



Religious Education



Spring 2023 - Come and See At Home

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term we will be studying the three themes of Local Church (Community), Eucharist (Relating) and Lent/Easter (Giving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics.

LOCAL CHURCH - COMMUNITY

(5th - 27th January)

Early Years	CELEBRATING - People celebrate in Church
Year 1	SPECIAL PEOPLE - People in the parish family
Year 2	BOOKS - The books used in Church
Year 3	JOURNEYS - Christian family's journey with Christ
Year 4	COMMUNITY - Life in the local Christian community and ministries in the parish
Year 5	MISSION - Continuing Jesus' mission in the diocese (ecumenism)
Year 6	SOURCES - The Bible, the special book for the Church

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Explore the Diocesan website, looking at the number of churches, and finding out about our bishop.

Read Bible stories together or encourage older children to read a child's Bible.

Encourage children to use references to find stories in the Bible.

EUCCHARIST - RELATING

(30th January - 3rd March)

Early Years	GATHERING - Parish family gathers to celebrate Eucharist
Year 1	MEALS - Mass, Jesus' special meal
Year 2	THANKSGIVING - Mass, a special time to thank God
Year 3	LISTENING & SHARING - Jesus gives himself to us
Year 4	GIVING & RECEIVING - Living in communion
Year 5	MEMORIAL SACRIFICE - Eucharist as the living memorial of Christ's sacrifice
Year 6	UNITY - Eucharist enabling people to live in communion

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Look through the family photograph album to help the children remember important events and special people in their lives.

Discuss how we come together for special celebrations.

Discuss with your children the importance of the Eucharist and how it links to Jesus at the Last Supper.

LENT/EASTER - GIVING

(6th March - 31st March)

Early Year	GROWING - Looking forward to Easter
Year 1	CHANGE - Lent: a time for change
Year 2	OPPORTUNITIES - Lent: an opportunity to start anew
Year 3	GIVING ALL - Lent: remembering Jesus' total giving
Year 4	SELF DISCIPLINE - Celebrating growth to new life
Year 5	SACRIFICE - Lent: a time of aligning with the sacrifice made by Jesus
Year 6	DEATH & NEW LIFE - Celebrating Jesus' death and resurrection

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

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

If you have an older child provide him/her with an opportunity to take part in The Stations of the Cross.

Ask your children how the school is focusing on Lent and self-giving.

Supporting your children in RE

As part of your children's most recent school reports, you will have noticed that we have begun to include a target for your child in RE.

As a catholic school RE is one of our core subjects, and by reporting on your children's targets in RE three times a year we hope it will enable you to further support your children's learning and progress at home.

Attending mass regularly is of great benefit to your children, and explaining the significance of the symbols and practises seen at mass will enable your children to understand the reasons why we do what we do as Christians and Catholics.

Below is a brief overview of some of the skills that we are developing in each of our phases during their RE lessons.

EYFS
To recognise key religious symbols (the sign of the cross etc.) To join in with prayer and hymn singing. To recognise the Bible as a special book. To listen to and talk about religious stories.
KS1
To recognise key religious symbols and consider why they are important. To be able to recognise and retell religious stories. To recognise the signs and symbols used in worship (sign of peace, sign of the cross, lighting of the candle).
KS2
To show knowledge and understanding of a range of religious stories and scripture. To consider what we can learn from scripture. To make links between what they read in the Bible and how they can act this out in their lives.

A message from Miss Gilligan

Throughout the Spring Term our pupils are considering how they can prepare for the season of Lent and the celebration of Easter Sunday, a key event in our church's liturgical year.

This term the children will be adding their second leaves to our prayer trees throughout the school. This leaf will contain the children's Lenten promise. As the season of Lent begins on the 22nd February, please start to talk to your children about their Lenten promises.

This term our charity focus will be to fundraise for CAFOD - the RE monitors will be sending information out in the coming weeks.

We hope you have a happy and holy Lenten season with your loved ones. Thank you for your continued support throughout the year.



Important dates this term

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

1st January - a feast day of the Blessed Virgin Mary under the aspect of her motherhood of Jesus Christ

NURSERY NATIVITY

5th January (rescheduled from before Christmas)

EYFS, KS1 AND KS2 NATIVITIES

6th January - St Dominic's Church (rescheduled from before Christmas)

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

6th January - commemorating the visit of the Magi, the baptism of Christ, and the Miracle at Cana.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

8th January - commemorating the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by John the Baptist.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

2nd February - Candlemas Day, we celebrate Jesus' Presentation at the Temple and Mary being purified, with many bringing candles to their churches to be blessed.

ASH WEDNESDAY

22nd February - Whole School Mass

ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - 20th March

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

25th March

EASTER MASS

31st March - Whole School Easter Mass

EASTER HOLIDAYS

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

2nd April

MAUNDY THURSDAY

6th April

GOOD FRIDAY

7th April

EASTER SUNDAY

9th April