



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

RE Newsletter Summer 2 2024



Dear Parents,

We welcome you and your children back to school after the half term. We begin in the month of June which is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus reminds us of the never ending and merciful love that Jesus has for us.

- The Church's prayer cycle for the summer includes the following:
- A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews.
- Those Who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights, especially on Ss John Fisher and Thomas More (22 June)
- Europe, especially of the feasts of St Benedict (11 July), St Bridget of Sweden (23 July) who are Patrons of Europe
- Human Life, especially on Day for Life (3rd Sunday in June)
- Seafarers, especially on Sea Sunday (2nd Sunday in July)

We hope, as always, you find this newsletter interesting and informative. Please keep us in your prayers as we support your children in their Religious Education.

Mrs Price HOS

Masses

- 11th June Y1/Y2 Mass in church
- 2nd July Y6 Mass in church
- 4th July Whole school Mass in school
- 11th July Y5 Mass in church

Dates from the Church's calendar:

- 7th June Sacred Heart of Jesus
- 8th June Immaculate Heart of Mary
- 11th June St Barnabas, Apostle
- 13th June St Anthony of Padua
- 15th June Blessed Peter Snow
- 20th June St Alban, Martyr
- 22nd June Ss John Fisher and Thomas More
- 24rd June Nativity of St John the Baptist
- 27th June Our Lady of Unfailing Help, Patron of the Diocese
- 30th June Ss Peter and Paul, Apostles
- 11th July St Benedict, Patron of Europe
- 23rd July St Bridget of Sweden, Patron of Europe

Early Years — The Church

"The Church is the family of God, the people that God gathers in the whole world"

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

This half term, the children in the Nursery and the Reception classes will be learning about the Church. The children will begin to understand that we call the Church the family of God. They will learn that a church building is a holy place where we can all pray and are welcome. The children will learn that Jesus is present in a special way in the Blessed Sacrament, and he invites us to be with him. They will learn to be thankful that lots of people help to look after the church and know why Sunday is a special day.

At home you could help your child by:

- visiting church, either for Mass or another time, to talk about the church reminding them what a special place a Church is and reasons why
 - talking to your child about their Baptism, explaining how this was the day that they became part of God's family.
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Year 1—Miracles

“The signs worked by Jesus attest that the Father has sent him. They invite belief in him. To those who turn to him in faith, he grants what they ask. So, miracles strengthen faith in the One who does his Father’s works; they bear witness that he is the Son of God.”

Catechism of the Catholic Church

The children will hear some stories from the gospels which tell of Jesus using his God-given power to show his love and compassion. They will hear the story of the Calming of the Storm and know that we can ask Jesus to help us when we are afraid. They will learn that Jesus showed his love for sick people when he cured a man who was paralysed and know that Jesus has great love for people who are sick today. They will learn that Jesus responded to the faith of the blind man with compassion and think of ways that we can trust Jesus in situations of need.

At home

You could help your child by:

- reading the story of the Calming of the Storm or other miracle stories from the New Testament
- talking to them about how we can ask Jesus, through our prayers, to help us

Year 2—The Birth of the Church

“The Church is the family of God, the People that God gathers in the whole world. This Church is the communion of Christ’s disciples brought together in Christ its Head by the Holy Spirit. It is the Body of Christ, the Temple of the Spirit. As the People of God, the Church is drawn into Christ’s praise of the Father and Christ’s mission in the world.

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The children in Year 2 will learn that when the apostles received the Holy Spirit they spread the Good News. They will reflect on how they can spread the Good News. They will learn about the early Christian community and understand that the Christian community continues today to live by Baptism, the Eucharist and its mission to love God by loving our neighbour.

At home

You could help your child by:

- talking about the symbols of the Holy Spirit and how the fruits of the Holy Spirit helps us

Year 3—Being a Christian

“The greatest commandment of all: “Listen Israel, the Lord your God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: you must love your neighbour as yourself.”

Mark 12: 29-30

“The truth of our union with Jesus Christ in the Eucharist is tested by whether or not we really love our fellow men and women.”

Pope John Paul II, 1979

Year 3 will develop their understanding of what being a Christian involves. They will reflect on the joy and challenges involved in following Jesus and learn about these through the lives of Ss. Peter and Paul. The children will reflect on their gifts and talents and the gifts the Church calls Sacraments, especially the Eucharist. They will reflect on how to use the gifts God has given to us to be a Christian.

At home

You could help your child by:

- encouraging them to recognise their gifts and talents
- talk about how they can use their gifts and talents to help others

Year 4—Belonging to the Church / The Church

“The Church is the family of God, the People that God gathers in the whole world. This Church is the communion of Christ’s disciples brought together in Christ its Head by the Holy Spirit. It is the Body of Christ, the Temple of the Spirit. As the People of God, the Church is drawn into Christ’s praise of the

Father and Christ's mission in the world."
Religious Education Curriculum Directory

Year 4 will learn that we all belong to a community. They will learn about different types of community and know what it means to belong to a community. They will develop their understanding of what it means to belong to community of the Church and know that people become a member of the Church through Baptism. The children will be introduced to the Creed – a statement of the Catholic faith and learn about the structure of the Church's liturgical year.

At home:

You could help your child by:

- encouraging them to become an active member of the parish community, volunteering for altar serving or handing out books.

Year 5— Pentecost - The Transforming Spirit

God's self-revelation is made perfect in us by the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth. This truth was promised by Jesus and revealed at Pentecost. Through the Holy Spirit people are formed and guided to become God's people through knowing God.

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Year 5 will learn about and reflect upon the Ascension and the transformation produced by the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. They will learn about and reflect on the lives of St. Peter and St. Paul and learn that the Pope is the successor of Peter.

At home:

You could help your child by:

- reading the stories of the Ascension and Pentecost with your child
- reading about St. Peter and St. Paul and exploring together why they are so important to Christians

Year 6—Vocations and commitment.

Jesus says: "As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." Many saints were shaken to the core by this passage from the Bible. On account of it, St. Francis of Assisi changed his whole life. Mother Teresa converted because of this saying... When I reflect that these words come from the mouth of Jesus ... then I see that I am called to seek and to love Jesus above all in these little ones, in the least." Pope Francis, DoCat

The children will learn and reflect on some of the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. They will reflect on the implications of our belief that we are made in the image of God and explore the importance of family and community. The children will explore St. Paul's image of the Church as the 'Body of Christ' and draw out the implications of this image for Christian action in the world, particularly through an exploration of the corporeal works of mercy.

At home:

You could help your child by:

- discussing with them the importance of family and family time
- reflecting on some of the corporeal works of mercy. See <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5ETRkL51fhMazByR21ZeEU3VUk/view>