July for the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, returning to green afterwards.
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