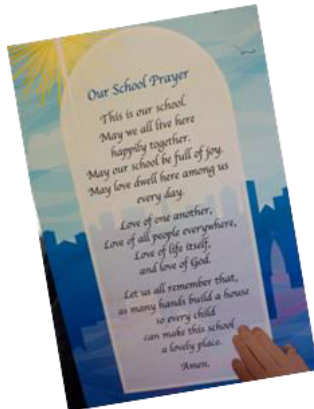




# COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

## St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School



### Document Management:

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St Teresa's Catholic Primary School



## Our Mission Statement

To create confident and independent learners who have the skills and knowledge needed to be the best that they can be and who serve each other in a loving Catholic community.

To achieve this we will:

strive to do the little things well like St. Teresa.

value ourselves and one another.

reach out to others.

accept and forgive.

worship together.



*“Let us do the little things well today.”*

*St. Teresa of Lisieux*

## 1. Introduction

*Regular liturgical celebrations and daily prayers in accordance with the rites, practices, discipline and liturgical norms of the Catholic Church, should be at the heart of school life. (A7.7) The celebration of Catholic liturgies and prayers as an integral part of learning and teaching should create time for the school community to become reflective, experience the presence of God and develop a mature spiritual life. (A8.7)*

**[From Christ at the Centre: A Summary of Why the Church Provides Catholic Schools, Rev Marcus Stock STL MA, Director of Schools, 2005](#)**

The Catholic School is essentially different and distinct from other institutions in both philosophy and practice. Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust recognises the importance of emphasising this distinctiveness in our acts of collective worship. To this end, our acts of worship are designed to:

- Foster and develop a relationship with Jesus Christ
- promote an appreciation of prayer, worship and liturgy
- encourage the participation of pupils so as to reinforce the unique worth of each individual within our community and also;
- in line with the Liturgical Calendar, the directives and the translations of the liturgical books of the Roman Catholic Church.

In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation and the Diocesan Memorandum of Understanding each school in the Trust must provide religious education and collective worship in accordance with the teachings, rites and liturgical norms of the Catholic Church and will be subject to the authority and direction of the Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle. The key areas of the distinctive nature of Catholic education are recorded in 'Principles, Practices and Concerns' as supplemented by 'The Common Good in Education' (Bishops Conference 1996), focusing particularly on the search for excellence as an integral part of the spiritual quest within oneself and within the wider community.

### **The Right to Withdraw**

An Academy's Funding Agreement is drafted to mirror the requirements for Acts of collective worship. Each pupil must take part in a daily act of collective worship unless they have been withdrawn by their parents, or if in the sixth form they have decided to withdraw themselves.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship and are not required to provide a reason for doing so.

Parents will be encouraged to discuss their decision with the **headteacher** following a request of withdrawal in terms of:

- The elements of worship in which the parent would object to the pupil taking part in.
- The practical implications of their withdrawal.

Alternative provision will be arranged for pupils who are withdrawn from collective worship.

- Alternative provision may involve religious worship relevant to their particular faith or denomination provided that:

- The effect of the alternative provision would not replace the denominational collective worship with that of the statutory, non-denominational worship.

Such arrangements can be made at no additional cost to the school.

The alternative provision will be consistent with the overall purposes of the school curriculum.

The Trust's Funding Agreement also states that: 'Where a Mainstream Academy is designated with a religious character in accordance with section 124B of the [School Standards and Framework Act 1998](#) or further to section 6(8) of the [Academies Act 2010](#):

b) subject to clause 28, the Company shall comply with the requirements of section 70(1) of, and Schedule 20 to, the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 as if the Academy were a foundation school with a religious character or a voluntary school, and as if references to 'the required collective worship' were references to collective worshiping accordance with the tenets and practices of the specified religion or religious denomination of the Academy.'

c) the Company shall ensure that all quality of....the Academy's collective worship...are inspected. Such inspection shall be conducted by a person chosen by the Company and the Academy shall secure that such inspection shall comply with the requirements set out in any statutory provision and regulations as if the Academy were a foundation or voluntary school which has been designated under section 69(3) of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 as having a religious character.

Collective Worship in a Catholic school is, however, more than just a legal requirement. It is central to Catholic education and is an essential part of the Trust's overall provision for prayer and worship. We are proudly Catholic in both senses of the word. Everyone in our community is invited to contribute to it and gain from it, regardless of faith, level of belief and commitment.

The inspection of the Trust's arrangement for the inspection for collective worship and RE shall be through Section 48 Inspections. The report on Religious Education is produced for the Bishop of Hexham & Newcastle, who under Canon Law 804 and 806, as the Diocesan Bishop he has responsibility for the schools in the diocese, and for the Governing Body of the schools concerned. *"The formation and education in the Catholic religion provided in any school is subject to the authority of the Church....the diocesan Bishop has the right to watch over and inspect the Catholic schools situated in his territory, even those established or directed by members of Religious Institutes".* ([Canons 804, 806 Code of Cannon Law](#)).

The Trust is a Eucharistic Community this means that we are a community rooted in the Catholic tradition, which gathers to celebrate Eucharist on a regular basis. The word "Eucharist" is a translation of the Greek word eucharistia, which means thanksgiving. Through sharing liturgical life and mutual support for one another, the trust is strengthened to live Christ- centred lives dedicated to spiritual growth and social commitment.

The Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life." "The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch." ([Catechism of the Catholic Church 1324](#))

In accordance with the [1988 Education Act](#) and the [DfE Circular 1/94](#), collective worship within the Trust provides opportunities for pupils and staff to come together as a community through daily prayer in the classroom, through participation in weekly assemblies and through other liturgical celebrations. Furthermore, through collective worship we are able to encourage pupils and staff to reinforce positive attitudes they may have within their community. We also highlight and try to change negative attitudes within our society to encourage a common ethos and shared values amongst all.

In accordance with the Trust's Scheme of Delegation responsibility for arranging Collective Worship rests with the Local Governing Committee after consultation with the Principal/Headteacher.

### **Aims**

The Trust aims to provide opportunities for pupils and staff to come together in community to worship God and to respond to the invitation from God to be in relationship with Him. Collective Worship reflects the traditions of our Church, taking into account the spiritual and educational needs of all who share in it:

- Those who form part of the worshipping community in church.
- Those for whom school may be their first and only experience of church.
- Those from other Christian traditions, faith communities or none.

### **We endeavour to do this by:**

- Helping to develop the faith of each individual within our community;
- Promoting the belief that our Trust is a caring community;
- Giving pupils an insight into and understanding of Gospel values;
- Developing an understanding of the responsibilities the Gospel values place upon each individual within the community;
- Developing a sense of mission;
- Encourage those who form part of the worshipping community in church;
- Help those for whom school may be their first and only experience of church;
- Include pupils from other Christian traditions, or none or from other faith backgrounds; and
- Provide an educational activity or experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain.

Therefore, at the start of each day the staff in all of the Trust schools gather as a community and briefing begins with a prayer and a reflection to remind us all of God's presence among us.

## **2. Vision and Values of Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust**

The Trust has adopted the following vision and values to guide us in our mission and to underpin all that we do:

### ***Our Vision:***

Our schools will be places of excellence – providing service and witness to children, their families and the wider Catholic community, adding value as a family of schools and enriching the learning and experience of all our young people so they may achieve their full potential.

### ***Our Values:***

The following values underpin everything the Trust and our Schools will do:

**BEING** Just and Responsible: We seek to act justly, fairly and responsibly in all our relationships to ensure ‘The Common Good’ is upheld.

**PROMOTING** Spiritual and Human Development: We believe a knowledge of and a personal relationship with Christ gives meaning and purpose to our lives.

**ACHIEVING** Quality in Teaching and Learning: We believe everyone should gain dignity and self-worth through quality teaching and learning which allow all in our school community to excel.

**SHOWING** Respect for Every Person: We believe that all are created in the image of God and therefore we will respect the unique and intrinsic value of every person, promoting equality and celebrating diversity.

**CREATING** Community: We believe our schools to be faith communities where Gospel values of truth, honesty, forgiveness and reconciliation are lived and where there is special care for those most in need.

**COMMUNICATING:** We value the views and opinions of the communities whom we serve and will actively engage and respond.

## **3. The Aims of Collective Worship at Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust**

- To reflect upon the mystery that is God;
- To provide opportunities for students and staff to come to know Jesus Christ through prayer and action;
- To heighten pupils’ awareness of questions related to the ultimate mysteries of life and to explore the beliefs and commitments made by themselves and others in response to such questions;
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development with specific reference to the Catholic tradition;
- To respond to life’s challenges, celebrate life’s wonders and comfort and console at times of difficulty;

- To celebrate the richness and diversity of our God given creation and the responsibilities we have for its stewardship;
- To give opportunities for silent contemplation, reflection, personal response and prayer;
- To explore, reflect on, express, affirm, or challenge commonly accepted personal and social values and individually held beliefs;
- To express our faith as a Christian community thus reinforcing the sense of belonging, the development of community spirit, the promotion of a common ethos and the reinforcement of positive attitudes;
- To provide staff and pupils with opportunities to worship God hence enabling individual spiritual moral development; and
- To offer pupils the opportunity to prepare themselves for challenges in their adult life.

**To fulfil these aims we will:**

- Ensure the Act of Worship is seen as part of the total curriculum, an integral part of the life of the school and seen to be important;
- Adopt an approach that is based on educational principles which aid the spiritual development of individuals. Therefore the form, shape and content will be educational;
- Respect the integrity of the individual, to give the opportunity to participate creatively and encourage each to make an individual response to a shared experience;
- Build up accessible resource materials for use in assemblies and the daily act of worship;
- Experiences of prayer and worship will be high quality, reflecting the liturgical seasons and feasts of the Church.
- Endeavour to provide a physical environment that is conducive to the above;
- Involve a wider combination of staff, pupils and relevant members of the community in assemblies; and
- Provide an opportunity to review Collective Worship.

**Role of Trust Head of Catholic Life**

The Trust Head of Catholic Life acts as a resource to support to Lay Chaplains and Chaplaincy Teams. Their role is to provide:

- Training and support
- Point of contact
- Identify and meet the training needs of those involved in chaplaincy in our schools
- Oversee spirituality timetables
- Assistance with sacred spaces
- Opportunities to meet and discuss ideas and problem-solve together
- Assistance with the planning and preparation of key Liturgical celebrations including major feasts and seasons across sectors
- Resources for websites

The Trust Head of Catholic Life will work with school Chaplains and those with responsibility for co-ordinating collective worship to develop ideas to:

- Make prayer engaging and meaningful
- Increase involvement of our young people in the prayer life of their school
- Develop whole Trust MAT spirituality events including retreats and liturgies

### **The Role of the Coordinator for Collective Worship**

The role of the Co-ordinator for Collective Worship is detailed at **Appendix 1**.

The name of the coordinator with a defined role and responsibility for Collective Worship is Fiona Lindsay, Deputy Head Teacher.

### **Organisation of Collective Worship**

The organisation of collective worship is detailed at **Appendix 2**.

### **Policy Monitoring and Review**

This policy is monitored by the Collective Worship Co-ordinator. It is evaluated and reviewed by the Headteacher, members of Senior Leadership Team and the Collective Worship Co-ordinator with the whole school teaching staff and Governors every two years.



**The Role of the Coordinator for Collective Worship**

- Formulating a written policy for Collective Worship
- Ensuring that there is a development plan for Collective Worship included in the school development plan
- Ensuring that Collective Worship is appropriate to the age, aptitudes and faith backgrounds of pupils
- Ensuring that Collective Worship takes account of the religious and educational needs of all who share in it and is rooted in the principles of the 'Directory for Masses with Children'
- Organising themes for Worship
- Assisting the governors and headteacher to carry out their legal responsibilities with regard to Collective Worship including withdrawal from collective worship
- Developing staff confidence and expertise e.g. through modelling different prayer styles

**Planning, recording, monitoring and evaluating**

- Maintaining and developing effective procedures and documentation
- Observing Acts of Collective Worship and providing feedback
- Informing the headteacher of standards and developments in Collective Worship

**Communication**

- Communicating to members of the school community the significance and content of Collective Worship
- Reporting to and consulting with the governors and headteacher regarding matters of concern and development
- Acting as consultant to colleagues
- Encouraging positive attitudes towards Collective Worship
- Informing newly appointed colleagues of school policy regarding Collective Worship
- Communicating with parents, governors and the parish community
- Liaison with the school chaplain
- Liaison with the Diocesan Department for Education

**Professional development/Ongoing formation**

- Leading and organising in-service training and ongoing formation for Collective Worship
- Attending appropriate in-service courses, reporting back and leading staff training
- Keeping up to date by personal reading

**Resources**

- Evaluating existing resources
- Developing the resources available for Collective Worship including visual aids, artefacts, drapes, music, visitors, leaders, new and relevant books, posters etc.

- Budgeting efficiently

## Appendix 2

### Organisation of Collective Worship

#### Planning, Content and Celebration

Collective Worship is planned following a structure with reference to the Church's seasons, Come and See (primary), feast days, the curriculum and significant dates e.g. CAFOD Family Fast Day, Holocaust Memorial Day.

Parish and parents are invited to participate in some celebrations.

A variety of prayer styles will be used appropriate to the age of the children and the occasion.

The timetable of Collective Worship is as below.

Week Day	Format of Worship	
	Key Stage One	Key Stage Two
Monday	Our focus on a different statement of our Mission statement	Key Stage Two Class Led Liturgy on themes chosen by the children and our virtue statements
Tuesday	Class Prayers – a real focus on significant prayers and our school prayer	Our focus is on a different statement of our Mission statement
Wednesday	Our focus is the Gospel Reading of the forthcoming Sunday	Our focus is Gospel Reading of the forthcoming Sunday
Thursday	Our focus is one of the Statements to Live By	Our Focus is one of the Statements to Live By
Friday	Whole School Collective Worship – our focus is themed to Church seasons, world issues and school needs led by Head teacher	Whole School Collective Worship – our focus is themed to Church seasons, world issues and school needs led by Head teacher

Children also lead end of unit 'Come and See' liturgies within their class.

Key stage one class liturgies, where parents are invited, are held on a yearly basis with each class holding their own liturgy. Other celebration liturgies are also celebrated by the whole of key stage one collectively such as a Mother's Day Liturgy.

Class prayers: all children are expected to know traditional prayers such as the: Hail Mary, Our Father, Act of Contrition, Eternal Rest, Grace before and after meals and other age appropriate prayers as detailed in Come and See. All children are expected to be taught and know our School Prayer and morning and evening prayers. The rosary is also taught to children and prayed.

**Class Collective Worship Timetable and Themes Spring Term 2022**

**Class Collective Worship Timetable and Themes Autumn 2021**

<b><u>Week Beginning</u></b>	<b><u>Gospel Wednesday Word</u></b>	<b><u>Mission Statement</u></b>	<b><u>Statement to Live By</u></b>
6/9/21	24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time <b>Year B</b> Page 220	To create confident and independent learners who have the skills and knowledge needed to be the best that they can be and who serve each other in a loving Catholic community.	1. We are all special.
13/9/21	25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 222	Strive to do the little things well like St. Teresa.	2. I can say one good thing about myself.
20/9/21	26 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 224	Value ourselves and one another.	3. I can say how I feel.
27/9/21	27 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 226	Reach out to others. NB 1/10/21 – Saint Therese of the Little Flower NB 1/10/21 – CAFOD – Family Fast Day Harvest Festival assembly	4. I can laugh and have fun.
4/10/21 NB October is the month of the Holy Rosary – Rosary to be prayed throughout October.	28 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 228	Accept and forgive.	5. I know what to do if I see anyone being hurt.
11/10/21	29 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 230	Worship together.	6. I understand that rights match responsibility.
18/10/21	30 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 232	To create confident and independent learners who have the skills and knowledge needed to be the best that they can be and who serve each other in a loving Catholic community.	7. I try to stand up for myself and others without hurting others.
<b>Half term</b>	NB November – month of the Holy Souls – Eternal Rest to be prayed	1/11/21 – All Saints celebrated 31/10/21 2/11/20 – All Souls	
1/11/21	32 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 236	Strive to do the little things well like St. Teresa.	8. I try to be just and fair.
8/11/21	33 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 238	Value ourselves and one another.	9. I can tell you how I look after myself.
15/11/21	Christ the King Page 240	Reach out to others	10. I think before I make choices that affect my health.
22/11/21	<b>Year C</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent Page 246	Accept and forgive.	11. I can work, play, rest and prayer each day.
29/11/21	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Page 248	Worship together.	12. Simple things can make us happy
6/12/21	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) Page 250	To create confident and independent learners who have the skills and knowledge needed to be the best that they can be and who serve each other in a loving Catholic community.	13. I try to love others as I love myself
13/12/21	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Page 252	Strive to do the little things well like St. Teresa.	14. I try to follow our school and classroom rules.
<b>Christmas</b>			

<u>Week Beginning</u>	<u>Gospel</u> <u>Wednesday Word</u>	<u>Mission Statement</u>	<u>Statement to Live By</u>
3/1/22 NB 6/1/22 The Epiphany of the Lord (Holy Day)	Baptism of the Lord Page 32	Value ourselves and one another.	15. I know I belong in a community that includes my school.
10/1/22	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 278	Reach out to others.	16. I know we are happiest when we are united.
17/1/22	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 280	Accept and forgive.	17. I listen to what you say. I show that I am listening to you.
24/1/22	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 282	Worship together.	18. I co-operate with others in work and play
31/1/22 NB 2/2/22 The Presentation of the Lord	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 284	To create confident and independent learners who have the skills and knowledge needed to be the best that they can be and who serve each other in a loving Catholic community.	19. I try to use words that make the world a better place. (Please say sorry and thank you.)
7/2/22	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 286	Strive to do the little things well like St. Teresa.	20. I try to appreciate the beauty and wonder in the world around me.
14/2/22	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 288	Value ourselves and one another.	21. I know that it is okay for me to make mistakes.
<b>Half term</b>			
28/2/22 NB 2/3/22 - ASH WEDNESDAY	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent Page 256	Reach out to others.	22. I can learn from my mistakes and failures.
7/3/22	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent Page 258	Accept and forgive	23. I try to keep going when things are difficult
14/3/22	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent Page 260	Worship together.	24. I know what humility means.
21/3/22	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent Page 262	To create confident and independent learners who have the skills and knowledge needed to be the best that they can be and who serve each other in a loving Catholic community.	25. I know when to ask for help and who to ask for help from.
28/3/22	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent Page 264	Strive to do the little things well like St. Teresa.	26. I can recognise comfortable and uncomfortable feelings
4/4/22	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion Page 46	Value ourselves and one another.	27. I know how to help others when they are in trouble.
<b>Easter</b>	NB Good Friday 15/4/22 Easter Sunday 17/4/22		

**Class Collective Worship Timetable and Themes Summer Term 2022**

<u>Week Beginning</u>	<u>Gospel</u> <u>Wednesday Word</u>	<u>Mission Statement</u>	<u>Statement to Live By</u>
25/4/22	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter Page 268	Reach out to others.	28. I understand what trust means.
2/5/22 NB May is the Month of Mary – Rosary, Procession	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Page 270	Accept and forgive.	29. I forgive people when they hurt me
9/5/22	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Page 272	Worship together.	30. I try to accept forgiveness from others.
16/5/22	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Page 274	To create confident and independent learners who have the skills and knowledge needed to be the best that they can be and who serve each other in a loving Catholic community	31. I know how to show I am sorry.
23/5/22 NB 26/5/22 is Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day)	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Page 276	Strive to do the little things well like St. Teresa.	32. I understand the importance of peace.
Half term	NB Pentecost 5/6/22		
6/6/22	The Most Holy Trinity Page 74	Value ourselves and one another.	33. I know what dignity means and I show respect to others.
13/6/22	The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ	Reach out to others.	34. I stand up for people who are being treated unfairly.
20/6/22	13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 300	Accept and forgive.	35. I notice that we are the same and we are different.
27/6/22 NB 29/6/2022 Saint Peter and Saint Paul (Holy Day)	14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 302	Worship together	36. I try to be accepting of others.
4/7/22	15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 304	To create confident and independent learners who have the skills and knowledge needed to be the best that they can be and who serve each other in a loving Catholic community	37. Opportunity to make own class statement
11/7/22	16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 306	Strive to do the little things well like St. Teresa.	38. Opportunity to make own class statement
18/7/22	17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Page 308	Value ourselves and one another.	39. Opportunity to make own class statement
Summer Holidays			

## **Other Opportunities**

At St. Teresa's we celebrate special themed events such as the Year of Mary, the Year of the Word and the Year of Joseph. We also celebrate Mission weeks. During these times, children design and lead prayer stations throughout the school; take part in art activities linked to the given theme; and are given creative opportunities to further expand their knowledge and faith. At St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School, we celebrate also Stations of the Cross, Mary in the month of May, Nativity plays and a Leavers' Mass incorporated into our end of year Mass. We encourage family prayer through Travelling Cribs and home/school prayer books.

Hymn practices are undertaken on a regular basis and liturgical dances are incorporated into Masses and themed weeks.

Our Mini Vinnies group may also choose themes for liturgical celebrations.

## **Leading Collective Worship**

As faith leader of the school, the Headteacher leads whole school collective worship on at least a weekly basis with our children. The Deputy Head Teacher and Assistant Head Teacher also plan and lead whole-school collective worship. Class teachers lead class collective worship. Children are taught to plan and lead worship according to their age and stage of development.

## **Recording**

Collective Worship is recorded in Class Liturgy folders and books, Class Mission Statement books, Statement to Live by books, RE Books and in the RE coordinator's Masses and Assembly folders. Copies of liturgies can also be found in the shared area in the Liturgy folder. We record the parish and parents' responses and children's responses to Masses in Our 'Parents' Voice' and 'Children's Voice' books.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Collective Worship is monitored using St. Teresa's Collective Worship monitoring form. Monitoring is carried out by members of St. Teresa's Senior Leadership Team.

Following monitoring, training needs will be identified and outcomes used to inform SEF 48.

## **The Learning Environment and Sacred Spaces**

'Symbols and icons of the Catholic faith when displayed in school and throughout its premises will help the school community and visitors to experience the uniqueness and sacredness of this learning environment'<sup>1</sup>

Focal points in each classroom and throughout the school reflect the liturgical season and reference Come and See topics. In this way, they are an outward sign of the school's ethos.

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<sup>1</sup> Christ at the Centre Rev Marcus Stock, 2005

### **Developing Parish Links**

St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School has regular Masses and services in St. Teresa's parish church to which all parents and parishioners are invited to attend. We hold coffee mornings and charity events after Mass to which parishioners are regularly invited into school. We hold fund-raising events to support our Parish Priest's special charity: 'Missio'. We take on the catechesis role of the parish in Sacramental preparation. We support other fund raising and social activities in the parish.

### **Prayer**

Staff meet for prayers every Monday and Wednesday morning.

### **Retreats / Pilgrimages**

Our year six pupils attend the Youth Ministry Trust's Primary School's Festival held in June each year at the Emmaus Village in Allensford, Consett, Co. Durham. More than 3000 children from across the diocese attend the Festival over six days. The Festival is an opportunity for pupils to celebrate and be affirmed in their Faith.

### **Charity**

St. Teresa's has a commitment to support the most vulnerable and needy in our communities both locally and globally. We hold regular fundraising initiatives throughout each school year. Suggestions for charities to support are taken from children, parents, staff and local and global needs and events. We proudly display our fundraising outcomes in the school hall for all to see. Examples of charities recently supported are: CAFOD, Missio, St. Cuthbert's Care, Macmillan Cancer Support, The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, local foodbanks, St. Teresa's Hospice, Children in Need to name but a few.

### **Holy Mass & Celebration of Sacraments and Feast Days / Holy Days of Obligation**

At St. Teresa's we celebrate the Eucharist as a whole school community and in key stages as below:

#### **Mass Timetable**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Format</b>
Beginning of Autumn Term	Whole School Mass - Welcome new children and staff
Closing of Autumn Term	Whole School Mass – Advent/Christmas theme
Closing of Spring Term	Whole School Mass – Lent/Easter theme
Closing of Summer Term	Whole School Mass – Reflecting on the School Year/Leavers' Mass
Dates - variable	Feast Days and Special Services: - The Feast of All Saints Epiphany of the Lord Ash Wednesday The Feast of The Ascension May Procession The Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul
Dates throughout the year	Class masses led by key stage two classes. Class 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

## **Sacramental Preparation: Supporting Parishes**

Sacramental Preparation takes place according to Diocesan guidelines for Reconciliation and Eucharist. We take on the catechesis role of the parish in Sacramental preparation. School also carries out the duty of preparing the children for the receiving of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and receiving the blessed Eucharist in the children's First Holy Communion Mass.

## **Resources**

Liturgy resources are stored in a Class Collective Worship box. Books, Bibles, liturgical and hymnal music resources are found in the RE cupboard alongside further resources to support Collective Worship. 'Statements to Live By' resources can be found in class folders and in the shared area.