



RE NEWSLETTER

— ○ ST MARY'S SPRING SECOND HALF-TERM 2024 ○ —

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND EASTER DATES:

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Year 2: 20th/22nd February

Year 3: 20th/22nd February

Year 4: 29th February

Year 5: 27th February

Year 6: 21st March

NURSERY PALM PROCESSION: 19th March

INFANT EASTER SERVICE: 27th March

MAUNDY THURSDAY: 28th March

GOOD FRIDAY: 29th March

EASTER SUNDAY: 31st March

NURSERY AND RECEPTION

Dear God,

Thank you for today.
Help us learn to say sorry
when we make mistakes.
Give us courage to say
sorry and kindness to
forgive. We are grateful
for your love.

Amen.

SPRING SECOND HALF-TERM SUMMARY

As we enter into the season of Lent, we unite in prayer and reflection. Throughout these 40 days, we encourage all our school community to deepen their Faith through compassion, acts of kindness and prayer. How do you plan to draw closer to Jesus during Lent? May this Lenten season be a time of renewal, bringing us closer to the teachings of Jesus.

"Turn your life toward God and live!"

Ezekiel 18:32

SORROW AND JOY

"There is no limit to God's grace, nor to God's mercy when we fail"
Religious Education Curriculum Directory

This half term, the children in the Nursery and the Reception classes will be learning about joy and sorrow. They will begin to understand that we are capable of hurting others and that we should always try to be kind to each other. They will learn that we can say sorry when we hurt someone but we need to ask Jesus to help us to do this. They will also begin to learn that Jesus forgave those who hurt him and know that we can forgive other people when they hurt us.

At home you could help your children by:

- talking to them about what makes them happy
- talking to them about how they can be kind to other people
- reminding them to say please and thank you and to say sorry when it is appropriate

Year 1

Dear God,

Thank you for friends who laugh and play. Help us be kind every day. Bless our friendships, strong and true. We're grateful, God, for friends like you.

Amen

YEAR 2

Dear God,

Thank you for Mass, where we feel your love. Bless our priests and help us learn about Jesus. Guide us to be kind and loving.

Amen.

FOLLOWING JESUS

"From the beginning, Jesus associated his disciples with his own life, revealed the mystery of the Kingdom to them and gave them a share in his mission, joy and sufferings."

Catechism of the Catholic Church

Year 1 will hear how Jesus chose some of the first disciples (Luke 3. 5: 1- 11) and reflect on how we choose our friends. They will hear how Martha and Mary were friends of Jesus and think about how we can be his friends. They will listen to the story of Jesus and his followers going into Jerusalem and think of how we can praise Jesus. They will learn that Jesus died on Good Friday and know that God raised Jesus.

At home you could help your children by:

- Encouraging them to invite a friend to play
- talking about how we can follow Jesus

THE MASS

"In the Eucharist we receive him as our life and food, a promise of the eternal banquet of heaven. At the heart of the Eucharistic celebration are the bread and wine that becomes in reality Christ's Body and Blood. Catholic faith adores this enduring presence of Christ not only within the celebration of the Mass but also outside it."

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Year 2 will learn and reflect on the importance of the celebration of the Mass. They will learn about the readings at Mass and why we should listen to them, and learn that at the Offertory we offer gifts to God. They will also appreciate that at the Consecration the bread and wine are changed into Jesus.

At home you could help your children by:

- talking to them about what is happening during the mass.
- explaining why each part of the mass is so important.

YEAR 3

Dear God,
Thank you for the Eucharist. Help us feel close to Jesus in the bread and wine.
Amen.

Year 4

Dear Jesus,
Thank you for being our Saviour and guiding us each day. Help us follow your loving example and share kindness with others. Bless us with your grace and keep us close in your care.
Amen.

EUCCHARIST

"At the heart of the Eucharistic celebration are the bread and wine that become in reality Christ's Body and Blood. Catholic faith adores this enduring presence of Christ not only within the celebration of the Mass but also outside it."

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Year 3 will know why Sunday is special for Christians and will know that we come to Mass to hear the teaching of Jesus and pray to him. They will learn that in the Mass we offer thanks to God the Father for the gift of his Son and learn that during Mass the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus. They will learn that when we receive Holy Communion we receive Jesus and learn that Jesus is present in the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle. They will also learn some of the responses in the Mass and understand that Jesus died on the cross, and rose from the dead.

At home you could help your children by:

- talking to them about all the things we have to be thankful for.
- talking to them about how Sunday is a special day for Christians.

JESUS, THE SAVIOUR

Jesus "is truly God and, as a man, truly human. His life, death and resurrection are the central event of all human history and at the heart of faith. His cross is the sign of his unique offering of himself for each and every human being."

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

Year 4 will learn that Jesus is truly God and, as man truly human and learn that Jesus came to share our life so that we can share his life. They will learn that when Jesus died on the cross he took away our sins, learn what happened in Holy Week and learn what happened on Easter Sunday.

At Home you could help your children by:

- reading the stories of Jesus' last week together.
- visiting church during Holy Week

YEAR 5

Dear God,

Thank you for the gift of reconciliation. Help us to understand the importance of saying sorry and forgiving others. Guide us in making amends and growing closer to you and each other.

Amen.

YEAR 6

Heavenly Father,

We come before you with gratitude for the precious gift of your Son, Jesus. We reflect on the profound significance of His sacrificial death on the cross. Help us grasp the purpose of His sacrifice.

May we, inspired by Jesus. Guide us to understand the lessons of His journey, and may we walk in His footsteps with gratitude and devotion.

Amen

RECONCILIATION

“There is no limit to God’s grace, nor to God’s mercy and forgiveness when we fail. Reconciliation is a sacrament of healing.”

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

Year 5 will learn that sin is a failure of love and learn that when we sin we hurt ourselves and others and damage our relationship with God. They will begin to understand that God loves and forgives us if we are truly sorry and learn that God heals our friendship with him and others through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. They learn how we can prepare ourselves to receive this Sacrament and learn what happens during the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

At home you could help your children by:

- talking to them about what strengthens their friendships.
- reading the stories of Jesus’ last week together.

JESUS, SON OF GOD

God’s Self-Revelation and the covenant relationship reach their fullness in Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God. He is truly God and, as a man, truly human. His life, death and resurrection are the central event of all human history and at the heart of faith.

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

Year 6 will learn that Jesus healed many people, brought others back to life and that His miracles led many to believe that he was the Son of God. They will learn that Jesus’ enemies plotted to have him arrested, and learn about the arrest and the trial before the high priest. They will learn about Jesus’ trial before Pilate and learn that Jesus was condemned to death and crucified. They will also learn what Jesus said before he died and about His glorious resurrection. The children will have the chance to reflect on the miracles of Jesus. They will have the opportunity to make the Stations of the Cross and participate in a dramatisation of the passion, death & resurrection of Jesus. They will also reflect on the meaning of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus for us today.

At Home you could help your children by:

- discuss what they have found out in class and how it will affect their life journey.
- look at the Stations of the Cross and talk about their relevance for us today.

