

## Parent Letter – Spring Term

The Religious Education Directory (RED) has now been introduced from Reception to Year Four. This parent letter outlines what the children will learn, following the RED, during the Autumn Term. Year Five and Six continue to follow the previous programme of Come and See. By September 2026, they will also follow the RED. The termly parent letter will reflect the changes in learning for these classes.

### Branch Three – Galilee to Jerusalem

This will be delivered in the first half of the Spring Term. (The colour green is used to represent 'ordinary time' within the church's liturgical calendar)

### Branch Four – Prophecy and Promise

This will be delivered in the second half of the Spring Term. (The colour purple is used to represent the season of advent)

#### Reception

This unit is introducing the role of the Church in getting to know God. They are given as many opportunities to role-play, talk in pairs, in groups and to different adults. They use visual prompts to rehearse the words in the stories.

The story of the feeding of the five thousand is used to help children understand why Jesus is special and what this tells us about God.

This unit introduces Lent as a time to care for one another and grow closer to Jesus in preparation for Easter. The children will think about how Jesus prepared for his mission on Earth by fasting in the desert. They will hear about how Jesus taught us to love one another through the story of the Good Samaritan. Then they will explore Jesus's final week, from entering Jerusalem on a donkey on Palm Sunday to his crucifixion on Good Friday and resurrection on Easter Sunday

#### Year One and Year Two

In Years 1 and 2, children will understand that the Bible is a special book as they encounter the stories and accounts of Jesus, from his Presentation as a baby in the Temple to Simeon and Anna, alongside his hidden life. His hidden life was the time throughout his childhood and the time before his adult ministry. The children will then explore Jesus choosing his disciples and how he loved and showed kindness to the little children. The children will finally focus on the story of Zacchaeus and how he changed after meeting Jesus.

In Years 1 and 2, the children will be exploring verses from the Bible, from the Gospel of Luke in the New Testament. They will explore Jesus' time in the wilderness, Ash Wednesday and look at how this relates to His time in the desert. The children then explore events within Holy week, including Palm Sunday and The Last Supper. The children will then explore how people remember Jesus on Good Friday, learning about His crucifixion and death. Then finally, they will be learning how the Angels brought God's message that Jesus was alive, learning about Jesus' resurrection.

### Year Three and Year Four

This unit continues the theme of the Eucharist (as it is throughout the year) which is all about thanksgiving. The discuss the visit of the Magi and the importance of their gifts that show us about Jesus. They pay particular attention to the Our Father and the meaning of this. They will consider parables and the lessons that we learn from them. One they will be learning about is the story of the Parable of the Sower. Children will understand what the Miracle of Healing the Centurion's servant teaches us and will discuss how John Bosco try to put the Kingdom of Heaven into practice.

This unit goes through the journey that Jesus made from the desert where He spent 40 days and 40 nights to the Garden of Gethsemane where He prayed with His disciples. Children will learn about some of the actions and words of Jesus in the miracles and will consider the compassion He shows towards others. They will also think about how the words and actions of Jesus in these miracles link with the words and actions of Jesus at The Last Supper. The key miracle children will be learning about is The Feeding of the 5000 as in Matthew 14:13-21.

Later on in the unit, children will understand what a Sacrament is what the word Eucharist means. They will also consider hymns and prayers used in Mass to help them understand more about the Eucharist.

### Year Five and Year Six

As these classes are still following the Programme Come and See, their topics will look a little different:

#### LOCAL CHURCH - COMMUNITY

- Year 5      MISSION - Continuing Jesus' mission in diocese  
(ecumenism)
- Year 6      SOURCES - The Bible, the special book for the Church

#### EUCHARIST – RELATING

- Year 5      MEMORIAL SACRIFICE -  
Eucharist as the living memorial  
of Christ's sacrifice
- Year 6      UNITY - Eucharist  
enabling people to live in communion

#### LENT/EASTER - GIVING

- Year 5      SACRIFICE - Lent: a time of aligning with the sacrifice      made  
by Jesus
- Year 6      DEATH & NEW LIFE - Celebrating Jesus' death and

### Learning at Home – How can you support your child at home?

- † EYFS – Ask your children to tell you the story of the feeding of the five thousand. How much do they remember?
- † Y1/2 – How can the children be like Zacchaeus, what can they do to change and follow in Jesus' footsteps?
- † Y3/4- share some parables with your child and discuss the meaning of it with them. Talk about God's Kingdom and how we might work towards this as a community.
- † Y5/6 – Ask your children what they understand about the Corporal Works of Mercy, ask them how we can show kindness and care for others in our community.
- † EYFS - Read the parable of the talents with your child. Discuss what talents God has given them and how they can use them. Tell your child how you get ready for Easter e.g. giving something up or doing something for others.
- † Y1/2 – Talk to your children about the events of Holy Week. Discuss how this is remembered today.
- † Y3/4- Discuss the miracles of Christ and what they teach us about the virtue God is trying to set an example of. i.e. Is He showing us compassion or kindness?
- † Y5/6 – Talk to your child about the different charities which support people in this country. Discuss how they are living out Jesus' wish for us to love one another.

Ask your child to think about how they can live out Catholic Social Teaching principles to make the world a better place.

## Our Charity Work This Term



This February, children will dress and themselves and take part in a Conga for CAFOD. This will link Mental Health Week together with CAFOD's Big Lent Walk. We kindly ask children to bring a £1 donation to come to school in non uniform and conga for CAFOD, raising money for this amazing charity. To find our more about this year's CAFOD fundraising, please visit - <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

This Spring, the children will plan, organise and lead a whole school cake sale. This will be to raise money for the charity Mary's Meals. As we continue to work towards achieving the Mary's Meals Award, we hope to help and feed as many children as possible around the world. To find out more about Mary's Meals, please visit <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/>



The children in Year Two will be learning the parable of the lost sheep. Through this, they will make links to how they can live out the messages of this parable within their own lives. The children will learn about Nugent and The Good Shepherd Appeal. They will make and sell sheep themed biscuits to raise money for this charity. To find out more about Nugent, please visit <https://wearenugent.org/event/good-shepherd-appeal-2026/>

Through supporting these charities, we are putting Catholic Social Teaching into action! There are nine principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Need a reminder? Head to the CST section of our school website –

<https://www.twelveapostlesleigh.co.uk/religion-in-our-school/catholic-social-teaching/>

Through this charity work, we will put the principles of; The Common Good, Participation, Solidarity, Preferential Option for the Poor and Promoting Peace into action.



IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

**MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**

1<sup>st</sup> January

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

6<sup>th</sup> January

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

11<sup>th</sup> January

**THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

2<sup>nd</sup> February

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

18<sup>th</sup> February

**ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

19<sup>th</sup> March

**THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**

25<sup>th</sup> March

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

29<sup>th</sup> March

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

2<sup>nd</sup> April

**GOOD FRIDAY**

3<sup>rd</sup> April

**EASTER SUNDAY**

5<sup>th</sup> April

