

Discussion/Key Questions

When you hear “you are precious in my eyes” how does that make you feel? Saying sorry takes courage. What else does it do?

During Mass what does bread and wine symbolise? What happens during the Penitential Act and Liturgy of the Word?

The prophecy of Isaiah is really important. Why? What if Mary had said “No to God”? What do you think would have been the consequences for us?

How can we help our family and friends to remember the true meaning of Christmas?

Key Vocabulary

Mass
Sunday
Advent
Joseph
angel
Liturgy of the Word

Big Ideas

The focus in this branch is to study the Mass in some detail, the focus of this branch splits into two themes.

One is understanding what happens at Mass, and the other focuses on the nativity according to St Matthew, which introduces pupils to Joseph and St Matthew’s gospel.

Teaching about the Mass follows on from the theme of Creation by relating to the ‘holy day’ of the seven days of Creation and linking the fruits of Creation with the presentation of the gifts at Mass. The focus is on the Liturgy of the Word as this draws on the experience of liturgies in school and pupils’ understanding of how Christians gather, listen, and respond to the words of Scripture.

Sources:

The Religious Education Directory

Vine and Branches

Autumn 2 Branch 2: Prophecy and Promise

Knowledge Lens Content

Hear

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:

- Why Christians go to Mass on Sunday.
- How Catholics celebrate Mass.

For Advent:

- Messiah would be born of a virgin and would be called Immanuel (Is 7:14).
- The Annunciation to Joseph (Matt 1:18-25).
- Revisit Lk 1:26-38.

Knowledge Lens Content

Believe

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know that the Church teaches:

- Sunday is the day of the Resurrection of Jesus. Therefore, Christians gather on Sunday.
- Catholics gather to celebrate Mass where they listen to the words of holy scripture (the Liturgy of the Word) and meet Jesus in Holy Communion (the Liturgy of the Eucharist).
- The Liturgy of the Word includes readings from the Old Testament and the New Testament.
- That Jesus birth was foretold by the prophets.
- That Joseph listened to the angel and opened his heart to the Holy Spirit.

Celebrate

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:

- How Catholics use some signs, actions, prayers, and symbols to celebrate Mass, e.g., the sign of the cross, bells, the Kyrie Eleison prayer, etc.
- Hear some of the responses Catholics say at Mass, focusing on the Liturgy of the Word.
- How Advent hymns celebrate Jesus as the coming Messiah (e.g., O Little town of Bethlehem; Long ago prophets knew; O come, divine Messiah; O come, O come Emmanuel).

Live

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:

- Some ways that Christians prepare for the coming of Christ during Advent.
- Representations in art around the world, connecting to the prophecies of Christ's coming