



# Religious Education Newsletter Autumn 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new academic year, we hope you have enjoyed the first half of this term and that you had a restful summer and enjoyed spending some time with your friends and loved ones.

This academic year there are some changes being made to our RE curriculum with the introduction of the new Religious Education Directory – To Know You More Clearly. We have decided along with the other local catholic schools to implement a phased introduction of the new RED and will begin by introducing the curriculum to EYFS this year.

We are also introducing a new resource to our collective worship called Ten:Ten. Ten:Ten aims to bring our school community into conversation with God through prayer and the Gospel. Ten:Ten also has a wide variety of resources to support parents with worship at home, these will be posted regularly on our school website and can be found at

<https://stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/catholic-life-and-mission/collective-worship>

within the collective worship at home tab.

## Religious Education - Autumn EYFS

This term in EYFS we will be studying two themes – Creation and Covenant, as well as Prophecy and Promise.

### Creation and Covenant

'The heavens are telling the glory of God' (Psalm 19:1).

In this branch, pupils will encounter the God who creates and calls a people. Throughout this unit our EYFS pupils were taught all about God's wonderful creation of our world! They learnt about the creation story, went on

'Wonder Walks' where they got to consider what they wonder about the world

around them and consider how they are called to be Stewards (look after our world) as part of CST. They also looked at the sacrament of baptism, and considered how baptism welcomes us into God's family.



### Prophecy and Promise

'In many and various ways, God spoke to our ancestors by the prophets' (Hebrew 1:1).

In this branch, pupils will explore the Christian of God's promise in a messiah, Jesus Christ. They will explore the concept of waiting and preparing for the coming of Jesus during advent, and the importance of the nativity story. The topic starts with the children considering the importance of birthdays, before being introduced to the concept of messengers via the angels. The children then journey through the nativity story throughout advent and consider the importance of Jesus' birth.





# Religious Education



## Autumn 2023 Come and See At Home

This term KS1 and KS2 will be studying the three themes of Domestic Church (Family), Baptism and Confirmation (Belonging) and Advent and Christmas (Loving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics. The children will also spend a week studying Judaism.

### DOMESTIC CHURCH - FAMILY

*5th September – 30th September*

Year 1	<b>FAMILIES</b> - God's love and care for every family
Year 2	<b>BEGINNINGS</b> - God is present in every beginning
Year 3	<b>HOMES</b> - God's vision for every family
Year 4	<b>PEOPLE</b> - The family of God in Scripture
Year 5	<b>OURSELVES</b> - Created in the image and likeness of God
Year 6	<b>LOVING</b> - God who never stops loving

### SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Make a collage using family photographs of all the significant family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. who show God's love.

Write underneath it

**"We show God's love to one another."**

Include those who have died.

### JUDAISM

*3rd October - 7th October*

Pupils will study various aspects of Judaism for one week. Ask them what they have been learning about.

Year 1 - Abraham and Moses	Year 2 - Shabbat	Year 3 - Synagogue	Year 4 - Torah
Year 5 - Passover	Year 6 - Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur		

### BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - BELONGING

*10th October – 11th November*

Year 1	<b>BELONGING</b> - Baptism: an invitation to belong to God's family
Year 2	<b>SIGNS AND SYMBOLS</b> - Signs and symbols in Baptism
Year 3	<b>PROMISES</b> - Promises made at Baptism
Year 4	<b>CALLED</b> - Confirmation: a call to witness
Year 5	<b>LIFE CHOICES</b> - Marriage, commitment and service
Year 6	<b>VOCATION AND COMMITMENT</b> - The vocation of priesthood and religious life

### SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism and/or Confirmation about their memories of this celebration.

### ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - LOVING

*21st November – 16th December*

Year 1	<b>WAITING</b> - Advent: a time to look forward to Christmas
Year 2	<b>PREPARATIONS</b> - Advent: preparing to celebrate Christmas
Year 3	<b>VISITORS</b> - waiting for the coming of Jesus
Year 4	<b>GIFT</b> - God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus
Year 5	<b>HOPE</b> - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus, the promised one
Year 6	<b>EXPECTATIONS</b> - Jesus born to show God to the world

### SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Discuss with the children how your family welcomes visitors to your home. Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree. Complete the weekly Advent prayer focus provided by CAFOD.

### Activities at home:

Please send any photos or evidence of the activities you have completed at home to our school office email.

We would love to see what you have got up to.

[office@stursulasprimaruschool.co.uk](mailto:office@stursulasprimaruschool.co.uk)

# What we are getting up to this term:

## Pupil Chaplains

Our Year 6 pupils have been working hard to write their applications for Pupil Chaplain. This week our new Pupil Chaplains have been introduced to our school community during our St. Ursula's Day celebrations. The pupils were awarded their badge, the dove of peace, to remind them of the roles they are to take amongst our school community. Congratulations to our chaplains, and thank you to our parents and parishioners who came to support our celebration.



## Faith in Action

Our R.E. monitors have recently been renamed and they are now known as our Faith in Action group. The pupils from year groups 1-6 take great pride in working with Mrs Hall to develop the faith in our school, they write our monthly prayers and organise fun groups such as rosary sessions. Thank you to Mrs. Hall and the Faith in Action group for all that you do!



Wishing you a wonderful start to the new school year. Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Gilligan  
R.E. Coordinator



# Important dates this term

HARVEST FESTIVAL (5<sup>th</sup> October)

We celebrate our earth and all that it provides for us, whilst reflecting on those who are in greater need than ourselves.

ST. URSULA'S DAY (20<sup>th</sup> October)

The feast of our Patron saint, a special day where we celebrate St. Ursula's faith, determination and bravery.

ALL SAINTS (1<sup>st</sup> November)

We celebrate the lives of special and ordinary people who have responded to God's invitation to love.

THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)

(2<sup>nd</sup> November)

Today and throughout the rest of November we pray for those who have died.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

ADVENT (Begins 3<sup>rd</sup> December)

Advent means 'coming'. We think of the coming of Jesus when he was born but we also think of his promise that he would come again at the end of time. It is a time of waiting and preparing. It is only in the last week of Advent that we focus upon the events to be celebrated at Christmas.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (8<sup>th</sup> December)

This feast marks the first stage of the existence of Mary, the mother of Jesus. She was 'full of grace' from the very beginning and co-operated with God throughout her life.

Nativity performances - 8<sup>th</sup> December  
More information to follow

CHRISTMAS DAY, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (25<sup>th</sup> December)

On this day we begin our celebration of the birth of Christ.