

Discussion/Key Questions

Do you think the Magi knew that Jesus was truly God and truly human? What does their visit mean for us? What was Jesus trying to teach the people in the parable of...? The Kingdom of God begins when we open our hearts to God's love. Discuss? How do you think people would behave in the Kingdom of God?

What is a miracle? What is necessary for a miracle to happen? What is the difference between miracles and magic?

Who is the most inspirational person you know or have heard about?

What important advice does the "our father" have for us today?

Sources:

The Religious Education Directory
Vine and Branches

Key Vocabulary

Kingdom of God
miracle
parable
Magi
Adoration
Epiphany

Spring 1 Branch 3: Galilee to Jerusalem

Big Ideas

In this branch, pupils will encounter the Gospel of St Matthew. Matthew's gospel is divided into seven books. The first contains the birth and infancy narratives, the last describes Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection, and the five books in between give an account of the life and ministry of Jesus. The scriptural texts studied in this branch draw from two sections: a narrative section on ten miracles and a sermon on parables.

Pupils will learn that Parables are one of Jesus' teaching methods. In using them, he prompts listeners to think differently. The miracles Jesus performs are signs of the kingdom of God.

Epiphany means to reveal.

Knowledge Lens Content

Hear

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will hear the following key texts:

Miracles, either:

- Cure of the centurion's servant (Matt 8:5-13) or
- Cure of a paralytic (Matt 9:1-8)

Parables, either:

- Parable of the Sower (Matt 13:4-9)
- Parable of the Sower explained (Matt 13:10-17) or
- Parable of the yeast (Matt 13:33) or
- Parable of the treasure and of the pearl (Matt 13:44-46)

For Epiphany:

- The visit of the Magi (Matt 2:1-12)

Knowledge Lens Content

Believe

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

- The Adoration of the Magi shows that all people are seeking Jesus and he comes for the whole world.
- The kingdom of God begins in all those who open their hearts to God's love.
- The miracles that Jesus worked expressed his love for all people and were signs that the kingdom of God was beginning.
- Jesus' parables to show the choices people must make to accept his invitation to the Kingdom.

Celebrate

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

- Praying the 'Our Father' helps Christians to continue to build the kingdom begun with Jesus.

Live

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

- About the life of a saint who worked to build the kingdom of God.