

RE Newsletter Autumn 1



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new academic year. Below you will find information about what your children will be learning in their Religious Education this half term.

Dates from the Church's calendar:

St. Gregory the Great	2 nd October	Guardian Angels
St. Cuthbert	3 rd October	Harvest Fast Day
Our Lady's birthday	4 th October	St. Francis of Assisi
Education Sunday	7 th October	Our Lady of the Rosary
Our Lady of Sorrows	9th October	St. John Henry Newman
Our Lady of Walsingham	10th October	St. Paulinus of York
St. Vincent de Paul	13th October	St. Edward the Confessor
Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael	15th October	St. Teresa of Avila
St. Jerome	17th October	St. Ignatius of Antioch
St. Therese of Lisieux	18th October	St. Luke, Evangelist
	22nd October	St. John Paul II, Pope
	St. Cuthbert Our Lady's birthday Education Sunday Our Lady of Sorrows Our Lady of Walsingham St. Vincent de Paul Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael St. Jerome	St. Cuthbert Our Lady's birthday Education Sunday Our Lady of Sorrows Our Lady of Walsingham St. Vincent de Paul Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael St. Jerome St. Therese of Lisieux 3rd October 4th October 9th October 10th October 13th October 15th October 17th October

Throughout Ordinary Time: Autumn we are asked to pray for the following intentions:

The Harvest - the Fruits of Human Work - and the Reverent Use of Creation Students and Teachers, The Spread of the Gospel, Justice and Peace in the World, Prisoners and their Families, All Victims of War, Young People



Your word is a lamp to my feet, a light on my path'

Psalm 119:105

From this September Religious Education (RE) will be taught using a new Catholic RE programme called 'Lighting the Path' published by Oxford University Press and approved by the Diocese of Leeds. The implementation of the new programme will be phased in over the next two academic years. Children in Early Years and Year One and Year Two will be taught RE using Lighting the Path from this September, followed by all Key Stage Two classes from September 2026. Lighting the Path follows a spiral curriculum which means that each year group follows the same broad theme, but the content differs depending on the age of pupils.

Creation and Covenant

"Creation is the foundation of all God's saving plans, the beginning of the history of salvation that culminates in Christ."

Religious Education Directory



Reception

This half term children in Early Years will be learning about God's beautiful world. Throughout this unit of work, the children will begin to appreciate the beauty and wonder of the world and know that God made it. They will learn that God loves each one of us and reflect on this. They will hear about and respond to the things God created for us. They will know that God has asked us to care for the world and think of ways in which we can help to do it.

<u>At home</u>

You could help your children by:

- · looking at pictures of animals and plants and talking about how special creation is
- encourage them to notice different parts of God's wonderful creation and think of ways to care for the world.

Key Stage 1



Year One

The children will hear and retell the story of Creation from the first chapter of the Book of Genesis and talk about its meaning. They will learn that in the story of Creation God gave human beings the responsibility for taking care of the world and everything in it and in doing this they show their love for each other and for God. Children will study how belief in Creation is expressed in diverse creative and artistic ways and talk about their responses. They will learn that the beauty of the world leads people to expressions of wonder and awe and how for Christians and other people of faith this leads to prayers of praise and thanksgiving.

At home

You could help your children by:

- talking about how we can look after the world, e.g. recycling, not dropping litter, conserving energy and how we can care for plants and animals
- look at the trees during the autumn season and talk about the different colours. You could collect leaves to make a collage or painting.



Year Two

The children will learn about the story of Noah, focusing on God's promise that is symbolised by the rainbow. They will learn that hope is a key virtue, because after the destruction of the flood, the path back to living a good life was restored by the hope of Noah and his family. Through Noah, humanity was again given the responsibility of taking care of the world. The children will then focus on the sacrament of baptism because of its link with Noah: humanity was given a new start from the waters in the story of Noah and through the water of baptism a person is given new life in the Christian family.

At home

You could emphasise:

- care of the environment by encouraging them to take simple steps to care for insects, birds and other creatures.
- if applicable, talk about their baptism and look at and talk about objects or photographs from the celebration.

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Key Stage Two

During this academic year (2025-26) children in Key Stage Two will continue their RE using *The Way, the Truth and the Life* programme which is published by the Teachers' Enterprise in Religious Education.

Year Three

The Christian Family



The children will develop their understanding that the Church is the family of God and know that we join this family when we receive the Sacrament of Baptism. They will learn what happens at Baptism and learn about the signs used and why they are used. They will learn about the promises made by parents and godparents at Baptism and develop their understanding of the Sacrament of Baptism.

The children will have a chance to:

- · reflect on what it means to be part of a family
- · reflect on what it means to be part of the Christian family

At home

You could help your children by:

- if applicable, sharing your experiences about their Baptism. Look at any gifts or photographs that they received on their special day.
- · discuss what it means to be part of God's family.

Year Four

The Bible



The children will learn that the Bible is the story of God's love and concern for us. They will learn that the Bible is a living book through which God speaks to us and tells us about himself. They will learn that the Bible is one story told in many books, and they will learn about Moses, David and Jonah, key characters from the Jewish Bible that Christians call the Old Testament.

The children will have the chance to:

- · explore how the Bible helps us to pray and experience how God speaks to us in the Bible
- · participate in a liturgy and experience a guided meditation on a text from the Bible

At home

You could help your children by:

Reading some of the stories the children have covered in class.

Year Five



Gifts from God

The children will learn the second story of Creation (the creation of the man and the woman – Adam and Eve) and the Fall in the Book of Genesis. They will learn that we are all created in the image and likeness of God and know that God calls us to care for others and all creation with love and respect. They will learn that there are times when we fail to be good stewards of creation. They will also learn that there are people who show great respect for creation and for the weakest members of society.

The children will have the chance to:

- · appreciate how we can show respect for ourselves, for others and for God.
- reflect on times we have failed to show respect and reflect on the gifts and talents God has given each of us.
- · reflect on the use and misuse we can make of these gifts.

At home

You could help your children by:

• talking to them about their own gifts and talents and how they can use them to do good.



<u>Year 6</u>

The Kingdom of God

The children will be introduced to Jesus' teaching about the Kingdom of God; a teaching central to his life and mission. They will be taught the concept of the Kingdom of God through some of the parables and miracles of Jesus and will explore the ways in which people respond to Jesus' invitation to belong to his Kingdom.

The children will have the chance to:

- reflect on what the Kingdom of God is like and is not like
- · understand some of the parables of the Kingdom
- reflect on the importance of responding to the invitation to the Kingdom
- · reflect on the words and deeds necessary to show commitment to the Kingdom
- · know there are three kinds of miracle
- · know that Jesus' miracles reflected the beginning of the Kingdom and show us what God is like

At home

You could help your children by:

- · asking them to explain the meaning of the Kingdom of God
- · discuss the parables and their meaning
- · read a miracle story and discuss what it tells us about God