



**All Souls' Catholic**  
**PRIMARY SCHOOL**

# **Prayer and Liturgy Policy**

***“Christ is our light”***

**September 2022**

**All Souls' Catholic Primary School**

Prayer and Liturgy Policy

At All Souls we follow Christ's light in all that we do.  
We celebrate as a Catholic family with prayer at the centre.  
"Christ is our Light."

### Introduction

At All Souls, Prayer and Liturgy is integral to developing the children's relationship with Christ. Gospel values are embedded in all that we do with Christ at the centre. We aim to be a living, loving and sacramental community which is inspired by the life of Christ and the teachings of the Church, rooted in Gospel values. Prayer and Liturgy is central to our Catholic ethos, and we expect all staff to lead and model good practice in prayer. It provides an opportunity for all to reflect on God's word and to celebrate and respond to the beliefs and attitudes, which characterise Christian life. At All Souls we strive to provide a rich variety of prayer and assemblies, which will deepen the pupils' sense of belonging to the faith community of our school and to the wider church. Children take an active role in planning, leading, and evaluating Prayer and Liturgy. We believe worship remembers and celebrates God's work in our lives. It celebrates his presence amongst us today and allows children and staff the opportunity to be joined with Him.

In our school, Prayer and Liturgy takes many forms including prayer, song, assemblies, meditation, and liturgies. We strive to provide many opportunities for the children to develop their relationship with God. Children are encouraged to meditate and reflect deeply on the Gospel Values and carefully consider how these will impact on their lives and the lives of others.

***"Prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy."*** [Therese of Lisieux]

At the heart of our faith is the belief in a God who communicates with people. God calls every human person into a loving relationship and as with every relationship, our relationship with God can only grow through communication. Prayer is the way in which we engage in communication with God. We believe that prayer is essential to human fulfilment for it is only in God that we can discover ourselves, our meaning, and our purpose

### The Nature of Prayer and Liturgy

We believe that Prayer and Liturgy in a Catholic school names and celebrates God's presence in our lives. It is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our loving response, in word and action, to God's invitation to enter into relationship, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the witness of the Holy Spirit.

### Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement that there must be a daily act of Prayer and Liturgy for all pupils. We understand that simply holding an assembly that includes a prayer, said either by the teacher or everyone present, does not fulfil this requirement. We also acknowledge that Prayer and Liturgy and assembly are distinct activities. They may sometimes form part of the same gathering, but the difference between the two will always be made clear.

The act of Prayer and Liturgy is not designated curriculum time under regulations and will not be included under any part of the curriculum, including Religious Education. As a general rule, most acts of Prayer and Liturgy will take place on the school premises, or Church however when out on school trips, retreat days and experiences, prayer also forms an important part of these which could be in any environment.

We believe that Prayer and Liturgy experienced here takes into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in it:

- Those who form part of the worshipping community in church
- Those for whom school may be their first and only experience of church
- Those from other Christian traditions – or none
- Those from other faith backgrounds.

**Prayer and Liturgy in this school is more than just a legal requirement. It is an integral part of life here at All Souls, it is the reason we exist and is central to the Catholic tradition.**

### The Aims of Prayer and Liturgy

We believe that Prayer and Liturgy in our school aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff:

- To contemplate something of the mystery of God
- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- To explore their own beliefs
- To respond to and celebrate life
- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit
- To develop a common ethos and shared values
- To enrich religious experience
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development
- To reinforce prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition
- To reinforce positive attitudes
- To participate fully
- To take time out 'to wonder at', 'to come to terms with' and 'to give worth to.'

### Principles

All Acts of Prayer and Liturgy in this school will:

- Give glory and honour to God
- Be a quality activity, fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic character
- Give children positive liturgical experiences, appropriate to their age, aptitude, and family backgrounds to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church.

In order to do this, celebrations will:

- be kept age appropriate to help to personalise the experience
- be appropriately paced (children's attention span lasts in any one activity for an average of one minute per year of life i.e., 5-6 mins for Key Stage 1 and 7-10 mins for Key Stage 2)
- be simple, including a range of experiences offered in a variety of groupings and in a variety of settings

### Timetabling of Prayer

Here at All Souls' Catholic Primary School, prayer and liturgy follows a weekly pattern consisting of either school, class or group worship. Liturgy for school celebrations or feast days will replace these planned worships at times during the year e.g. liturgy to Mary in May, Ash Wednesday etc.

Collective Worship is an important part of our school community life; the children are reminded "For where two or three meet in my name, I am there among them". A programme of whole school assemblies that take place on Monday mornings is planned. These assemblies reflect on Sunday's Gospel or focus on a liturgical event or season.

Each day the children take part in prayer and liturgy in different ways:

Monday – Whole school assembly – Sunday Gospel / liturgical season

Tuesday – Classroom worship (Meditation, child-led liturgical prayer or adult-led liturgical prayer)

Wednesday – Whole school hymn practice & prayers

Thursday – Classroom worship (Meditation, child-led liturgical prayer or adult-led liturgical prayer)

## Friday - Whole school Superstars celebration assembly & prayers

Events / liturgical seasons / intentions often mean that classes or the whole school will gather in prayer more often than timetabled. An example of this is: Y6 and their Reception Prayer Friends often gather on a Friday afternoon with a small group of Y6 leading a prayer service together.

### Types of Prayer and Liturgy celebrated

	Type	Involves	Frequency	Location	Led by...
A	Gospel Assembly	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Every Monday	Hall	HT DHT
B	Morning prayer	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Daily	Classrooms	Class Teacher Children (KS2)
C	Grace before and after meals	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Daily	Classrooms	Class Teacher Children (KS2)
D	Evening prayer	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Daily	Classrooms	Class Teacher Children (KS2)
E	Reflection	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Daily before story time	Classrooms	Class Teacher Children
F	Guided meditation	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Once a week	Classrooms	Class Teacher
G	Class liturgy	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Twice a week	Classrooms	Children with teacher support
H	Class masses	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Once a week on rotation	Church	Fr Paul Burch
I	Whole school mass	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Once every four weeks	Church	Fr Paul Burch
J	Special Mass with Parish	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Feast days, holy day, All Souls Day	Church	Fr Paul Burch
K	Hymn practise	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Wednesday	Hall	HT
L	Celebration assembly	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Friday	Hall	SLT
M	Whole school liturgy services	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Throughout the year	Hall	Chaplaincy DHT
N	Reconciliation services	KS2	Advent and Lent	Church	Fr Paul Burch
O	Stations of the cross	KS1 & KS2	Lent	Church	Fr Paul Burch
P	Celebration Prayer and Liturgy	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Themed days, liturgical links	Hall	Chaplaincy DHT
Q	Awards ceremony – celebrating our God given talents	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Once a Year	Hall	HT, DHT, Subject leaders
R	Adoration	KS2	Throughout the year	Church	Fr Paul Burch
S	Rosary	EYFS, KS1 & KS2	Throughout the year	School environment	SLT

Monday Prayer and Liturgy Gathering Themes (each week, we link to the Gospel of the Sunday before).

Term	Catholic School Pupil Profile	Weekly theme
Autumn 1	<b>Compassionate &amp; Loving</b>	Welcome back – Our All Souls Family
		Value and Virtue Launch
		Creation and our environment
		Rich man and Lazarus
		Catholic Social Teaching
		Ten Lepers
Autumn 2	<b>Faith filled &amp; Hopeful</b>	Zacchaeus
		Value and virtue launch
		Catholic Social Teaching
		Feast of Christ the King
		Advent
		Second Sunday of Advent
Spring 1	<b>Eloquent &amp; truthful</b>	Third Sunday of Advent
		Welcome back – New beginnings
		Value and Virtue launch
		Catholic Social Teaching
		John the Baptist – Lamb of God
		Beatitudes
		Sin and forgiveness
Spring 2	<b>Learned &amp; Wise</b>	An eye for an eye
		Lent
		Value and Virtue Launch
		Catholic Social Teaching
		Oscar Romero
		Lent journey
Summer 1	<b>Curious &amp; Active</b>	Holy Week
		Easter celebration
		The Road to Emmaus
		Value and Virtue Launch
		Catholic Social Teaching
		Pentecost
Summer 2	<b>Intentional &amp; Prophetic</b>	Sacramental celebration
		Value and Virtue Launch
		Catholic Social Teaching
		Work of the disciples
		Worth more than the Sparrows
		Take up your cross
		My burden is light
		End of year assembly celebration

The Planning, Content and Delivery of Prayer and Liturgy

Throughout their time at school, children will experience a variety of approaches to Prayer and Liturgy some will be teacher led, whilst others will be child led. We aim to develop a growing understanding and independence to enable children to plan their own sessions which will inspire others to reflect. All sessions include a reading from scripture or scripture through hymns. We recognise that children need to develop these skills and therefore we spend time developing the tools linked with Prayer and Liturgy, especially choosing relevant scripture and appropriate resources.

Our prayer and liturgy is planned with reference to the Church's seasons, 'Living and growing as people of God', significant dates and celebrations. During our liturgical prayer services scripture will be the focus but at times it could be current news or local events that referring to the changing situations within the school and the wider community that makes up the listening part of the liturgy. The emphasis always remains on developing pupils' skills that enable them to prepare, organise and lead worship rather than always participating or contributing as well as providing opportunities for children to listen, reflect and be prayerful.

Prayer and liturgy in our school may follow the pattern or variation of the pattern detailed below:

Gathering - how we come together, the setting, the environment (quiet/ reflective music, lighted candles, statues, sign of the cross, focus and examination of conscience etc)

Listening - a reading from the Scriptures, hearing the Word, time to reflect on this and prayers to fit into the theme.

Responding – an activity that everyone can join in with that is responding to the Word (gestures such as shaking hands, holding hands, lighting a candle, prayers, responses to prayers, activities)

Go forth - the sending out from the celebration, giving the children something to hold onto from the experience of the liturgy that they can take into their daily lives.

Recording of our Prayer and Liturgy differs based on the age of the children within the year group. In KS1 and LKS2, the prayer and liturgy would be recorded on a liturgy planning A3 document, provided by the diocese, to support children's leadership, allow them to see what is expected for these different sections and is age appropriate. In UKS2 prayer and liturgy would be planned on a liturgy planner to keep note of themes, leaders, pupil groupings and resources. At times the key impact of prayer within the classroom can be seen through displays, collections of pupils' contributions, prayers, reflections, photographs, videos as well as in the classroom Catholic Life Books.

#### Learning environments

All classroom spaces have a prayer focus to include a liturgical coloured cloth, crucifix, age-appropriate Bible, candle and then different signs or symbols of that time e.g. sand and stones in Lent, Rosary beads in October. Teachers are made aware of this at the beginning of the year and have a prayer box within their classroom to include different items for them to display at different times. Around the school there are different prayer focuses including in the hall, front office, and the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham (our parish are linked to the Ordinariate). It is expected for these areas to be kept clean, tidy and updated with children taking some responsibility for looking after them.

#### Resources

Each class has an RE box with artefacts and fabrics suitable for all seasons of the liturgical year, a set of resources to support child led Prayer and Liturgy and age-appropriate Bibles. Other resources are available, including:

- Posters
- Candles
- CAFOD materials
- Storyteller Bible
- Collection of RE reference books on a variety of topics
- Ten:Ten online resources

#### Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring is vital to ensure that we are meeting the needs of all pupils and review whether the children are making progress in their skills and knowledge. Monitoring of Prayer and Liturgy is completed in line

with the whole school schedule of monitoring and is treated in the same regard. Prayer and liturgy is observed, prayer focuses monitored and classroom environments checked through walkthroughs throughout the year.

#### Staff Prayer

Staff pray together at meetings and briefings. Governors pray together before their meetings. Thus, offering the whole community into the hands of God. It is an expectation in all schools that teaching, and classroom support staff are present at and participate in acts of collective worship, ensuring they are fully part of the school worship community and can actively support students in their prayer and faith journeys.

#### Progression of skills and expectations

Year	What should they be doing?	Quantity (weekly)	Support
Nursery	Choosing the cloth Choosing the focus of prayer Choosing the correct symbols to support the season	Once a week (After Christmas)	Class teacher leading
Reception	Choosing the Bible story from a choice Choosing the cloth Choosing the focus of prayer Choosing the correct symbols to support the season	Once a week (After Christmas)	Class teacher leading
Year 1	Children should be using the A3 planner to plan each section of Gather, Listen, Respond and Go forth. Using the planner children should choose appropriate activities to complete within the prayer service. Teacher may still need to guide their Bible choices. Children should set up the prayer service and lead in the gathering, but the teacher may need to read the Bible story and keep the children moving through the stages.	Once a week	Class teacher leading until after Christmas
Year 2	Children should be using the A3 planner to plan each section of Gather, Listen, Respond and Go forth. Using the planner, children should choose appropriate activities to complete within the prayer service. Children should set up the prayer service and lead in the gathering, but the teacher may need to read the Bible story and keep the children moving through the stages.	Once a week	Class teacher supporting all steps, children assisting
Year 3	Children should be using the A3 planner to plan each section of Gather, Listen, Respond and Go forth. Using the planner, children should choose appropriate activities to complete within the prayer service. Children should set up the prayer service and lead in the gathering, but the teacher may need to read the Bible story and keep the children moving through the stages. Children should be able to choose the Bible story themselves but may need support in reading this or checking it is appropriate.	Once a week	Class teacher supporting, children assisting
Year 4	Children should be using the A3 planner to plan each section of Gather, Listen, Respond and Go forth. Using the planner, children should choose appropriate activities to complete within the prayer service. Children should set up the prayer service and lead, but the teacher may need to give prompts to keep the children moving through the stages of prayer or give direction when needed.	Once a week	Children leading, class teacher supporting
Year 5	Children should be using the liturgy planner to plan each section of Gather, Listen, Respond and Go forth. Using the planner, children should choose appropriate activities to complete within the prayer service. Children should set up the prayer service and lead, but the teacher may need to give prompts, at times, to keep the children moving through the stages of prayer or give direction when needed. Children should check with the teacher in the planning stages and before the	Once a week	Children leading, class teacher support in planning



	prayer service is due.		
Year 6	Children should be using the liturgy planner to plan each section of Gather, Listen, Respond and Go forth. Using the planner, children should choose appropriate activities to complete within the prayer service. Children should set up the prayer service and lead, but the teacher may need to give prompts, at times, to keep the children moving through the stages of prayer or give direction when needed. Children should check with the teacher in the planning stages and before the prayer service is due.	Once a week	Children leading, class teacher support in planning

### Eucharist

Eucharistic celebrations in school will highlight a special occasion and will normally be celebrated with children whose faith development has reached an appropriate stage. The same general principles will apply to planning a Eucharistic celebration as other acts of school Prayer and Liturgy, therefore opportunities for children to participate will be maximised. When preparing these celebrations reference will be made to school guidance.

We believe that children are best introduced to prayer, the sacraments and particularly the Eucharist in a step-by-step approach.

In Key Stage 1 Prayer and Liturgy includes:

- short, simple liturgies with ritual and variety
- occasional liturgies reflecting the Introductory rites in the Mass/The Liturgy of the Word
- whole school, class and year group mass

In Key Stage 2 Prayer and Liturgy includes:

- short, simple liturgies with ritual and variety
- occasional liturgies reflecting the Introductory Rites in the mass or The Liturgy of the Word; or the Eucharistic Prayer; and/or the Communion Rite.
- whole school, class and year group mass

### Prayer and Liturgical Retreats

We view the spiritual development of children of the utmost importance in the education in they receive here. Retreats are a key part of this, and the children experience retreat at different times of the liturgical year. Retreats for this year will be:

Year Group	Retreat	Led by
Staff	One Life Spiritual formation	Dan and Emily Fr Paul Burch
Whole School	One Life	Dan and Emily
Year 6	Saint Chad's	Birmingham Archdiocese
Year 5	Alton Castle	Alton team
Year 4	Harvington Hall	Harvington
Year 3	Baddesley Clinton	Baddesley
Year 2	All Souls Church (Advent)	Fr Paul Burch
Year 1	All Souls Church (Lent)	Fr Paul Burch
Reception	With Year 6 Prayer friends	DHT, Chaplaincy

### Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

At All Souls, we ensure that liturgy and prayer is inclusive to all members of the school community. Pupils with SEND are supported and encouraged to participate fully in all that we do.

#### Policy Monitoring and Review

This policy is monitored by the RE Lead and is evaluated and reviewed by the whole school staff and governors annually. The policy is ratified and reviews at the Catholic Ethos Sub-Committee with, the Foundation Governors, in particular, playing a most important role.

**Catholic Schools Pupil Profile  
Schedule 2022-2024**

<b>2022 - 2023</b>	
Autumn 1	<b>Compassionate &amp; Loving</b>
Autumn 2	<b>Faith-filled &amp; Hopeful</b>
Spring 1	<b>Eloquent &amp; Truthful</b>
Spring 2	<b>Learned &amp; Wise</b>
Summer 1	<b>Curious &amp; Active</b>
Summer 2	<b>Intentional &amp; Prophetic</b>
<b>2023 - 2024</b>	
Autumn 1	<b>Grateful &amp; Generous</b>
Autumn 2	<b>Attentive &amp; Discerning</b>
Spring 1	<b>Compassionate &amp; Loving</b>
Spring 2	<b>Faith-filled &amp; Hopeful</b>
Summer 1	<b>Eloquent &amp; Truthful</b>
Summer 2	<b>Learned &amp; Wise</b>

### Prayer Areas

During this second period of Ordinary Time, the prayer area is draped in green.

As it is the **Season of Creation** (Sep 1 – Oct 4) the prayer focus can include images or images that reflect the wonder of creation such as leaves, pine cones, conkers etc. You could also include icons and images of St. Francis of Assisi as well as his canticle and prayers.

Around the Sep 25 (Day of Prayer for Thanksgiving for the Harvest) the focus should move towards giving thanks and praise to God for the harvest from the land and the sea.

Donations for the harvest may also be included within prayer areas around the school.

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) Links: Stewardship of Creation and Option for the Poor and Vulnerable can be made.

**October, the Month of the Holy Rosary:** images of the Mysteries of the Rosary (Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, Luminous etc) and Rosary beads can be placed upon the prayer focus. (See Faith in Action box)

During **Little Way Week** you may also include items to the prayer focus such as pledges of small acts of kindness and prayer intentions for those in need.

The CAFOD website can provide you with other ideas, prayers and images to be used during this season.

### Who was St. Bernadette?

Bernadette Soubirous was born in Lourdes in 1844. At the age of fourteen between February and July, she experienced apparitions of the Virgin Mary on eighteen occasions. The Virgin Mary revealed herself to Bernadette by saying 'I am the Immaculate Conception'. Bernadette was asked by Our Lady 'Go tell the priests that people should come here in procession and to build a chapel here'. A chapel was built and over time, Lourdes has become a place of great pilgrimage. People from all over the world come to Lourdes to pray, join with others in procession as part of the devotion to Our Lady. Pilgrims also have the opportunity to wash in the waters of the spring which 'from the very beginning, have been a source of prayer, renewal, joy and sometimes healing' of mind or body. The Catholic Church has recognised 70 miracles as a result of the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes.

### What is a relic?

Relic (from the latin Relictum = remains) are 'remnants of the bodies of saints or objects that the saints used during their lifetime.' (YouCat).

'Relics help us to feel close to a holy person making the communion of saints more real and fostering in us a desire for holiness' (St. Bernadette's Tour website).

Throughout the history of the Church, people have taken the opportunity to visit and pray before the relics of holy men and women who have gone before us.

In September and October, St. Bernadette's relics will journey on pilgrimage to England, Scotland and Wales for the first time. People will have the opportunity to venerate and pray before the relics of St. Bernadette, Cardinal Vincent Nichols explains that all 'will be able to bear active witness to our faith joining with one another to encounter God's love and find spiritual, emotional and psychological healing and renewal... We are reminded of the special significance of Lourdes as a place of pilgrimage and of love, where people of all ages serve and care for the sick and the most vulnerable in our society'.

Within the Archdiocese of Birmingham, the relics of St. Bernadette will be hosted in the various locations from Friday 7 October to Monday 10 October. Further details can be found <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/bernadette-relics-coming-to-the-archdiocese-of-birmingham>. [Birmingham Diocese Trust](https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/bernadette-relics-coming-to-the-archdiocese-of-birmingham) ([birminghamdiocese.org.uk](https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/bernadette-relics-coming-to-the-archdiocese-of-birmingham)).

There will be a livestream event for schools on Monday 10 October at 10am. Further details will be sent to schools in early September.

Archdiocese of Birmingham  
Diocesan Education Service

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### Prayer for the Start of the School Year

God of all knowledge,  
whose wisdom unfolds for us  
the meaning of the world in which we live,  
be the inspiration and the end of all our efforts  
to know, learn, and teach.  
As we begin our new academic year,  
we ask you to send your spirit upon us.  
Through the seeds of inquiry and wonder  
which you have implanted,  
may we continue to grow in your wisdom.  
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever and ever.  
Amen.

### The Season of Creation

The Season of Creation is an Ecumenical season during which Christians from different denominations join together in prayer. Each year from September 1 to October 4, the Christian family unites to raise awareness and to inspire action to protect our common home as we respond together to the cry of creation. As part of this season, we recognise that our wellbeing is interwoven with the wellbeing of the earth. This year, the theme is 'Listen to the Voice of Creation'. This originates from the scripture 'I have heard their cry... I know their sufferings... Come, now! I will send you... I will be with you.' (Ex 3:1-12).

### Activities to Celebrate the Season of Creation

- Organise a creation walk or pilgrimage.
- Pray the Novena to St. Francis (CAFOD)
- Encourage families to pray the care of creation prayers. (CAFOD)
- Encourage sustainable living by hosting an event such as tree planting or reuse sale.

CAFOD resources: [Season of Creation | CAFOD](https://www.cafod.org.uk/season-of-creation)

Further information and ideas <https://seasonofcreation.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/SOC-2022-Celebration-Guide-Final-English.pdf>

Listen to the Voice of creation  
WISDOM OF CREATION 2022

### Pope's Prayer Intentions

**September:** Abolition of the death penalty  
We pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

**October:** For a Church open to everyone  
We pray for the Church; ever faithful to, and courageous in, preaching the Gospel, may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of sodality.

### Dates for the Diary\*

**September 2022**  
The Pope's Prayer Intention for September: For the abolition of the death penalty  
Season of Creation – Sep 1 – Oct 4

Thurs 1	World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
Thurs 8	Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Fri 9	Memorial in Coventry for St. Osburg
Sun 11	Education Sunday
Mon 12	Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Mary
Tue 13	Memorial of St. John Chrysostom
Wed 14	Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy cross
Thurs 15	Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows
Fri 16	Memorial of St. Cornelius and Cyprian
Sat 18	Home Mission Sunday
Tue 20	Memorial of St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon and companions
Wed 21	Feast of St. Matthew
Sun 25	Celebration of the Harvest
Fri 23	Memorial of St. Pio of Pietrelcina
Mon 26	Little Way Week: Leading up to the feast of St. Therese of Lisieux
Tue 27	Memorial of St. Vincent de Paul
Thurs 29	Feast of St. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels
Fri 30	Memorial of St. Jerome

**October 2021 – The Month of the Holy Rosary**  
The Pope's Prayer intention for October: For a church open to everyone

Sat 1	Memorial of St. Therese of the Child Jesus
Tue 4	Memorial of St. Francis of Assisi
Wed 5	Memorial of St. Faustina Kowalska
Fri 7	Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary
Fri 7	CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day
Tue 11	Memorial of Blessed William Howard
Wed 12	Memorial of St. Wilfrid, Bishop
Thurs 13	Memorial of St. Edward the Confessor
Sat 15	Memorial of St. Teresa of Jesus
Tue 18	Feast of St. Luke
Wed 19	Memorial in Oxford of St. Frideswide
Sat 22	Memorial of St. Pope John Paul II

\*For a complete list of dates, readings and colours please refer to the Archdiocese of Birmingham Ordo 2020-2021.

### Faith In Action

**CAFOD**

**National Assembly:** On Thursday 15th September, watch CAFOD's national assembly to find out how you can support our global fight this Harvest!

**Primary schools national assembly | CAFOD**

**Catholic Social Teaching:** New resources will be uploaded in September **Catholic Social Teaching pack for children | CAFOD**. Book a fully trained visitor to run CST workshops with every year group. [schools.cafod.org.uk](https://schools.cafod.org.uk)

**Season of Creation Rosary:** <https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/56736/778178/version/2/file/joyful%20Mysteries%20for%20Care%20of%20Creation.pdf>

**Mission**

**Patron Saint of Mission:** 2023 marks the 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Mission Together*. In September, *Mission Together* encourages schools to learn more about one of the charity's earliest supporters, St Therese of Lisieux, patron of mission. Find assemblies, activities, and prayers [www.missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/st-therese-of-lisieux/](https://www.missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/st-therese-of-lisieux/)

**October Resources:** Resources include various Rosary resources [Marian and Mission Rosary resources – Mission Together](https://www.missiontogether.org.uk/resources/rosary) and a Five Fact assembly for Birmingham's own St John Henry Newman [Feast of St John Henry Newman – Mission Together](https://www.missiontogether.org.uk/resources/st-john-henry-newman)

**Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)**

**Million Children Praying the Rosary:** Pope Francis has asked us all to pray the rosary for those persecuted around the world. Join CAN campaign here <https://acnuk.org/resource/missionchildrenprayingtherosary/>

### CAFOD Eyes of the world

From 31<sup>st</sup> October-12<sup>th</sup> Nov Join CAFOD's campaign, the Prime Minister to support climate crisis.

During this time, we pray decisions they make to us. Please visit <https://cafod.org.uk> for prayers, activities

### Prayer Focus

Prayer focus for Ordinary Time November

November 1<sup>st</sup> Children can have died, bereaved, form of a Rose of people or These can be Advent

Purple is the associated of the 'Liturgy Year' bann our waiting ring symbol beginning of Jesus wore candles ma week of Ad means rejoic Mary and th be included term. You a fundraising prayer area website: <https://cafod.org.uk>

For creative these ideas: <https://missiontogether.org.uk>

To find out in many diff <https://www.missiontogether.org.uk>

### Prayer Focus - The Christmas Season and Ordinary Time.

**Christmas:** During the season of Christmas, prayer areas should be adorned in white and gold cloths to celebrate the birth of Christ. Flowers may also be placed in the prayer space (a Poinsettia has significant symbolism). The Nativity includes a star, the figures of the Holy family, the Shepherds and then finally the Wise Men on the feast of the Epiphany (6<sup>th</sup> January). The Nativity should remain up until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

**Ordinary Time 1:** During this period of Ordinary Time, prayer cloths will be changed to a green cloth. Symbols of Baptism may also be included from the Feast of Our Lord such as a cross, white garment, oil, water and candles. You could also include traditional and contemporary images of Jesus' Baptism. The figures of the Holy Family can remain until February 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is the feast of the Presentation of Our Lord, also known as Candlemas where new candles to be used in Church are blessed. You may wish to replace all prayer area candles on this day.

Many people make New Year resolutions. Why not hold a prayer service in the new year that focuses on how to be a better follower of Christ? Children could write down their promises which could be displayed in the prayer area. This could link to the half termly CSPP virtue pair 'Curious and Active'.

On the World Day of the Sick and the Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes, images of St. Bernadette Soubirous, Our Lady of Lourdes could be displayed. The names of those who are sick in the Parish could be displayed. These can usually be found in the Parish newsletter.

### Epiphany

The Epiphany is the solemnity which celebrates the visit of the Wise Men to the stable to honour Jesus. The word epiphany means a 'sudden realisation' and in this event the Wise Men have a sudden realisation that Jesus is God in human form. Note that this is first revealed to the shepherds who represent the people of God and then later revealed to the three wise men who represent the whole world. The gifts brought by the wise men are symbolic: gold = Jesus' royalty, he is our king; frankincense = Jesus' divinity, he is God; myrrh = Jesus' passion and death (myrrh being incense used for the dead).

It is tradition for homes to be blessed on this day. See the Missio website link for an example classroom blessing.

### Our Lady of Lourdes

The feast of this is Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February which is the World Day of Prayer for the Sick. The church prays for all who are sick. You will find a list of names in the Parish Bulletin who you can pray for. Each class could make cards for those who are unwell to remind them that all of their parish family are praying for them. They can also be included in times of prayer.

### Christian Unity Week 18th - 25th January

This octave of prayer is shared by Christians throughout the world. Each year the theme for the week is developed by people from a different part of the world. This year the theme is 'We saw His Star in the East.' The resources for 2022, which are suitable for adults, were prepared for worldwide use by churches in the middle east. They include a pamphlet which includes daily reflections and prayers.

For more information, check out <https://crtbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2022/>

Creator of light,  
illumine our path by the light of Christ  
who moves before us and leads us.  
May he be a beacon for our pilgrimage.  
Enlighten us and dwell within us.  
Guide us to discover a manger in our hearts  
where a great light still shines.  
We thank you for the gift of that unfading Star,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.  
Heal our divisions and draw us closer to the Light  
that we may find our unity in him.  
Amen.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> February

#### Nunc Dimittis – Canticle of Simeon

Now, Lord, you have kept your word:  
let your servant go in peace.  
With my own eyes I have seen the salvation  
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:  
a light to reveal you to the nations  
and the glory of your people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world  
without end.  
Amen.

### Pope's Prayer Intentions

**January: for true human fraternity**  
We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognised, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

**February: for religious sisters and consecrated women**  
We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

### Dates for the Diary

**Christmas Season**

January	
Wed 5	Memorial in Staffordshire of St. Charles of St. Andrew
Thur 6	Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord
Fri 7	Memorial of St. Raymond of Penyafort
Sun 9	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

**Ordinary Time**

Wed 12	Memorial of St. Aelred of Rievaulx
Thur 13	Memorial of St. Hilary
Mon 17	Memorial of St. Anthony
Tue 18	Octave of Christian Unity Peace Day (Octave ends Monday 25)
Wed 19	Feast of St. Wulstan
Thur 20	Memorial of St. Fabian and St. Sebastian
Fri 21	Memorial of St. Agnes
Sun 23	Sunday of the Word of God
Mon 24	Memorial of St. Francis de Sales
Tue 25	Feast of the Conversion of St Paul
Wed 26	Memorial of Sts Timothy and Titus
Thur 27	Memorial in Worcestershire of Blessed Edward Oldcorne
Fri 28	Memorial of St. Thomas Aquinas
Mon 31	Feast of St. John Bosco

**February**

Wed 2	Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
Thur 3	Memorial in Staffordshire of St Werburg
	Memorial of St. Blaise
Tue 8	Memorial of St. Jerome Emiliani
	Memorial of St. Josephine Bakhita
Thur 10	Memorial of St. Scholastica, Virgin
Fri 11	Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes
	World Day of Prayer for the Sick

For a complete list of dates, readings and colours please refer to the Archdiocese of Birmingham Ordo 2021-2022

### CAFOD & Missio – Resources

Catholic Social Teaching: CAFOD are available to deliver interactive workshops to children. To book, follow <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/CST-resources-for-children>

Epiphany: CAFOD have produced some child led collective worship resources which can be here: <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Collective-worship-primary/Epiphany-resources>

Classroom Blessing: Mission Together have produced a Classroom Blessing linked to the Epiphany. This can be found here: <https://missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/epiphany/>

Feast of St. Paul (25 Jan): Mission Together are supporting schools to mark the feast of St. Paul through a Five Fact Assembly, Liturgical Prayer and accompanying literacy activity. This can be found here: <https://missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/conversion-of-st-paul/>

Missio Interactive Map: Students can navigate the map to discover how they are part of the Universal Church – God's family and how children everywhere pray and share their time, gifts and talents to be missionaries of God's love. <https://missiontogether.org.uk/mission-together-map/>

## Classroom Prayer Areas

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Maundy Thursday, where we enter into Easter Triduum. In the season of Lent, cover the prayer area in a purple cloth. The word 'Alleluia' is not used during the season of Lent and therefore the letters of the 'Alleluia' (written on cards) can be placed inside a purple bag or box and kept somewhere safe (prayer table etc.). You will be able to remove the Alleluia from the safe place after the Easter holiday. Each week items relating to the Sunday Gospel could be added to the prayer area.

**2nd March (Ash Wednesday)** - Bowl of ashes/dirt to remind us of the ashes we receive.

**6th March** - Stones/Sand - To represent the temptation in the desert.

**13th March** - Speech bubbles of 'This is my Son, the chosen One, Listen to him.' Display a picture of three tents to represent the Transfiguration.

**20th March** - A small plant to represent nurture just as the fig tree needed to be nurtured.

**27th March** - Pictures of the father and son embracing from 'The Prodigal Son' to remind us of God's love and mercy for us.

**2nd April** - During the last week of school, tell the events of Holy Week with items such as palms, money and crown of thorns. You may also wish to veil (cover) statues and crucifixes with purple cloth towards the end of Lent.

See Pinterest and Catholic Icing for ideas on Lenten Prayer Stations and stations of the cross.

<https://www.catholicicing.com/how-to-set-up-a-lent-table-lent-home-altar-ideas/>



St. Chad



St. Chad's coat of arms

## Lent

During Lent, we are called to strengthen and deepen our faith through:

- **prayer** – spending more time with God.
- **fasting & abstinence** – Children may join in the spirit of fasting for example, by giving up chocolate/crisps or another treat for the season of Lent.
- **almsgiving** – making the needs of other people our own through practical support or fundraising.
- Watch this video about the season of Lent.  
<https://bustedhalo.com/video/watch-lent-3-minutes/>

## St. Chad (The Patron Saint of Archdiocese of Birmingham)

The Diocesan feast of St. Chad is on Thursday 3rd March. This year marks 1350 years since St. Chad's death in 672. On this day, we remember St. Chad and give thanks for our Cathedral. Interesting facts about the Cathedral can be found

<https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/cathedral/interesting-facts/>  
You may wish to explore the coat of arms of St. Chad and place it upon your prayer area.

St. Chad's offer school visits which can be organised by contacting the education team. Information can be found here

<https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/education/>

Alternatively, you can explore St. Chad's virtually here:

<https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/virtual-tour-explore-st-chads-cathedral/>

Prayers to be said on this feast day:

- Pray today for Archbishop Bernard Longley, asking God our Father to bless his ministry amongst us.
- Pray for the people of the Diocese in the different parishes and schools, asking that we may be inspired by St. Chad's example of where Christ leads us.
- Pray for vocations to the Priesthood so that new priests will serve him and care for his people in the parishes of our Diocese.
- Pray for our local parish, clergy, the people of the parish and our families.
- Pray for the children preparing for Confirmation and the other Sacraments.

(Adapted from <https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/> and the Archdiocese of Birmingham Ordo)

## Lenten Prayer:

God of Power and might,  
we praise you through your Son, Jesus Christ,  
who comes in your name.

He is the Word that brings your salvation.

He is the hand you stretch out to sinners.

He is the way that leads to your peace.

God our Father,

We had wandered far from you,

but through your Son you have brought us back.

You gave him up to death so that we might turn again to you and find our way to one another.

*Roman Missal: Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation II*

Source: Liturgy Office

(<https://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Calendar/Cycle/LentCP.shtml>)

## Pope's Prayer Intentions

### March: For a Christian response to bioethical challenges

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action

### April: For health care workers

We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.

## Dates for the Diary\*

### February

Mon 28 Memorial of St. Oswald

### March

Tues 1 Feast of St. David  
Wed 2 Ash Wednesday  
Thurs 3 Feast of St. Chad (The Patron Saint of Archdiocese of Birmingham)  
Fri 4 Commemoration of St. Casimir  
Sat 5 Day of Prayer for the Candidates to the Sacraments  
Mon 7 Commemoration of St. Perpetua and Felicity  
Tues 8 Commemoration of St. John of God  
Wed 9 Commemoration of St. Frances of Rome  
Fri 11 CAFOD Family Fast Day  
Sat 12-19 Dementia Prayer Week  
Sun 13 Day of Prayer for the Candidates for the Sacraments  
Thurs 17 Feast of St. Patrick  
Fri 18 Commemoration of St. Cyril  
Sat 19 Solemnity of St. Joseph  
Tues 23 Commemoration of St. Turibius  
Fri 25 Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

### April

Mon 4 Commemoration of St. Isidore  
Tues 5 Commemoration of St. Vincent  
Thurs 7 Commemoration of St. John Baptist de la Salle  
Sun 10 Palm Sunday (Holy Week begins)  
Thurs 14 Maundy Thursday, Mass of the Last Supper  
Fri 15 Good Friday  
Sat 16 Holy Saturday  
Sun 17 Easter Sunday

\*For a complete list of dates, readings and colours please refer to the Archdiocese of Birmingham Ordo 2021-2022

Further prayer resources can be found on <https://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/>

## CAFOD & Missio – Resources

### CAFOD

**Lent 2022: Walk against hunger** – All around the country schools will be joining up and walking 40,000km, the distance around the world, to fight hunger in solidarity with the 200 million children whose lives are at risk because of malnutrition. The focus for prayer and action will be Sierra Leone.

<https://cafod.org.uk/primary/lent/>

**CAFOD Lent Assembly:** To coincide with Family Fast Day, CAFOD will be holding another National Assembly 11th March 2022.  
[cafod.org.uk/News/Events/National-assemblies](https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/National-assemblies)

### Missio

**Lenten Calendar 2022:** The Missio Lenten Calendar calls children to participate in a daily activity. These support the three aspects of Lent: pray, fast and give alms. <https://missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/lent/>

**Lenten Resources:** There are a number of workbooks, quizzes and activities to explore with children over Lent. Assemblies, stations of the cross and a range of resources for Lent and Holy Week are also available.  
<https://missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/lent/>



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## Classroom Prayer Areas

**Easter:** The liturgical colour this season is white and gold, the colours used by the Church to celebrate its most joyous seasons. This is the time of year when the prayer focus should be at its most 'cheerful and bright'. This could include flowers and plants to enhance the sacred space. The 'Alleluia' (our song of joy) should have a prominent place in the prayer space and it too should be bright and vibrant. Signs, symbols and images of the Resurrection should be used to remind us of the new life given to us by Jesus. Decorated eggs, chicks and lambs are all traditional symbols of Easter. Resurrection crucifixes where Jesus is portrayed in robes and sometimes a crown can also be used.

**May:** This is the month devoted to Our Lady, (please note that it does not take precedence over Easter). It can be reflected through images and icons of Mary. Traditionally May altars are filled with flowers surrounding a statue or image of Our Lady. Different cultural images and statues of Mary can be used to remind the children of the devotion to Our Lady which exists throughout the world. See Mary in 2 minutes from Busted Halo: <https://youtu.be/0a0m0v0m0v0>

**Titles of Mary:** Mary, the Mother of God, has many different titles attributed to her that have developed from her personal life, places of honour in the life of the Church, her role in the plan of our salvation and her intercession to God on our behalf.

**Marion Processions:** Marion Processions are a traditional custom in honour of Our Lady. Whilst we walk, we pray the rosary and sing hymns for Our Lady in a spirit of prayer and celebration. At the close of the procession, a statue of the Blessed Virgin is crowned with a garland or crown of flowers honouring Mary as the Queen of May.

**The Memorare:** The Memorare is a prayer invoking the intercession of our Blessed Mother. Its origins may date from the 12th century, but we know it has been widely used since the 17th century. It is appropriate for use at any time, but is especially appropriate during times of difficulty or distress.

**Apparitions of Mary:** The Blessed Virgin Mary has appeared in a number of times and places. These are known as apparitions and have been recognised by the Church. They have become places of pilgrimage such as Our Lady of Walsingham, Norfolk and Our Lady of Lourdes, France, Our Lady of Fatima, Portugal and Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mexico.

## Easter traditions from around the world

There are many different ways that Catholics celebrate Easter around the world. This would be a great project to investigate a range of traditions.

**Poland:** The day before Easter, families prepare a "blessing basket." It's filled with coloured eggs, sausages, bread, and other important food and taken to church to be blessed. In Polish culture, Lent isn't over until a priest blesses this basket.

**France:** According to Catholic teaching, no church bells can ring between Holy Thursday and the Easter Vigil, on account of the solemnity of the days around Jesus' death. Eventually, a legend evolved that said the church bells weren't rung because they grew wings and flew to Rome to be blessed by the Pope. Then they returned on Easter day with chocolate and presents for local children. <https://www.rd.com/culture/easter-traditions-around-the-world/>

## The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your protection, was left unprotected. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.

To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer me.

Amen



Mother of God, Queen of Heaven, by Chou Kar Kiat



Holy Madonna, by John Gualiani



Our Lady of Montserrat

## Ascension & Pentecost

God the Father sent Jesus his Son into the world to save us. We read in the Acts of the Apostles about Jesus returning to heaven to be with his Father after he had finished his ministry work on earth. This event is called the Ascension. Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he gave his followers a special mission to spread the Good News about God. Jesus assured the disciples that the Holy Spirit would give them the power to do this and be their guide. Nine days after the Ascension was the Jewish feast of Pentecost. Mary and the disciples had gathered together to pray when suddenly the Holy Spirit descended upon them. When the disciples spoke and taught them about Jesus, everyone could understand them in their own spoken languages.

In Lent we commemorate the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert and Pentecost we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit 50 days after Easter. The Latin word Novena means nine and a Novena is an ancient tradition of devotional praying repeated for nine successive days. The nine days between the Feast of the Ascension and Pentecost, when the disciples gathered in the upper room and devoted themselves to prayer, is often considered to be the first novena.

## Pope's Prayer Intentions

**April: For healthcare workers**  
We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.

**May: For faith-filled young people**  
We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generated, and the dedication to service.

**June: For families**  
We pray for Christian families around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives.

## Dates for the Diary\*

**April**  
**The Pope's Prayer Intention for April:** For health care workers

Mon 25 Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist  
Tue 26 Solemnity of St. George, Martyr, Patron of England  
Thurs 28 Memorial of St. Peter Chanel  
Thurs 29 Memorial of St. Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort  
Feast of St. Catherine of Siena, Doctor of the Church, Patron of Europe.

**May**  
**The Pope's Prayer intention for May:** For faith-filled young people

Sat 1 Memorial of St. Joseph the Worker  
Mon 2 Memorial of St. Athanasius  
Tue 3 Feast of St. Philip and James, Apostles  
Wed 4 Feast of the English Martyrs  
Tue 10 Memorial of St. John of Avila  
Thurs 12 Memorial of St. Pancras  
Fri 13 Memorial of Our Lady of Fatima  
Wed 18 Memorial of St. John I  
Thurs 19 Memorial of St. Dunstan  
Fri 20 Memorial of St. Bernadine of Siena  
Wed 25 Memorial of St. Bede the Venerable  
Thurs 26 Solemnity of the Ascension of our Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)  
Fri 27 Feast of St. Augustine of Canterbury

**June:**  
**The Pope's Prayer Intention for June:** For families

**Sun 5** The Solemnity of Pentecost  
\*For a complete list of dates, readings and colours please refer to the Archdiocese of Birmingham Ordo 2021-2022.  
Further prayer resources can be found on <https://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/>

## Step up to the plate with CAFOD

CAFOD wish to pass on their thanks for all the support and prayers during Lent in solidarity with sisters and brothers around the world.

This summer, pupils are invited to learn about the obstacles faced by people around the world trying to grow food for their families and to earn money. Join the 'Step up to the plate' campaign to help fix the food system. Watch the national assembly on 28 April to find out more. [www.cafod.org.uk/primary](http://www.cafod.org.uk/primary)

## Mission

In the Catholic Church, May is a month traditionally dedicated to Our Lady and the Holy Rosary. Mission Together have a bank of Marian resources to help schools journey through this special time, including a *Queen of the May Liturgical Prayer*, *Our Lady Five Fact Assembly* and a *Mission Rosary Assembly*. <https://missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/marian-and-mission-rosary/>

Another Marian resource that has a timely message is the *Child Saints of Fatima Five Fact Assembly*. This assembly tells the story of Our Lady's appearance to three children in Fatima, 1917, and her request that they pray the rosary for peace. This year, Mission Together hopes to encourage children across the country to join with Fatima's child saints and pray a decade of the *Mission Rosary* every day for global peace, beginning on Monday 16 May. This is especially important due to current events. <https://missiontogether.org.uk/five-fact-saints-assembly/>

In addition to Marian resources, Mission Together are delighted to share news of their new *Inclusive Resources* webpage. The prayer sessions and activities hosted on this webpage have been specially created to meet the needs of children and young people who are neurodiverse. <https://missiontogether.org.uk/inclusive-resources/>



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Summer 2: "These have been written in order that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God" John 20:31

## Classroom Prayer Areas

**Pentecost Sunday 5th June 2022 - Colour Red**  
On the Feast of Pentecost, the priest's vestments and cloths in church will be red. This symbolises the fire of the Holy Spirit which descended upon those present at Pentecost. Symbols of the Holy Spirit (dove, wind, fire) can be displayed. Pentecost is the last day of the Easter season and is a joyful day of celebration as this is the Church's birthday.

**Prayer cloths should be green to indicate the second period of Ordinary Time in the Liturgical Year.**

The Church dedicates the month of June to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, one of the most popular Catholic devotions throughout the world. Images, icons and artwork could be displayed on prayer areas.

At this time of year, many children receive communion for the first time around the feast of Corpus Christi and therefore the prayer focus can include images of the Blessed Sacrament and prayers for before and after communion.

Towards the end of June, prayer areas can display an icon of St Peter and Paul or a symbol representative of them, e.g. a key for St Peter or a scroll for St Paul on their feast day.

## The Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

This Solemnity occurs on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday. The liturgical colour for this day is white or gold. This feast, also known as 'Corpus Christi' (Latin for 'The Body of Christ'), arose in the thirteenth century as a celebration of 'Transubstantiation' or the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. It was extended to the whole Church by Pope Urban IV in 1264.

## Corpus Christi Processions

Traditionally on Corpus Christi, processions are held. The Blessed Sacrament is taken from the Church and is processed in the grounds or local community outside. The congregation follow behind the Blessed Sacrament whilst praying and singing Eucharistic prayers and hymns.

This procession, focusing on the Blessed Sacrament is an outward sign to show that the Eucharist is source and summit of our faith.

The Blessed Sacrament is placed within the Monstrance which is a vessel made of precious metal. It allows the faithful to gaze upon our Blessed Lord in the form of Eucharist whilst protecting the host. Whilst the Sacrament is being processed, members of the parish hold a canopy over the Blessed Sacrament. The procession will lead to an altar and is usual for Adoration and Benediction to take place.



## Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester

Day by day,  
O dear Lord,  
three things I pray:  
to see you more clearly,  
love you more dearly,  
follow you more nearly,  
day by day,  
by day, by day.  
Amen.

Feast Day: 16th June

## St Peter and St Paul

The feast on St. Peter and St. Paul is celebrated on the 29th June and is a Holy Day of Obligation (a day on which we are obliged to go to Mass). These two saints have a special status in the Church because of the significant roles they played in the formation of the early Church.

**St. Peter** was chosen by Jesus to be the leader of the Church. A fisherman, named Simon was called by Jesus to be one of his Apostles. There is an account in the Gospels, where Jesus changes Simon's name to Peter (which means rock) and says 'On this rock, I will build my Church' meaning, he was to lead the faithful once Jesus had returned to heaven. Peter therefore, was the first Pope and the authority given to him by Jesus has been passed on to his successors throughout the ages. We refer to this in the creed when we say 'I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.' Pope Francis is the current successor to St. Peter. One of the symbols associated with St. Peter are the keys, which symbolise the keys of heaven and also appear on the flag of the Vatican City.

**St. Paul** was originally known as Saul and early in his life was a persecutor of Christians. However, following a dramatic conversion on the road to Damascus, he became a Christian and took the name Paul. In the New Testament, we find many letters written by St. Paul to different early Christian communities around the world. Symbols associated with St. Paul are a sword and a book.



## Pope's Prayer Intentions

**June: Families**  
We pray for Christian families around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives.

**July: Elderly**  
We pray for the elderly, who represent the roots and memory of a people; may their experience and wisdom help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility.

## Summer 2:

"Go throughout the whole world and preach the Gospel to all people" Mark 16:15

## Dates for the Diary\*

**June**  
**The Pope's Prayer Intention for June:** For Families

Mon 6 Memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church  
Thurs 9 Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest  
Sun 12 The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity  
Mon 13 Memorial of St. Anthony of Padua  
Thurs 16 Memorial of St. Richard of Chichester  
Sat 18 Solemnity of the Dedication of the Cathedral Church of St Chad  
Sun 19 Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ  
Mon 20 Memorial of St. Alban  
Tue 21 Memorial of St. Aloysius Gonzaga  
Wed 22 Feast of St. John Fisher  
Feast of St. Thomas More  
Thurs 23 Solemnity of The Nativity of St. John the Baptist  
Fri 24 Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus  
Sat 25 Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary  
Tues 28 Memorial of St. Irenaeus  
Wed 29 Solemnity of SS Peter & Paul  
Thurs 30 Memorial of the First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church

**July**  
**The Pope's Prayer intention for July:** For the elderly

Mon 4 Memorial of St. Elizabeth of Portugal  
Tue 5 Memorial of St. Mowden  
Wed 6 Memorial of St. Maria Goretti  
Sat 9 Memorial of St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions  
Mon 11 Memorial of St. Benedict  
Fri 15 Memorial of St. Bonaventure  
Sat 16 Memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
Fri 22 Feast of St. Mary Magdalene

\*For a complete list of dates, readings and colours please refer to the Archdiocese of Birmingham Ordo 2021-2022.

## Step up to the Plate Campaign

There is enough food for everyone, yet 1 person in 10 is hungry. Explore CAFOD's resources, watch their national assembly and learn how food is grown and shared. [Step up to the plate food campaign for children | CAFOD](https://www.cafod.org.uk/primary)

**LiveSimply**  
Thank you to the 97% of schools currently signed up to the LiveSimply award. CAFOD have released a video introducing what is means to live simply, in solidarity and sustainably. [Live Simply - Introduction \(vimeo.com\)](https://www.livesimply.org.uk/). There is also an assembly which can be used to explain the LiveSimply journey with the entire school community. [LiveSimply assembly for primary schools | CAFOD](https://www.livesimply.org.uk/primary-schools/)

**Collective Worship**  
Collective Worship for Eastertide, Ascension and Pentecost can be accessed here [Pupil-led collective worship for primary schools | CAFOD](https://www.cafod.org.uk/primary-schools/)

## Mission

This year the feast of Pentecost falls on Sunday 5 June. Mission Together's new Pentecost Liturgical Prayer and accompanying slides, references the gifts of the Holy Spirit and how they help us to share the love of God and message of Jesus, just as they helped the Apostles after the first Christian Pentecost. Mission Together have also produced an online Pentecost Pupil Workbook and Classroom Ideas resource, all free to download. [missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/resources-for-pentecost/](https://missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/resources-for-pentecost/)

In the last weeks of the summer term, Mission Together encourages schools to celebrate a **Day of Many Colours**. This special day aims to strengthen pupils' understanding of their place as cherished members of God's Universal Church family. The **Day of Many Colours** is Mission Together's annual campaign event, with funds raised supporting hundreds of overseas children's projects. For fun activities, fundraising ideas, assemblies, and prayers please visit [missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/day-of-many-colours/](https://missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/day-of-many-colours/)



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# All Souls Catholic Primary School

## Prayer Box

### What should be in here?

Cloths - green, purple, white, gold and red  
Sand  
Stones  
Rosary beads  
Bible (age appropriate)  
Plates for offerings (UKS2 ONLY)  
Tea-light candles  
Devotion or statue of Mary  
Praying Cross  
Holy Water  
Candle holder  
Jar or pot for the sand

### What do I need and when (essentials)?

September - Green and gold cloths, crucifix, Bible, praying cross and candle/s  
October - Green and gold cloths, crucifix, Bible, praying cross, statue or devotion to Mary and Rosary beads.  
November - Green and gold cloths, crucifix, Bible, praying cross and candle/s  
December - Purple cloth, Nativity scene (no Jesus), Advent wreath, crucifix, Bible and praying cross  
January - White and gold cloths, crucifix, Bible, praying cross, Nativity scene with Jesus and Wisemen (if possible)  
February - Green and gold cloths, crucifix, Bible, praying cross and candle/s  
March - ASH WEDNESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> MARCH. Purple cloth, sand, stones, crucifix, Bible, praying cross and candle/s  
April - Purple cloth, sand, stones, crucifix, Bible, praying cross and candle/s  
May - White and gold cloths, crucifix, Bible, praying cross, candle/s, statue or devotion to Mary and Rosary beads.  
June - PENTECOST 6<sup>th</sup> JUNE so UNTIL 14<sup>th</sup> JUNE - Red and gold cloths with flame or dove symbol. Then green and gold cloths, crucifix, Bible, praying cross and candle/s  
July - Green and gold cloths, crucifix, Bible, praying cross and candle/s

In addition to this during all parts of the year the value and virtue tree must be displayed with correctly coloured leaves attached.

*Christ is our Light*



## Monitoring proformas

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### Monitoring of Prayer Areas

Location of Sacred Space: Is it in a classroom, a prayer room, a multi-purpose area, the hall?

Date of monitoring: Be prepared and aware of what time of the Liturgical Year it is and what units of work are currently being covered.

Carried out by: RE subject leader, SMT, link Governor, Governor from Ethos & Mission Committee

Prepared by: teacher/TA/children Who is responsible for the area? Are children being given opportunities to help create the space for prayer?

Insert photo here

The prayer area is prominently placed within the room?

Yes/No

When you walk in the room can you immediately see the prayer area? Is it in a central position where children can gather/turn to face it? Is it at an accessible height for the children?

The area is clean, dignified and well presented?

Yes/No

Does it look good? Is there anything on it which shouldn't be there? Is it overly cluttered? Does it inspire the children and adults to enter into prayer?

The area reflects the current Liturgical Season and/or the current RE unit?

Yes/No

Is the cloth the right colour? Does its tone reflect the season e.g. Lent = no flowers?

An appropriate selection of religious objects are displayed?

Yes/No

Crucifix, statues, crosses, palms, Holy Water, Rosary Beads etc. But are people being selective enough? E.g. Are the Rosary beads always there? You may decide to list what is there so that you can compare it the next time monitoring is completed. Are there any multi-cultural Catholic images/objects? Is there a variety of crucifixes e.g. traditional, Crucifix of the Risen Lord, El Salvador Crucifix etc?

Other visual stimuli are being used to enhance the area?

Yes/No

Are any signs and symbols on display e.g. stones for the desert in Lent), religious art, reflective poetry?

An age appropriate Bible/bible story is displayed?

Yes/No

Is the Bible turned to an appropriate page (the reading of the day, from the Season, relating to the unit of work? Is it suitable for that age? Is it a presentation bible, a classroom bible or a bible story?

Appropriate prayers are displayed

Yes/No

What prayers are displayed? Are they there permanently or seasonally? Are they the prayers children need to learn? Are they pertinent to the Season? Are there any of the children's own prayers?

The prayer area is used regularly by adults and children?

Yes/No

Do the children turn automatically to face it? Is there evidence of interaction i.e. prayer boxes, votive prayer book, questions to prompt thought/reflection?

Comments/Areas for Development



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**Observing Acts of Collective Worship**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Start Time:</b> <b>Finish Time:</b>	<b>Observer:</b>		<b>Theme:</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Phase</b>	<b>Prepared by</b>	<b>Led by</b>
	<b>Key Stage</b>	<b>Whole School</b>		

**Preparation**

There is recorded evidence of planning? Yes/No

There is evidence of children's involvement in elements of the planning? Yes/No

There is a prominent focal point for prayer? Yes/No

The focal point relates to the Liturgical Season and/or theme? Yes/No

The environment creates a space which is conducive to prayer? Yes/No

**GATHER**

The children enter in a reverent manner? Yes/No

The Act of Collective Worship starts on time? Yes/No

Appropriate words, rituals and gestures are used to welcome and start? Yes/No

**LISTEN & RESPOND**

Prominence is given to the Word? Yes/No

The resources are age appropriate? Yes/No

The delivery has variety and engages and sustains the children throughout? Yes/No

Media, props and artefacts are used appropriately and effectively? Yes/No

The children were able to respond in a variety of ways? Yes/No

There were opportunities for SMVSC development? Yes/No

Worship is the main focus? Yes/No

The children were able to practise, develop, and/or learn new forms of prayer? Yes/No

Staff are engaged and act as role models? Yes/No

Children were involved in leading elements? Yes/No

**GO FORTH**

The children knew and understood the message? Yes/No

The children leave in an appropriate manner? Yes/No

<b>WWW</b>	<b>EBI</b>
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## Monitoring of School Buildings & Physical Signs of a Catholic School

**Date of Monitoring:**

**Completed by:**

### School Signage:

The sign says **Catholic** school

☐

Diocesan badge

☐

School badge/logo

☐

Religious image on badge/logo

☐

Mission

☐

Prominent

☐

Clean and attractive

☐

### School Entrance:

Welcoming

☐

Patron statue/image

☐

Crucifix

☐

Bible/lectionary

☐

Prayers

☐

Mission

☐

Catholic Life Information

☐

Key People

☐

Clean and attractive

☐

### Hall:

Crucifix

☐

Prayer Focus

☐

Liturgical Season

☐

Mission

☐

Prayers

☐

Religious objects

☐

### Corridors:

Crucifix

☐

Patron statue/image

☐

Religious objects/images

☐

Mission

☐

Catholic Life Information

☐

RE Displays

☐

### Classrooms:

Crucifix

☐

Prayer Focus

☐

Mission

☐

RE Display

☐

### Other Rooms/spaces:

Crucifix

☐

Prayers

☐

### Outdoor Areas:

Catholic Life Information

☐

Prayer area/garden

☐

Religious objects/images

☐

**Comments/Areas for Development/Actions Arising**