

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

R.E. NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS

Learning and loving on our journey with Jesus Autumn and Advent Terms 2018– Cycle 2

This term your child(ren) will be studying four topics in religious education:
Creation, Prayers, Saints and Feasts and Advent/Christmas

CREATION

This topic is supported by the scripture in Genesis which tells the story of God's Creation. Your children will learn how God knows and loves them. They will also learn the need to follow God's law by upholding the Ten Commandments.

Help at home:

At home you could talk about the new beginnings there have been in your child(ren)'s life, like starting school, moving house, a new brother or sister. Emphasise that God is there loving us all the time. With the younger children, you could explore your local environment drawing attention to the wonders of God's Creation. Older children should be encouraged to look at the impact of current issues on harmony within the world. They can also develop their knowledge of the Ten Commandments found in the book of Exodus.



PRAYERS, SAINTS AND FEASTS

This topic is designed to develop children's understanding of prayer. It will introduce to them the different kinds of prayer including the Psalm. Children will be able to develop an understanding of why the Church has Saints and appreciate that Saints provide an example of faith. At this time of year the children will be celebrating important feasts. Please see Special days this term ☞

Help at home:

It would be useful to set aside some quiet time at home for family prayer. October is the month of the Rosary, so why not take this opportunity to use the Rosary to assist you in prayer? You may also wish to select a family member named after a Saint and find out what you can about this Saint.

Special days this term

* **Start of year Mass**
EH Class **Thursday 6th September**

The birthday of Our Lady 8th September

* **October**
Month of the Rosary

* **October 7th**
CAFOD family Fast Day 5th October
* **1st Nov.** All Saints Mass
* **2nd Nov.** All Souls
* Remembrance Liturgy Monday **12th November**

* **Sunday 25th November**
Christ the King
Sunday 27th November
30th November – St

Andrew's Day
First Sunday of Advent
2nd December

* **8th December.**
Immaculate Conception
* **25th December**
Christmas Day



ADVENT ~ This topic is about preparing. Your child(ren) will be helped to appreciate how it is necessary to plan and prepare for special times. They will learn about Advent, the Church's time of preparation for the coming of Jesus at Christmas, and how the scriptures show that God promised to send Jesus to us.

Help at home: You may wish to make an Advent wreath with four candles (three purple and one pink if possible). Light one for each week of Advent and say a prayer each day like *'Dear Jesus I am looking forward to your coming at Christmas, help me to prepare well.'*

On Christmas Day, a fifth one (white) can be placed in the centre to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Perhaps you could help your child(ren) make a crib or design a Christmas card to show the real meaning of Christmas.

