

St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

RE Newsletter

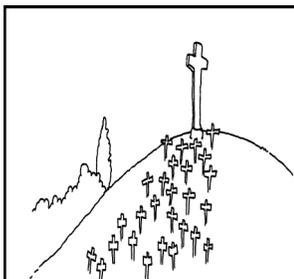
*As we walk with Jesus,
we love, live and learn!*

Loving and learning together as Jesus taught us.



Dear Parents,

The dark nights have certainly found it way back to us and we return back from half term to the month of November—a time to remember those who have gone before us to be in God's loving arms.



Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen

We also find ourselves moving towards Christmas where we celebrate the birth of our

Lord. It is important to remind the children that Christmas is about the gift of Jesus to us and not just about receiving presents.

In this issue, you should find out what your child is learning about in each year group as well as some readings and poems.

We hope you find this newsletter interesting and as always, please keep us in your prayers as we try to support your children.

As always, we give thanks to God, our heavenly Father, who gives us what we need spiritually in our school community.

Mrs M Ainger
RE Subject Leader

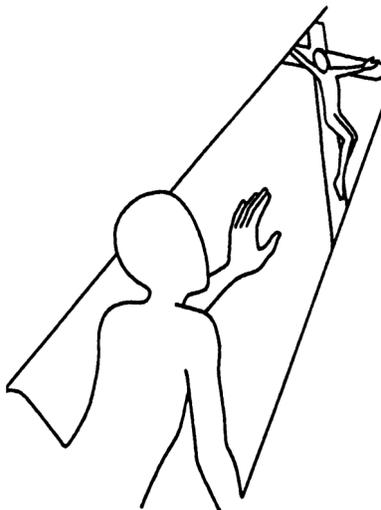
AUTUMN TERM NOVEMBER 2015

DATES TO REMEMBER

Remembrance Day
11/11/2015

St Catherine's Day
Mass-25th November
11.a.m

Prayer
Services, Advent
Assemblies,
Christmas Concerts—
please read
newsletters for
details



*'Seek God's truth and the
truth will set you free'. John
8: 32*

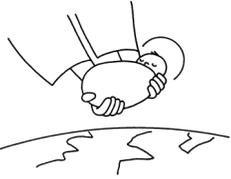
We can do this by our words and actions. We must never undermine another person. Each of us is valued in the eyes of God.

Nursery and Reception – God's Family

*"Creation is the first and universal revelation of God's love...
Each human person is made in God's image ...
Religious Education Curriculum Directory*

They will find out that God has given us gifts so that we can show his love to others.

They will learn that God's greatest gift to us was to send us his only son Jesus and learn how to respond to that gift. They will also know that the family of Jesus is our family too.



This half term, the children in the Nursery and the Reception classes will be looking at God's Family.

Throughout the topic, the children will be given opportunities to become aware that God made all the people in the world to be part of his family and that we are part of it too.

They will learn that God made us to know and love him, as well as to show our love for him by helping one another.

At Home

You could help your children by :

- Talk about your family and draw pictures of Jesus being part of your family
- Take them to see the Baby Jesus at the church and explain that he was a gift to us all.



Year 1 – Mary, the Mother of God

God sent forth his Son, but to prepare a body for him, he wanted the free co-operation of a creature. For this, from all eternity God chose for the mother of his Son a daughter of Israel, a young Jewish woman of Nazareth in Galilee, a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary'.



They will hear about Mary's visit to her cousin, Elizabeth and reflect on the good news

They will begin to reflect on how we can prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus and learn that Mary is our mother in heaven and that she is looking after us.

At Home

You could help your children by reinforcing why Mary was important to Jesus and how important others are to their children

'In a wholly singular way she co-operated by her obedience, faith, hope and burning charity in the Saviour's work of restoring supernatural life to souls. For this reason she is mother to us in the order of grace.'

Catechism of the Catholic Church

The children will learn that God sent the Angel Gabriel with a message to Mary and learn why this is important.

They will learn that God asked Mary to be the mother of his son and will have an opportunity to reflect on her response

Year 2 – Mysteries

"God is one and God is Three, a Trinity of Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Faith in One God acknowledges God's greatness and majesty and trust God in every circumstance. Faith in the Trinity makes known a God who is actively present. As Father, God is the source of all life and reaches out in blessing; as Son, God is the Word through whom all things are made and through whom every person is invited into a full communion of life; as Spirit, God leads the world, the Church and human persons into truth. Faith in the Trinity reveals communion in love and truth as the pattern, the highest aim and final goal of human life."

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

The children will learn about and reflect upon mysteries.

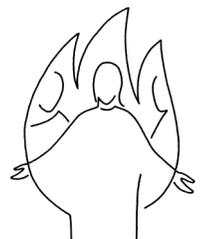
They will learn that there are three persons in one God and we can experience him in three different ways.

They will learn about and reflect on God's choice of Mary and Joseph and know that Jesus is God's gift to the whole world and how we can respond to that.

At Home

You could help your children by:

- As children make the sign of the cross remind them that God is the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Read the Christmas story to children and encourage them to ask questions.
- Visit www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS1link.htm and complete activities.



Year 3 – Mary Our Mother

Mary the Mother of Jesus Christ and therefore the Mother of God is the first disciple. Her role in the Church flows directly from her union with Christ. She is the Church's model of faith and charity and because of her singular response to God's Word is Mother of the Church."

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

"In a wholly singular way she co-operated by her obedience, faith, hope and burning charity in the Saviour's work of restoring supernatural life to souls. For this reason she is mother to us in the order of grace."

Catechism of the Catholic Church

Learning ABOUT our Catholic Faith



They will learn that God called Mary to be the Mother of Jesus and learn how Mary responded to God's call.

They will learn the 'Hail Mary' and begin to understand what the words mean.

They will learn that Advent is a time to prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas and begin to understand that Christmas is a celebration of the birth of Jesus, the Son of God.

They will also learn about the stories of the shepherds and wise men's visits to see the baby Jesus and that they knew he was the Son of God.

Learning FROM our Catholic Faith

The children will have the chance to:

FIND THIS

At Home

You could help your children by:

- Say a Hail Mary with them everyday
- Talk with them about the importance of Mary in Jesus' life.
- Go online to www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS2link.htm and complete the interactive activities.

Year 4 – Trust in God

"The action of God in the unfolding history of the covenant relationship and the variety of human response is revealed in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament."

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

Learning ABOUT our Catholic Faith

The children will learn about Jesus' teaching and the importance of trusting in him.

They will learn that it is not always easy to trust in God (e.g. Zechariah).

They will learn about the promise God made

to Mary through the angel Gabriel and learn how Joseph put his trust in God when the angel appeared to him.

They will become familiar with Mary's song of praise and trust in God, i.e. the Magnificat and learn that God fulfilled his promise to Mary when Jesus, the Son of God was born.



Learning FROM our Catholic Faith

The children will have the chance to:

- Deepen our awareness of God loves for us and know that he asks us to trust in him.

- Reflect on times we have found it difficult to trust.
- Reflect on the importance of keeping promises.
- Make our own Advent promises.
- Reflect on how Mary and Joseph placed all their trust in God and experience a celebration of the Nativity.

At Home

- Make an advent calendar with them and draw a picture of the Nativity with a focus on Jesus.
- Go online to www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS2link.htm and complete the interactive activities.

Year 5 – The Commandments

"The Ten Commandments are the word of God, regarded in the Old Testament as a gift and sign of God's love. They express the implications of belonging to God through the covenant of Sinai. Jesus summed them up saying, "This is the first and greatest commandment: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. The second is this: You shall love your neighbour as yourself."

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

Learning ABOUT our Catholic Faith

The children will learn that know that God loves us and calls us into relationship with him.

They will learn that God gave Moses the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai because he loves us and understand that the Ten Commandments are a gift from God to help us.

They will learn how Jesus summarised the Ten Commandments (Mt.22:36-40) and begin to understand how we can show our love for God by keeping his commandments with his help and grace.

They will also learn that God sent his Son Jesus into the world because he loves us, and that we celebrate this gift at Christmas.

Learning FROM our Catholic Faith

The children will have the chance to:

- appreciate how God has shown his love for us; Reflect on times we have failed to show respect and reflect on the gifts and talents God has given each of us.
- reflect on ways we can deepen our relationship with God;
- reflect on how the birth of Jesus at Christmas is a sign of God's love for us

At Home

You could help your children by:

- Visit www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS2link.htm and complete activities.
- Talk with your child about how we try to live by the ten commandments.





EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY

DEC. 8, 2015 - NOV. 20, 2016



"IT WILL BE A HOLY YEAR OF MERCY."
-POPE FRANCIS

Year 6 – Justice

"The action of God in the unfolding history of this covenant relationship and the variety of human response is revealed in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament."

"Love of neighbour...involves working for a just society, both locally and internationally, so that all are assured of fair access to the means of life and work. It includes love for the poor which results in the practical aid of our neighbours in their spiritual and bodily needs."
Religious Education Curriculum Directory



Learning ABOUT our Catholic Faith

The children will learn that God called the prophets from the Old Testament and the different ways they responded.

They will learn that the prophets spoke out against injustice (egg. Naboth's vineyard, Nathan's judgement on David) as well as to learn how some prophets were persecuted because they spoke out against injustice (egg. Elijah).

They will find out that as Christians we are called to speak out against injustice, as well as research information about individuals who have been persecuted for speaking out about injustice.

They will also learn that Advent is a time of waiting and hoping for the birth of the Messiah at Christmas and understand that the birth of Jesus fulfilled Old Testament prophecies.

Learning FROM our Catholic Faith

The children will have the chance to:

- Know that God calls us to speak out against injustice;



- Identify times we have witnessed injustice in the past;
- Reflect on how we have responded;
- Identify ways we can speak out against injustice in our own lives.

At Home

You could help your children by:

- Thinking how your family could support CAFOD
- Praying with your children so that people who are fighting injustice can continue with the strength of God.
- Go online to www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS2link.htm and complete the interactive activities.

