



RE NEWSLETTER

THROUGH CHRIST WE BELIEVE, INSPIRE, ACHIEVE.
ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Spring Term 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As in the Autumn term children from Nursery to Year Three are learning from an updated Religious Education Curriculum. Starting from scripture, the children work on the same themes at an age and stage-appropriate level. Topics last for half a term. Children in Years 4-6 change to the new curriculum at a later date and are following the *Come and See* Programme of Study in the meantime.

To know You
more clearly

The Religious Education Directory
for Catholic Schools, Academies and Colleges
in England and Wales



Galilee to Jerusalem

6th January - 14th February

Home Activities:



Early Years - The children hear the Bible stories of the Wise Men, Jesus welcoming the little children, Jesus blessing the children and The Feeding of the 5000. They learn that Jesus is God's son and came for everyone and so we are called to help the poor and hungry. The children will also learn the 'Glorify Be' prayer.

Early Years - Jesus wants us to take extra care of people who do not have food, water, homes, schools. How can we do this?

Year 1 - Children hear the Bible Stories from Luke's Gospel including The Presentation, Finding in the temple and the hidden life and Zacchaeus. They will learn that Jesus is the 'light to all nations' and that The Feast of the Presentation of Jesus (known as Candlemas in Britain) is celebrated by Christians around the world. To live out the faith, the children learn that all Christians are called to follow Jesus, share the Good News with others and to take care of each other.

Year 1 - Jesus is the light to all nations. Make a pretend candle using a toilet roll, decorate it and write how you can be a 'light to others'.

Year 2 - The children will hear Bible stories including Jesus' baptism, the preaching of John the Baptist and the choice of the twelve. They will also be introduced to miracles and parables. They will learn about the church's teaching that when people make bad choices (sin) they turn away from God. Jesus teaches that God loves and forgives and that being sorry helps us to change and become better people.

Year 2 - A saint is an ordinary person who does extraordinary things. How can you be a saint today?

Year 3 - In addition to the story of the Epiphany (three wise men), the children will be listening to and learning about some of Jesus' miracles and parables. They will learn that praying the 'Our Father' helps Christians to continue to build the kingdom begun with Jesus. By the end of this unit the children will know about the life of a saint who worked to build the kingdom of God.

Year 3 - When his friend's asked Jesus how to pray he taught them the Lord's Prayer. Pray the Our Father together as a family.



Thank you 

SORRY





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The Holy Father has proclaimed 2025 as a Jubilee Year, a sacred time of renewal, reflection, and grace celebrated every 25 years. The school's launch takes place in January 2025. As a group of local Catholic schools in the South Sefton area, we have produced prayer boxes based on a variety of different themes for the Jubilee Year entitled *Pilgrims of Hope* which will be passed around the schools each month to be used during Prayer and Liturgy times in school.



Desert - Garden

25th February - 4th April

Home Activities:



Early Years - The children learn that Lent is a time to care for others, Jesus died on a cross and it is a sad time, Jesus was given new life by God his Father, Jesus rose and everyone celebrates. They will be introduced to simple signs of Easter such as an Easter garden and learn about different cultures and traditions during Lent and Easter.

Early Years - Discuss and find out about the pre-Lenten tradition of Shrove Tuesday known as Pancake Day as you enjoy yours at home.

Year 1 - The unit begins with a focus on Ash Wednesday as the start of Lent, a special time for praying, fasting, and helping others as Jesus taught us to do. The children hear stories from the Bible including Jesus being tempted in the desert for 40 days. Some of the key stories for Holy Week are also heard: Jesus entering Jerusalem, The Last Supper and the Crucifixion and Death of Jesus.

Year 1 - As part of the unit the children hear the Story of the Widow's Mite. Discuss that we can learn from this story.

Year 2 - By the of this unit the children will know that the Church teaches that Lent is a time of preparing our hearts and minds for Easter through reconciliation and forgiveness. They will learn the importance of saying sorry to God and others for their sins. They will hear that the church teaches that the Easter Vigil Mass is the high point of the year and is rich in symbols of light and darkness.

Year 2 - Make a sorry card for someone you may need to apologise to or write a sorry prayer card to God.

Year 3 - In a focus on the Miracles of the Loaves and the Last Supper, the children learn how Jesus showed his love by giving the gift of himself transformed into bread and wine. He made his apostles priests of his promise when he told them to 'Do this in remembrance of me'. Catholics gather to celebrate Mass where they listen to holy scripture and meet Jesus in Holy Communion.

Year 3 - Find out about some different cultural practices associated with Holy Week (e.g., Maundy money in the UK, Green Thursday in Germany).





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'Come and See' Year 4, Year 5, Year 6

Home Activities:



Local Church - Community

Y4 Community - Life in the Local Christian Community and ministries in the parish.

Y5 Mission - Continuing Jesus' mission in life (ecumenism)

Y6 Sources - The Bible, the special book for the Church

Explore the [Archdiocese Website](#), exploring the number of churches and finding out about our Archbishop and Bishop.

Eucharist - Relating

Y4 Giving and Receiving - Living in communion

Y5 Memorial and Sacrifice - Eucharist as the Living Memorial of Christ's Sacrifice

Y6 Unity - Eucharist enabling people to live in communion

Look through family photographs to help your child remember important events and special people in their lives. Discuss how we come together for special celebrations.

Lent/Easter - Giving

Y4 Self-Discipline- Celebrating Growth to New Life

Y5 Sacrifice- Lent a time of aligning with the sacrifice made by Jesus

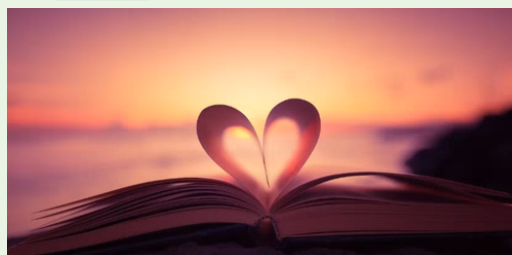
Y6 Death and New Life - Celebrating Jesus' Death and Resurrection

As a family discuss how you are going to practice self-control or self-giving during the season of Lent. You may decide to give up biscuits or cakes or donate money to charity.



The Stations of the Cross

Catholics are invited to pray the Stations of the Cross, particularly during Lent. You may wish to watch this video of the Stations of the Cross together as a family, click on the picture below:





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CHURCH CALENDAR - SPRING TERM 2025

Important Dates This Term:

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Ash Wednesday

Wearing ashes on our foreheads is a tradition of repentance that comes from the Old Testament.



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Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Palm Sunday, also called Passion Sunday, is the last Sunday before the Easter Triduum. We recall Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, just days before he was to die. The celebration marks the beginning of Holy Week.



APR

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Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday was the day that Jesus shared his final meal with his followers before he was crucified. Christians know this meal as the Last Supper. Maundy Thursday commemorates Jesus' institution of the Eucharist and the priesthood.



APR

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Good Friday

Good Friday is the day Christians celebrate Jesus, the Son of God, giving his life to set us free. It is a sombre day of fasting and penance. It is a special day to remember the love God has for us.



APR

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Easter Sunday

At Easter, we rejoice in the empty tomb—Jesus' resurrection. Easter is the day Jesus rose from the dead after being crucified.



Through the Ten Ten Resources [Online Parent Portal](https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/) for Prayer and Liturgy, you can access the Daily Classroom Prayers that children will be praying each day in school. Perhaps you could pray the prayers at home as a family too! Ask your child's school about the login details if you don't already have them.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>



ALL IT TAKES IS
ONE GOOD
PERSON
TO RESTORE
HOPE
-POPE FRANCIS

