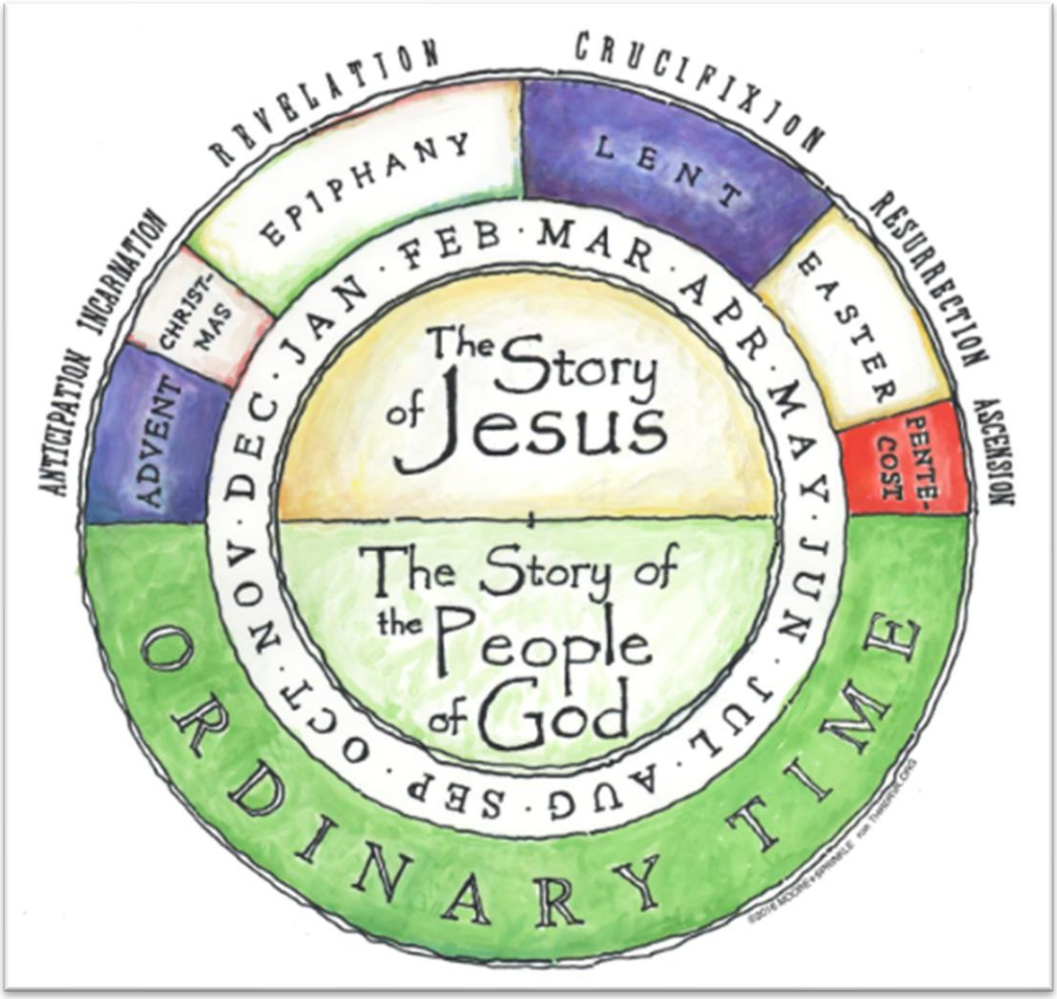


St . Joseph's Catholic Primary School

- **Annual Plan of Provision**

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Prayer, Liturgy and Catholic Life 2026–2027

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."
Ecclesiastes 3:1

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Withnell, is a small Catholic primary school with 96 pupils, rooted in a strong Catholic identity and a warm, welcoming, family-centred community. At the heart of everything we do is our school mission:

St. Joseph's family,
Learn together,
With love and faith in Jesus,
To become the people
God calls us to be.

Our mission shapes the daily life of our school and our ambition for every child. We want all members of the St. Joseph's family to know that they are known, valued and loved by God. Through faith, learning, prayer and service, we encourage our children to recognise their God-given gifts, grow in wisdom and knowledge, and use their gifts to make a positive and transformational difference in the world.

This Annual Plan of Provision sets out how prayer, liturgy and the Catholic life and mission of St. Joseph's will be lived out throughout the 2026–2027 academic year. It establishes a clear rhythm of prayer and worship which reflects the liturgical year and ensures that children encounter Christ through a rich and meaningful range of spiritual experiences.

Throughout the year, pupils will participate in whole-school and class prayer and liturgy, Celebration of the Word, Masses, pupil-led prayer, opportunities for reflection and retreat, the celebration of important feast days and seasons, and opportunities to put their faith into action through service, charity and Catholic Social Teaching.

Our provision is inclusive and invitational, enabling every child to participate meaningfully and encounter opportunities for prayer, reflection and spiritual growth. Children are increasingly encouraged to take an active role in preparing, leading and evaluating prayer and liturgy, developing their understanding of how prayer strengthens our relationship with God and calls us to live out the Gospel in our everyday lives.

The plan also recognises the importance of our relationships with families, parish and the wider community. Through shared celebrations, Masses, charitable outreach and opportunities for families to participate in the prayer life of the school, we seek to strengthen the partnership between home, school and parish.

Through thoughtful planning, high-quality prayer and liturgy, a nurturing Catholic environment and opportunities to live out our faith through action, this Annual Plan of Provision provides a framework for continually deepening the spiritual and Catholic life of St. Joseph's.
Above all, it ensures that our Catholic mission is not simply something we say, but something that is known, understood and lived each day, enabling every member of St. Joseph's family to flourish and become the person God calls them to be.

Produced by: Katie Cunliffe
Academic Year: 2026–2027
Updated: September 2026
Next Review: September 2027

SEASONAL PROVISION

ATMOSPHERE & SEASONALITY

Seasonality connects us all on a very human level. When planning and celebrating prayer and liturgy, we consider where we are in the life of the school and Church community. Just as the changing seasons outside help us recognise the time of year, the liturgical seasons should have their own distinctive character, colour, prayer, scripture and opportunities for action. At St. Joseph's, our seasonal provision helps children to experience the rhythm of the Church year and to live out our mission: ***"St. Joseph's family learn together, with love and faith in Jesus, to become the people God calls us to be."***

Season	Approx. Time	Prayer, Liturgy & Catholic Life	Faith in Action / Community
Marian Term	**September – October**	• Season of Creation – whole-school and class prayer; climate pledges and care for our common home. • Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Celebration of the Word and a focus on Mary as a model of faith. • Little Way Week – prayer and acts of everyday kindness inspired by St Thérèse of Lisieux. • Fairtrade Fortnight / Catholic Social Teaching focus. • House Saints introduced and celebrated; children explore how their saint can inspire them. • Pupil leadership teams elected, including Pupil Chaplains / Stewards of the Earth	• Rosary prayer and opportunities to learn and pray traditional Marian prayers. • Macmillan Coffee Morning / community fundraising where appropriate. • CAFOD Harvest Fast Day and Harvest giving. • Harvest Scarecrow Festival - donations to support local families and foodbank provision. • Mission focus: recognising our God-given gifts and using them in service of others.
Remembrance Term	**November – December**	• All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day – prayer, remembrance and reflection. • Remembrance Day – whole-school prayer and two-minute silence at 11am. • Remembrance display / prayer space within school. • Poppies and Royal British Legion appeal supported by pupil leaders. • Advent begins – changing prayer spaces, Advent wreaths and a focus on hope, peace, joy and love. • Advent Celebration of the Word and opportunities for families to pray with classes.	• Sacrament of Reconciliation offered during Advent for pupils who have received the sacrament. Visit to Memorial of James Millar in Withnell • Reverse Advent / Christmas giving appeal led by pupil leaders. • SVP Chorley Buddies Toy Appeal / Christmas gift collection. • Travelling Crib and opportunities for prayer at home with families. • Whole-school Nativity and Christmas celebrations. • Carols and outreach within the local community where opportunities arise.
Candlemas Term	**January – February**	• Epiphany Celebration of the Word – reflecting on Jesus revealed to the nations. • Baptism of the Lord – renewing our understanding of belonging to God's family. • King's Week / scripture and prayer linked to the Epiphany season. • The Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) – prayer with candles and Jesus as the Light of the World. • Class Celebration of the Word for parents and families.	• Sacramental preparation continues for Year 4 pupils preparing for First Holy Communion. • Catholic Social Teaching and faith-in-action opportunities across the curriculum. • Prayer spaces reflect Ordinary Time and the movement towards Lent. • Pupil-led prayer and liturgy developed through increasing independence.
Lenten Term	**February –**		

Season	Approx. Time	Prayer, Liturgy & Catholic Life	Faith in Action / Community
	April	• Ash Wednesday – whole-school Mass / liturgy and distribution of ashes. • Lenten prayer spaces established across school. • Lenten promises focused on prayer, fasting and almsgiving. • CAFOD Big Lent Walk and Lenten fundraising. • Take-home prayer opportunities to strengthen the link between home, school and parish. • Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent for pupils who have received the sacrament.	• Lenten retreat and opportunities for stillness, reflection and spiritual development. • Stations of the Cross led by pupils and shared with families. • Holy Week – prayer and liturgy reflecting Jesus' journey to the Cross. • Easter / Passion service involving pupils across school. • Catholic Social Teaching focus: solidarity, sacrifice and service to others.
Pentecost Term	**April – May**	• Easter season prayer – celebrating the joy and hope of the Resurrection. • Stations of Light / scripture reflecting the appearances of the risen Jesus. • May – Month of Mary; Marian prayer spaces and flowers dedicated to Our Lady. • Praying the Rosary across school. • The Ascension of the Lord – Celebration of the Word. • Pentecost Celebration of the Word – exploring the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit.	• Pentecost art, prayer and creative responses. • Pentecost party – celebrating the birthday of the Church. • First Holy Communion celebrated with and for Year 4 pupils. • Class Celebration of the Word for parents and families. • Opportunities for liturgical movement, music and creative prayer.
Trinity Term	**June – July**	• The Most Holy Trinity – prayer focused on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. • Corpus Christi – reflection on the Eucharist and Jesus' presence among us. • Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus – prayer focused on the love of Christ. • Refugee Week – prayer, learning and Catholic Social Teaching linked to human dignity and solidarity. • Interfaith learning and opportunities to encounter other faith traditions respectfully. • Care for Creation – outdoor prayer, environmental action and stewardship.	• Harvesting school-grown produce and sharing with the local community where possible. • CAFOD / charity action linked to global neighbours. • Year 6 retreat – reflection, thanksgiving and preparation for transition. • Year 6 Leavers' Mass / Celebration of the Word and celebration assembly. • End-of-year thanksgiving – recognising how we have grown and become the people God calls us to be.

This provision is a working annual framework. Dates and opportunities may be adapted to reflect the liturgical calendar, parish life, local community events and the needs of the children.

Advent at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Withnell

A season of preparation, hope and joyful expectation

Atmosphere and Seasonality

At St Joseph's, Advent is a sacred season of preparation and anticipation as we wait with hope for the birth of Jesus. Throughout Advent, we aim to create a calm, prayerful and reflective atmosphere across school so that children understand that this is a time of waiting, hope and joyful expectation. Rooted in our mission statement — "St Joseph's family learn together, with love and faith in Jesus, to become the people God calls us to be" — Advent gives us a special opportunity to grow together in faith, prayer, generosity and service to others.

Classroom and School Environment

During Advent, classrooms and shared spaces should visibly reflect the Church's season of waiting. Sacred Spaces are dressed in purple, the liturgical colour of Advent, and include an Advent wreath which is lit progressively as we journey towards Christmas. Lighting may be softened during prayer and Celebration of the Word, with candles or LED candles helping to create a peaceful and reverent atmosphere.

Prayer areas may include Scripture linked to the Advent story, images of Mary and Joseph, a simple Nativity scene and signs or symbols of hope. Natural and simple materials should be used wherever possible so that the focus remains on Christ rather than the commercial aspects of Christmas. Classes may use a reverse Advent calendar, offering daily opportunities for prayer, Scripture, acts of kindness or donations for those in need. Children should also have opportunities to spend quiet time in prayer, reflecting on how they can prepare their hearts for Jesus.

Prayer, Worship and Liturgy

Prayer and worship during Advent should help children encounter the themes of hope, peace, joy and love. Our Advent school prayer — "Dear Jesus, help us to wait for you with hope" — can be used regularly in classrooms, at the beginning or end of the day, before meals and during collective worship. Celebrations of the Word should draw on the Sunday Gospel, the prophets, Mary's 'yes' to God and the journey towards the Nativity. Children should be encouraged to take an active role in preparing and leading prayer, reading Scripture, choosing appropriate music and considering how the Word of God calls them to act.



Faith in Action

Advent at St Joseph's is also a time to put faith into action. Through our Mini Vinnies, pupil leadership groups, charitable giving and class activities, children are encouraged to notice the needs of others and respond with compassion. Acts of kindness, food or gift collections and support for local and wider charities help children understand that preparing for Jesus means making His love visible in our school, homes, parish and community.

Overall Tone

The overall tone of Advent at St Joseph's should be one of patient expectation, prayerfulness, simplicity, hope and community. While Christmas is anticipated with joy, Advent should retain its distinctive character as a season of waiting and preparation, helping every child to recognise Jesus as the true focus of Christmas.

Advent Events and Opportunities

The table below can be adapted each year with confirmed dates, classes and pupil leadership responsibilities.

When	Event / Provision	Purpose and Focus	Who
Beginning of Advent	Advent Launch / Celebration of the Word	Whole-school worship introducing Advent as a season of waiting and hope. Bless the Advent wreath and introduce the school Advent prayer.	Whole school
Throughout Advent	Advent Wreath and Daily Prayer	Light the appropriate Advent candle during class prayer and use Scripture, silence and the school Advent prayer.	All classes
Throughout Advent	Reverse Advent Calendar	Daily acts of kindness, prayer intentions or donations, encouraging children to prepare for Jesus through service.	All classes
Throughout Advent	Travelling Crib	Families are invited to welcome the Nativity into their homes, pray together and reflect on the journey of Mary and Joseph.	School families
Throughout Advent	Charitable Giving	Collections or appeals led by Mini Vinnies and pupil leaders, supporting those in need locally and beyond.	Whole school / Mini Vinnies
Advent	Stay and Pray	Parents and carers are invited to join children for Advent prayer and reflection in school.	Classes / families
Advent	Reconciliation and Reflection	Age-appropriate opportunities for examination of conscience, forgiveness, reconciliation and preparing our hearts for Jesus.	KS2 / as appropriate
December	Advent / Christmas Mass	Celebrate Mass with the parish and school community, focusing on the coming of Christ.	Whole school / parish
December	Nativity Celebrations	Children retell the story of the birth of Jesus through Scripture, prayer, drama and song, keeping Christ at the centre.	EYFS / KS1 / school
Final Week	Advent Reflection	Reflect on the themes of hope, peace, joy and love and consider how we will welcome Jesus at Christmas.	Whole school

"Dear Jesus, help us to wait for you with hope."

Ordinary Time at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Withnell

A time of growth, discipleship and deepening faith

Atmosphere and Seasonality

Ordinary Time is the longest liturgical season of the Church's year. It is a time of growth, discipleship and deepening faith, when we reflect on the life and teachings of Jesus and consider how we are called to follow Him in our everyday lives. Throughout Ordinary Time, children are encouraged to recognise God's presence in the ordinary moments of school, family and community life.

Classroom and School Environment

During Ordinary Time, the classroom and wider school environment reflects a sense of calm, growth and steady discipleship. Each Sacred Space is dressed with a green cloth, symbolising hope, growth, renewal and the ongoing life of the Church. A Bible, crucifix and candle or battery-operated tea lights remain central to worship spaces. Good News Bibles and ESV Bibles are available so that Scripture remains at the heart of prayer, worship and reflection.
Christian artwork and sacred images are displayed and used intentionally during Visio Divina, particularly images connected to the Gospel being explored. Natural materials may also be incorporated into Sacred Spaces where appropriate, helping children reflect upon creation and God's presence in the world around them. The classrooms, prayer spaces and outdoor classroom spaces provide additional places for prayer, contemplation and Celebration of the Word.



Prayer, worship and Liturgy

During Ordinary Time, prayer is rooted particularly in the Gospels and the life and teachings of Jesus. Celebrations of the Word use the school's worship planning structure and provide opportunities for pupils to gather, listen to the Word, respond and go forth to live out what they have heard.

We begin prayer, where appropriate, with:
"Jesus Teacher, teach us;
Jesus Healer, heal us;
Jesus Saviour, save us."

The Bible, lit candle and cross are brought forward and reverently placed on the worship table.Music supports prayer and worship, including appropriate resources from Mark 10 Mission, John Burland and other carefully selected worship music.

Weekly meditation and Visio Divina provide regular opportunities for stillness, contemplation and encounter with God.
We conclude prayer with:
"St Joseph, most watchful and loving father, pray for us."

Events and Opportunities

Ordinary Time provides opportunities to connect the liturgical life of the Church with the wider Catholic life and mission of the school. These include:

When	Event / Provision	Purpose and Focus	Who
Beginning of Ordinary Time	Ordinary Time Launch / Celebration of the Word	Introduce Ordinary Time as a season of growth and discipleship. Reflect on the colour green and our call to grow in faith and follow Jesus in everyday life.	Whole school
Throughout Ordinary Time	Weekly Celebration of the Word	Place Scripture at the heart of worship, reflecting particularly on the Gospel and considering how Jesus calls us to live and act.	Whole school / all classes
Throughout Ordinary Time	Weekly Meditation	Provide regular opportunities for silence, stillness and contemplative prayer, helping children recognise and rest in the presence of God.	All classes
Throughout Ordinary Time	Visio Divina	Use Christian art and sacred images to reflect upon Gospel stories, encouraging children to encounter Scripture through beauty, observation and contemplation.	All classes
Throughout Ordinary Time	Class Celebrations of the Word for Parents	Invite parents and carers to participate in prayer and worship, strengthening the relationship between home, school and parish.	Classes / families
September / October	Fairtrade Fortnight	Connect faith with justice, fairness and human dignity, helping children understand their responsibility to make choices that support the Common Good.	Whole school
October	Month of the Holy Rosary	Develop devotion to Mary through praying and reflecting upon the mysteries of the Rosary and the life of Jesus.	Whole school / all classes
November	All Saints' Day	Celebrate the lives and witness of the saints and help children understand that everyone is called to holiness and to become the person God calls them to be.	Whole school
November	Remembrance Day	Gather in prayer to remember those who have died through war and conflict and reflect upon the Christian call to peace, reconciliation and hope.	Whole school
November	Anti-Bullying Week	Reinforce the dignity of every person, compassion, forgiveness, reconciliation and our Gospel responsibility to love and respect one another.	Whole school
May	Month of Mary	Honour Mary as the Mother of Jesus, reflect upon her example of faith and trust, and provide opportunities for Marian prayer and devotion.	Whole school / all classes
Throughout Ordinary Time	Catholic Social Teaching in Action	Provide practical opportunities for children to respond to the Gospel through charity, service, care for creation, justice and support for those in need.	Whole school / pupil leaders
Throughout Ordinary Time	Saints and Feast Days	Mark significant saints and feast days through prayer, Scripture and Celebration of the Word, providing children with examples of faithful Christian discipleship.	Whole school / classes
End of a Period of Ordinary Time	Reflection on Growth in Faith	Encourage children to reflect upon how they have grown in faith, how they have followed Jesus and how they can continue to put the Gospel into action.	Whole school / all classes

These events should not stand separately from the liturgical life of the school but should help pupils understand how faith leads us to action.

Resources

Staff are supported in creating consistent, meaningful Ordinary Time provision through:
Good News and ESV Bibles • candles and battery-operated tea lights • crucifixes • green liturgical cloths • Christian artwork linked to Gospel stories • worship planning templates • Mark 10 Mission and John Burland music/resources • appropriate YouTube worship resources • the outdoor classroom • the chapel • natural materials where relevant.

Overall Tone

The tone of Ordinary Time is one of calm, steady growth and quiet discipleship. Green provides a visual reminder that, just as plants grow when they are nurtured, our relationship with God grows through prayer, Scripture, worship, service and everyday choices.
Across the school, Ordinary Time should feel peaceful, reflective, joyful and purposeful. Children should increasingly understand that following Jesus is not reserved for special celebrations: it is a daily way of life.
Through prayer, Scripture, Celebration of the Word, Catholic Social Teaching, service and the example of the saints, we encourage children to live our mission:

St. Joseph's family,
Learn together,
With love and faith in Jesus,
To become the people
God calls us to be.

Lentern Time at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Withnell

A time for reflection, repentance and renewal

Atmosphere and Seasonality

Lent is a season of reflection, repentance and renewal. During these forty days, we journey with Jesus towards the cross, reflecting on our own need for forgiveness and considering how we can grow closer to God.
Across St. Joseph's, Lent is experienced as a distinctive season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Children are encouraged to understand that Lent is not simply about giving something up, but about making space for God, changing our hearts and putting our faith into action through prayer, sacrifice, forgiveness and service to others.



Classroom and School Environment

During Lent, the atmosphere across the school becomes noticeably simpler, quieter and more reflective. Sacred Spaces are dressed in purple, the liturgical colour associated with penance, preparation and repentance. Worship areas remain intentionally simple and uncluttered, with the Bible, cross and candle remaining central.
The whole school community journeys into Lent together. On Shrove Tuesday, older pupils prepare and serve pancakes to the school community, providing an opportunity to explore the meaning and traditions of the day before the Lenten fast begins.
In preparation for Ash Wednesday, pupils take part in the burning of the previous year's blessed palms during Forest School, in partnership with Stanley Grange. The resulting ashes are used as part of our Ash Wednesday observance, giving pupils a tangible connection between Palm Sunday, Lent and the continuing cycle of the Church's liturgical year.
On Ash Wednesday, the school joins the parish community for Mass and children and staff receive ashes, marking the beginning of our Lenten journey.
As Lent progresses, the environment becomes increasingly reflective. Where appropriate, statues and sacred images are respectfully covered, helping pupils recognise the solemnity of the season and anticipate the joy of Easter.

Prayer, Worship and Liturgy

Prayer during Lent focuses particularly on repentance, forgiveness, reconciliation, sacrifice and God's loving mercy. Scripture enables children to journey alongside Jesus towards Jerusalem and ultimately towards His Passion, death and Resurrection.
At the beginning of Lent, the Alleluia is symbolically "buried". We refrain from saying or singing the Alleluia during Lenten liturgies until it returns joyfully at Easter. This provides children with a visible and memorable way of recognising the change in the Church's liturgical season.
Children experience regular opportunities for silence, meditation, examination of conscience and reflective prayer. Celebrations of the Word encourage pupils to consider how Scripture calls them to change their own lives.
Catholic pupils in Upper Key Stage 2 are offered an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, supporting their understanding of God's forgiveness and the importance of reconciliation during Lent.

Living Lent – Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving

The three traditional practices of **prayer, fasting and almsgiving** should be visible and meaningful throughout the season.

- **Prayer** – Children are encouraged to spend more time with God through Scripture, meditation, silence and personal and communal prayer.

- **Fasting** – Pupils explore the meaning of sacrifice and consider age-appropriate ways of giving something up or choosing to do something differently to make more space for God and others.
- **Almsgiving** – Children are encouraged to put their faith into action through acts of kindness, charitable giving and service, particularly considering the needs of people experiencing poverty or injustice.

These practices help children understand that Lent calls Christians to a change of heart that should influence how we treat God, one another and the world.

Lent – Events and Opportunities

When	Event / Provision	Purpose and Focus	Who
Shrove Tuesday	Shrove Tuesday Pancakes	Older pupils prepare and serve pancakes, helping children understand the tradition of Shrove Tuesday and preparing together for the beginning of Lent.	Whole school / older pupils
Before Ash Wednesday	Burning of the Palms	Last year's blessed palms are burned during Forest School in partnership with Stanley Grange. Children explore how the ashes connect Palm Sunday with the beginning of a new Lenten journey.	Pupils / Stanley Grange
Ash Wednesday	Ash Wednesday Mass and Distribution of Ashes	Gather with the parish community to mark the beginning of Lent. Children and staff receive ashes as a sign of repentance and our desire to turn towards God.	Whole school / parish
Beginning of Lent	Burying the Alleluia	Symbolically "bury" the Alleluia and refrain from using it during Lent, helping children recognise the solemn and distinctive character of the season.	Whole school
Throughout Lent	Lenten Prayer and Meditation	Provide additional opportunities for Scripture, silence, meditation and reflection, encouraging children to deepen their relationship with God.	All classes
Throughout Lent	Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving	Help pupils understand and practise the three traditional pillars of Lent through prayer, age-appropriate sacrifice and acts of generosity and service.	Whole school
Throughout Lent	Lenten Acts of Kindness	Encourage pupils to make deliberate choices to show love, forgiveness, compassion and kindness to others.	All classes
Throughout Lent	Lenten Charitable Giving	Support charitable appeals and initiatives, helping children understand almsgiving and our Christian responsibility towards people in need.	Whole school / pupil leaders
During Lent	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Provide Catholic pupils with an opportunity to examine their conscience, seek God's forgiveness and experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation.	Catholic pupils in UKS2
During Lent	Class Celebrations of the Word / Stay and Pray	Invite families to join pupils in Lenten prayer, Scripture and reflection, strengthening the prayer life of the home-school-parish community.	Classes / families
Holy Week	Journey Through Holy Week	Use Scripture, prayer and reflection to journey with Jesus through Palm Sunday, the Last Supper, His Passion and death on the cross.	Whole school / classes
End of Lent	Lenten Reflection	Reflect upon how prayer, fasting and almsgiving have helped us change, grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter.	Whole school

Overall Tone

The tone of Lent is quiet, simple, prayerful and reflective. The physical environment, worship and daily rhythm of school should enable children to recognise that this is a distinctive and important period of preparation.
Lent encourages children to pause, pray, forgive, give and make small sacrifices, recognising that genuine spiritual growth involves both reflection and action.
As we journey towards the cross, children are reminded that the solemnity of Lent ultimately leads to the hope and joy of the Resurrection.

Resources

To support prayer, worship and reflection throughout Lent, the following resources should be available and used appropriately:

Purple liturgical cloths • Good News and ESV Bibles • crucifixes • candles and battery-operated tea lights • Lenten prayer cards • Christian artwork linked to Lent and the Passion of Jesus • Stations of the Cross resources • Rosary beads • worship planning templates • Mark 10 Mission and John Burland music/resources • appropriate worship videos • CAFOD Lenten resources • examination of conscience and Reconciliation resources • natural materials • outdoor classroom and Forest School • chapel • palms and ashes for Ash Wednesday.

Resources should help children engage with the key Lenten themes of prayer, fasting, almsgiving, repentance, forgiveness and preparation, while maintaining the simple and reflective character of the season.

***Jesus, help us to pray, give generously and grow closer to you as we journey together towards Easter*.**

Eastertide at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Withnell

A time of great hope and celebration

Atmosphere and Seasonality



Eastertide is a season of great joy, hope and celebration, beginning with the Resurrection of Jesus and continuing for fifty days until Pentecost. We celebrate Christ's victory over death, the promise of new life and the hope of eternal life.
Across St. Joseph's, Eastertide should feel noticeably different from the quiet and reflective character of Lent. The Alleluia returns, our worship is filled with joy and thanksgiving, and children are encouraged to recognise that the Risen Christ is alive and present among us.

Classroom and School Environment

During Eastertide, the classroom and wider school environment reflects the joy and light of the Resurrection. Sacred Spaces are dressed in white or gold, the liturgical colours of celebration, joy and new life. The Bible, crucifix and candle remain central to each worship space, while signs and symbols of Easter, such as the Paschal candle, flowers and images of the Risen Christ, help children recognise the significance of the season. The atmosphere across classrooms should be bright, peaceful, hopeful and celebratory, reflecting the transformation from the solemnity of Lent to the joy of Easter.
The Stations of Light (Via Lucis) provide opportunities for children to journey through the events following the Resurrection, exploring Jesus' appearances to His disciples and the growth of the early Church. Through Scripture, prayer and reflection, pupils recognise that the Easter story continues beyond the empty tomb.
Eastertide is also particularly significant for our Year 4 pupils as they prepare for First Holy Communion. The whole school community supports and holds them in prayer as they prepare to encounter Jesus in a special way through the Eucharist.

Prayer and Liturgy

Prayer and liturgy during Eastertide shift from the quiet, penitential character of Lent to a spirit of joy, praise and thanksgiving.
The Alleluia returns to our prayer and worship, providing children with a powerful contrast to its absence during Lent and reminding us that Christ is risen.
Scripture focuses particularly on the Resurrection appearances of Jesus, the Acts of the Apostles, the Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Children explore how the disciples were transformed by their encounter with the Risen Christ and consider how they too are called to share the Good News.
Music and joyful singing should feature prominently in worship, alongside opportunities for reflection, meditation and thanksgiving.
Celebrations of the Word encourage children to consider:

- Where do we see signs of new life?
  How can we recognise the Risen Jesus among us?
  How can we share the joy of the Gospel with others?

Living the Season

Eastertide is not simply a celebration of an event that happened in the past. Children should understand that the Resurrection continues to bring hope and transformation to Christians today. Pupils are encouraged to be people of hope, bringing joy, kindness, forgiveness and peace to others. Through Catholic Social Teaching, charitable action and service, children consider how they can become witnesses to the Resurrection and help build God's Kingdom. As Eastertide progresses towards Pentecost, children explore the gift of the Holy Spirit and recognise that, like the first disciples, they are called to go out into the world and share the Good News through their words and actions.

Eastertide – Events and Opportunities

When	Event / Provision	Purpose and Focus	Who
Beginning of Eastertide	Easter Celebration of the Word	Gather together to celebrate the Resurrection, proclaim **"Alleluia! Christ is risen!"** and reflect on the hope and new life Jesus brings.	Whole school
Beginning of Eastertide	Return of the Alleluia	Celebrate the return of the Alleluia following its absence during Lent, helping children experience the contrast between the two liturgical seasons.	Whole school
Throughout Eastertide	Easter Sacred Spaces	Dress Sacred Spaces in white or gold and use Easter symbols, Scripture and Christian artwork to reflect joy, light and new life.	All classes
Throughout Eastertide	Stations of Light	Journey through the Resurrection appearances and events following Easter, helping pupils encounter the Risen Christ through Scripture, prayer and reflection.	Whole school / classes
Throughout Eastertide	Easter Prayer and Celebration of the Word	Focus prayer and worship on Resurrection, hope, thanksgiving and our call to share the Good News.	All classes
Throughout Eastertide	First Holy Communion Preparation	Support Year 4 pupils as they deepen their understanding of the Eucharist and prepare to receive Jesus in Holy Communion.	Year 4 / families / parish
During Eastertide	First Holy Communion	Celebrate with pupils and their families as children receive Jesus in the Eucharist and take an important step in their journey of faith.	Year 4 communicants / families / parish
May	Month of Mary	Honour Mary through prayer and devotion, reflecting upon her faithfulness and her role as the Mother of Jesus.	Whole school
40 Days after Easter	Ascension of the Lord	Explore Jesus' Ascension and His commission to the disciples to continue His mission and share the Gospel.	Whole school / classes
Towards Pentecost	Preparing for Pentecost	Explore the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit and consider how the Spirit helps us live as followers of Jesus.	All classes
Pentecost	Pentecost Celebration of the Word	Celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church. Encourage children to recognise that they are called to share the Good News.	Whole school
End of Eastertide	Eastertide Reflection	Reflect upon how we have encountered the Risen Christ and how we can carry the joy, hope and mission of Easter into Ordinary Time.	Whole school

Resources

To support prayer, worship and reflection throughout Eastertide, the following resources should be available and used appropriately:

White and gold liturgical cloths • Good News and ESV Bibles • crucifixes • candles and battery-operated tea lights • Paschal candle • Easter and Resurrection artwork • Stations of Light resources • flowers and symbols of new life • worship planning templates • Mark 10 Mission and John Burland music/resources • appropriate worship videos • First Holy Communion resources • Marian prayer resources and Rosary beads • Pentecost resources • outdoor classroom and Forest School • chapel • natural materials representing growth and new life.

Resources should help children experience Eastertide as a season of Resurrection, joy, hope, new life, thanksgiving and mission.

Overall Tone

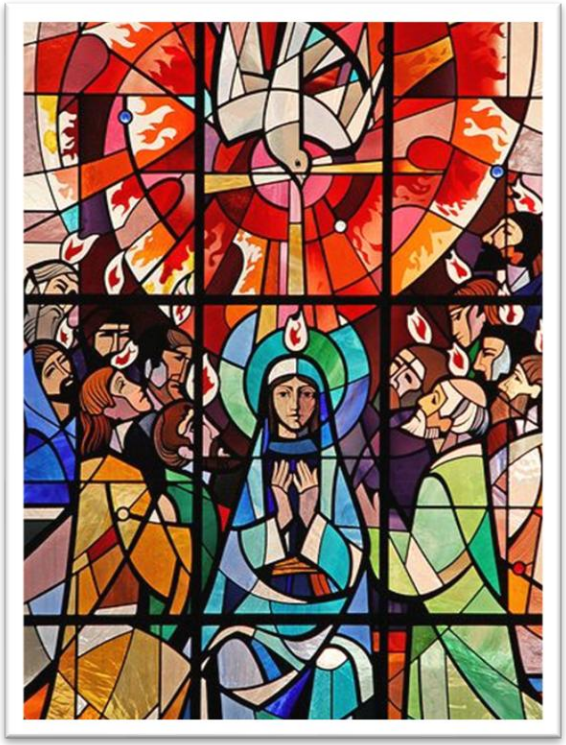
The tone of Eastertide is joyful, hopeful, bright and celebratory. Prayer, worship and the wider school environment should communicate the profound joy of the Resurrection and the new life Christ brings.
There should be a strong sense of thanksgiving, light, peace and renewed faith, helping children understand that the Resurrection transforms how Christians live.
Eastertide ultimately moves us from celebration to mission. As children journey towards Pentecost, they are encouraged to recognise that the same Holy Spirit who strengthened the first disciples is with us today, helping us to live out our mission and become the people God calls us to be.

Risen Jesus, fill us with your joy and hope, and help us to share your light and love with everyone we meet. Alleluia! Amen.

Pentecost at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Withnell

A time of great hope and celebration

Atmosphere and Seasonality



Pentecost marks the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and the birth of the Church. We celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and recognise that, just like the first disciples, we are called to go out with courage and share the Good News through our words and actions.Pentecost brings the joy of Eastertide towards its fulfilment and prepares us to enter the second period of Ordinary Time. It reminds children that the Holy Spirit is not only part of the story of the early Church but is alive and active within the Church and within each of us today.

Classroom and School Environment

During Pentecost, our classrooms and wider school environment reflect the vibrant life, energy and movement of the Holy Spirit.
Sacred Spaces are dressed in red, symbolising the fire of the Holy Spirit, love, courage and strength. The Bible, crucifix and candle remain central, while symbols such as flames, doves and wind can help children explore the different ways in which Scripture describes the Holy Spirit.
Displays and prayer spaces highlight the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit – wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord – and encourage children to consider how these gifts help us to live as followers of Jesus.
Children also explore the fruits of the Holy Spirit, considering how love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control can become visible in the way we live and treat others.
The overall environment should communicate a sense of joy, movement, mission and renewal, encouraging pupils to recognise that the Holy Spirit gives us the courage and strength to make a difference in the world.

Prayer and Liturgy

Prayer and liturgy at Pentecost have a spirit of energy, joy, confidence and renewal as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit.
Scripture is central, particularly the account of Pentecost in Acts 2, when the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to proclaim the Good News.
Prayer, hymns and Celebrations of the Word focus on the Holy Spirit, the birth of the Church, the gifts and fruits of the Spirit and our mission as disciples.
Children should have opportunities to pray for the Holy Spirit to guide them and to reflect upon questions such as:

- What gifts has God given me?
- How is the Holy Spirit working in my life?
- How can I use my gifts to serve others?
- How can I share the Good News?

Pentecost also provides an opportunity for children to recognise the universality of the Church. The disciples spoke in different languages yet were united by the same Spirit, reminding us that we belong to one worldwide Catholic family.

Living the Season

Pentecost has a particularly strong focus on mission and action. Children should understand that receiving the Holy Spirit calls us to go out and make a difference.
Pupils are encouraged to recognise and develop their God-given gifts and consider how these can be used in the service of others. Opportunities for Catholic Social Teaching, charitable action, pupil leadership and service enable children to put their faith into action.
The season provides a natural opportunity to celebrate the different languages, cultures and backgrounds of the worldwide Church, while reinforcing that the Holy Spirit brings us together as one Body of Christ.
Pentecost then leads us into Ordinary Time, where children are challenged to continue living out this mission in the ordinary moments of everyday life.

Pentecost – Events and Opportunities

When	Event / Provision	Purpose and Focus	Who
Preparing for Pentecost	Pentecost Preparation	Explore Jesus' promise to send the Holy Spirit and prepare children to celebrate Pentecost through Scripture, prayer and reflection.	All classes
Preparing for Pentecost	Gifts of the Holy Spirit	Explore the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit and consider how these gifts help us become the people God calls us to be.	All classes
Preparing for Pentecost	Fruits of the Holy Spirit	Reflect upon how the fruits of the Spirit can be seen through our attitudes, choices, relationships and actions.	All classes
Pentecost	Pentecost Celebration of the Word	Gather as a school community to hear the Pentecost story, celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and recognise the birth of the Church.	Whole school
Pentecost	Pentecost Sacred Spaces	Dress Sacred Spaces in red and use symbols such as flames, wind and doves to explore the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.	All classes
Pentecost	Acts 2 – The Pentecost Story	Encounter the Pentecost story through Scripture and explore how the Holy Spirit transformed the disciples from people who were afraid into courageous witnesses.	All classes
Pentecost	Celebrating the Universal Church	Explore the different languages, cultures and communities that make up the worldwide Church and recognise how the Holy Spirit unites us.	Whole school / classes
Pentecost	Prayer to the Holy Spirit	Provide opportunities for children to invite the Holy Spirit into their lives and pray for guidance, wisdom, courage and strength.	Whole school / classes
Pentecost / following weeks	Mission in Action	Encourage pupils to use their gifts through kindness, service, Catholic Social Teaching and actions that contribute to building God's Kingdom.	Whole school / pupil leaders
Transition into Ordinary Time	Called to Go Forth	Reflect upon how the Holy Spirit sends us out to continue Jesus' mission and consider how we will live as disciples during Ordinary Time.	Whole school

Resources

To support prayer, worship and reflection around Pentecost, the following resources should be available and used appropriately:Red liturgical cloths • Good News and ESV Bibles • crucifixes • candles and battery-operated tea lights • Pentecost artwork • images and symbols of flames, wind and doves • Gifts of the Holy Spirit resources • Fruits of the Holy Spirit resources • Acts 2 Scripture resources • prayer cards • worship planning templates • Mark 10 Mission and John Burland music/resources • appropriate worship videos • maps and images of the worldwide Church • Catholic Social Teaching resources • chapel • outdoor classroom and Forest School • natural materials representing wind and movement.

Resources should help pupils experience Pentecost as a celebration of the Holy Spirit, courage, unity, transformation and mission.

Overall Tone

The tone of Pentecost is joyful, vibrant, energetic and full of hope. Unlike the quieter and more reflective character of earlier seasons, Pentecost invites the school community to pray with confidence, openness and enthusiasm.

Children should experience Pentecost as a season of empowerment and mission. The same Holy Spirit who gave the disciples the courage to leave the Upper Room and proclaim the Gospel continues to work in and through us today.

As Pentecost leads into Ordinary Time, children are encouraged to take the joy and energy of the season with them – using their gifts, serving others, sharing God's love and having the courage to become the people God calls us to be.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with your love and give us courage to use our gifts to share the Good News. Amen.

PRAYER & LITURGY AT ST JOSEPH'S, WITHNELL

At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Withnell, prayer and liturgy are at the heart of the daily life of our school. They are an expression of who we are as a Catholic community and are rooted in our mission:



St. Joseph's family,
Learn together,
With love and faith in Jesus,
To become the people
God calls us to be.

Our rhythm of prayer is deliberately planned so that children encounter God in different ways throughout the week: through Scripture, silence, meditation, music, traditional Catholic prayer, spontaneous prayer, Celebration of the Word and the Mass.

Prayer is not an isolated part of the school day. It forms part of the lived experience of St Joseph's and changes naturally with the liturgical seasons of the Church. Colours, Scripture, music, prayer, Sacred Spaces and opportunities for worship reflect the Church year so that children increasingly understand and experience its rhythm.

Our Weekly Rhythm

When	Prayer and Liturgy at St Joseph's	Purpose and Focus	Who
Monday – 9.00am	Whole-School Celebration of the Word led by the Headteacher	We begin our week gathered as one St Joseph's family. Scripture and the Gospel provide the foundation for prayer, reflection and a shared mission for the week ahead.	Whole school
Monday – 12.00pm	Pupil Chaplains - Meeting	Pupil prayer leaders meet to prepare and contribute to the week's class Celebration of the Word, developing ownership and leadership of the prayer life of the school.	Pupil Prayer Leaders
Monday – 3.30pm	Staff Prayer	Staff gather in prayer, strengthening our shared Catholic mission and recognising that adults within our community are also called to grow in faith.	All staff
Tuesday am	Class-Based and Pupil-Led Worship / Meditation	Children experience prayer within their own class community, with increasing opportunities to plan, prepare and lead worship themselves. Meditation develops silence, stillness and attentiveness to God.	All classes
Tuesday– 2.50pm	Ruah – Singing Praise	The school gathers joyfully in sung prayer. Hymns are carefully selected to reflect the liturgical season and deepen children's participation and understanding.	Whole school
Wednesday – am	Pupil Chaplains lead worship	Children experience prayer within their own class community, with increasing opportunities to plan, prepare and lead worship themselves. Meditation develops silence, stillness and attentiveness to God.	Whole school with Pupil Chaplains to led
Thursday	Class-Based and Pupil-Led Worship / Meditation	Children gather again within their class communities for Scripture, prayer and reflection, with pupil independence increasing as they progress through school.	All classes
Friday – 9.15am	Celebration Assembly	We end our school week together, giving thanks to God and recognising the gifts, achievements, service and contributions of members of our St Joseph's family.	Whole school and staff
Daily	Class Prayer	Prayer punctuates the school day and gives children regular opportunities to speak and listen to God, give thanks, seek guidance and pray for others.	All classes

Throughout the Year	Mass and Sacramental Celebrations	Children participate in the sacramental and liturgical life of the Church, strengthening the relationship between school, home and parish.	School / families / parish
Throughout the Liturgical Year	Seasonal Prayer and Liturgy	Advent, Lent, Eastertide, Pentecost and Ordinary Time are made distinctive through prayer, Scripture, Sacred Spaces, music, colour, symbols and additional opportunities for worship.	Whole school

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Progression in Prayer

- At St Joseph's, children do not simply attend prayer and liturgy; they gradually learn how to participate in, prepare, lead and evaluate it.
- In EYFS, children begin by joining simple prayers and actions, listening to Bible stories, recognising sacred objects and helping adults prepare the prayer table.
- In KS1, pupils develop greater confidence in responses and prayer, recognise the colours and symbols of the liturgical year and begin to take small roles in preparing and leading worship.
- In Lower Key Stage 2, pupils understand the Gather, Listen, Respond and Go Forth structure and begin to select appropriate Scripture, symbols and music and lead prayers and reflections.
- By Upper Key Stage 2, pupils increasingly plan, prepare and lead worship independently. They write prayers and reflections, evaluate worship and explain how prayer and Scripture should influence their behaviour, relationships and choices. Older pupils also support younger children in worship.

Traditional Catholic Prayer

Alongside spontaneous and reflective prayer, children develop knowledge of the traditional prayers and responses of the Catholic Church as they progress through St Joseph's.
Beginning with the Sign of the Cross, Amen and simple daily prayers, pupils progress towards prayers including the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Act of Contrition, Magnificat and Eternal Rest, alongside increasingly confident participation in the responses of the Mass.
This progression helps ensure that children leave St Joseph's with the knowledge, confidence and vocabulary to participate fully in the prayer and sacramental life of the Catholic Church.

Prayer Through Music – Ruah

Music is an important part of prayer at St Joseph's. Our weekly Ruah – Singing Praise provides a joyful opportunity for the whole school to pray together through music. Hymns are deliberately chosen to complement the liturgical season, and songs learnt during Ruah are subsequently used within Celebrations of the Word and other acts of worship. This enables children to build a repertoire of sacred music while understanding how music can express prayer, praise, thanksgiving, sorrow, hope and joy. The school's existing monitoring specifically identifies this connection between Ruah, seasonal hymnody and worship.

Pupil Leadership

Pupil leadership is an important feature of Catholic Life at St Joseph's. Children are given authentic opportunities to take responsibility for prayer, worship, service and mission.
Prayer Leaders meet weekly to help prepare class worship, while groups including Jesus and Me Club, Mini Vinnies, Pupil Chaplains and Stewards of the Earth provide opportunities for pupils to translate the Gospel into action through service, justice, charity and care for creation.
This helps children understand the important relationship between prayer and action: what we hear in Scripture and celebrate in worship should influence the way we live.

The Liturgical Year

The rhythm of prayer at St Joseph's changes intentionally throughout the Church year. Ordinary Time, Advent, Lent, Eastertide and Pentecost are experienced through changes to Sacred Spaces, liturgical colours, Scripture, hymns, symbols, prayers and the overall character of worship.

Additional opportunities are provided at appropriate points in the year, including Reconciliation during Advent and Lent, ensuring that children do not simply learn *about* the liturgical year but experience what it means to belong to a Church whose prayer changes and develops through its seasons. This deliberate approach is already identified as an important principle within the school's provision.

Inclusive Prayer and Liturgy

Prayer and liturgy at St Joseph's are welcoming and accessible to every child. We recognise each pupil as a unique child of God and ensure that individual needs do not become barriers to meaningful participation.
Staff know pupils well and adapt opportunities sensitively so that all children can participate, contribute and flourish within the prayer life of the school.
Children of other faiths are welcomed and included respectfully while the distinctively Catholic nature of worship is maintained. Participation is always appropriate to the child's faith tradition; for example, a child of another faith would not be asked to proclaim the Gospel.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Prayer and liturgy at St Joseph's are regularly monitored and evaluated so that provision remains meaningful, engaging and rooted in the liturgical life of the Church.
The Headteacher observes class worship and monitors class worship books. Pupils evaluate worship and contribute their reflections, while pupil, parent and staff surveys provide further opportunities to evaluate Catholic Life, Mission, prayer and liturgy.
This ensures that prayer and liturgy remain living, developing experiences rather than simply routines.
Ultimately, the rhythm of prayer at St Joseph's should enable every child to move from encounter, to participation, to leadership, and finally to mission – helping them recognise God's presence, deepen their relationship with Jesus and live out our call to become the people God calls us to be.

Other Faiths

At St Joseph's, we are proud of our distinctive Catholic identity while teaching children to recognise and respect the dignity, beliefs and traditions of others. Our approach to other faiths promotes understanding, respectful dialogue and mutual respect, helping pupils recognise that every person is made in the image and likeness of God.
Through the curriculum, pupils are given age-appropriate opportunities to learn about the beliefs, traditions, practices and places of worship of other world faiths. These experiences encourage children to ask thoughtful questions, recognise similarities and differences, and develop the knowledge and understanding needed to live respectfully alongside people of different faiths and beliefs.
Within prayer and liturgy, we remain clearly and authentically Catholic while ensuring that every child feels welcomed, valued and able to participate appropriately. Children of other faiths are included with sensitivity and respect, while the integrity of their own faith tradition is protected. For example, a child from another faith would not be asked to proclaim the Gospel, just as a Catholic or Christian child would not be expected to proclaim sacred texts belonging to another faith tradition.
Through knowledge, encounter, dialogue and respect, we want children at St Joseph's to grow into compassionate and informed young people who value others, challenge prejudice and contribute positively to a diverse and multi-faith society, while remaining secure in their understanding of our Catholic faith and mission.

Skills Progression

Area of Development	EYFS	KS1	LKS2	UKS2
Participation in Prayer	Join in with simple prayers and actions. Begin to recognise worship as a special time.	Join in with prayers, responses and actions with growing confidence and reverence.	Participate confidently in responses, hymns and actions.	Participate with maturity, reverence and understanding, modelling this for younger pupils.
Stillness & Reflection	Sit quietly for short periods and begin to express simple feelings about prayer, such as feeling happy, calm or peaceful.	Use silence appropriately as a time for listening, thinking and praying.	Demonstrate sustained reverence and focus during prayer and reflection.	Demonstrate personal reflection, stillness and openness to God.
Understanding Prayer & Worship	Know that prayer is talking and listening to God.	Understand that worship is a time to talk and listen to God and to be part of a praying community.	Understand the structure of Celebration of the Word: **Gather, Listen, Respond, Go Forth**.	Understand and explain more deeply the structure and purpose of prayer and liturgy and how these shape Christian life and mission.
Sacred Spaces & Symbols	Recognise simple religious symbols, including the cross, candle and Bible**.** Notice changes in colours and objects within the prayer space.	Begin to understand Catholic signs, symbols and gestures, including the Sign of the Cross, candles and liturgical colours. Treat sacred objects with reverence.	Recognise key liturgical seasons and their meaning. Choose appropriate symbols for worship.	Explain the meaning and significance of liturgical seasons, colours, symbols and actions and use them purposefully when planning worship.
Scripture & Gospel	Listen attentively to short Bible stories about Jesus.	Listen respectfully to Scripture and begin to respond to its message.	Understand the significance of the Gospel, read Scripture with clarity and reverence where appropriate, and respond thoughtfully.	Select Scripture appropriate to the theme of worship and proclaim it clearly and reverently where appropriate.
Hymns & Sacred Music	Join in with simple hymns, actions and repeated refrains.	Participate in hymns and begin to contribute ideas when choosing appropriate music.	Sing a wider range of hymns with an understanding of their meaning and help select music appropriate to worship.	Sing confidently and expressively and make informed choices about music that supports the theme and liturgical season.
Preparing Worship	Help prepare the prayer table with adult support.	Take on small roles, such as placing objects on the Sacred Space, choosing a hymn or suggesting prayer intentions.	Help plan different elements of class worship with guidance, choosing appropriate Scripture, symbols and music.	Plan and prepare acts of worship with increasing independence, making purposeful choices about Scripture, prayer, music, symbols and responses.
Leading Worship	Join adult-led prayer and begin to contribute simple responses and intentions.	Begin to lead simple prayers and take small roles within class worship with support.	Lead simple prayers, reflections and elements of Celebration of the Word.	Lead Celebrations of the Word with increasing independence, demonstrating confidence, reverence and an understanding of their purpose. Support younger pupils with worship.
Creating Prayer	Offer simple intentions such as "Thank you, God, for…"	Express simple prayers of thanks, sorrow and asking.	Begin to compose and lead prayers and reflections connected to Scripture and worship themes.	Independently write prayers, reflections and bidding prayers appropriate to the purpose of worship.
Response & Mission	Begin to recognise that prayer helps us think about God and others.	Show kindness and awareness of others during shared prayer.	Reflect on how Scripture relates to their own lives and the choices they make.	Articulate how prayer and Scripture influence their behaviour, relationships, choices and Christian mission**.**
Evaluation	Express simple feelings about their experience of prayer.	Begin to talk about what they noticed, enjoyed or thought about during worship.	Reflect thoughtfully on worship and their response to it.	Evaluate worship respectfully, identifying strengths and suggesting appropriate improvements.
Overall Progression	Encounter and participate	Participate and contribute	Understand, plan and begin to lead	Plan, lead, evaluate and live out the mission independently

Sunday Gospel Scripture Provision for Celebrations of the Word - 2026/27

Michaelmas Term								
Date of Sunday Gospel	**Scripture Reference**	**Summary**	**Possible Theme**	**Additional Scripture**	**Liturgical Season**	**Possible link with CST (CAFOD)**	**Possible Items/Images for Focus Table**	**Notes**
30.8.26	**Matthew 16: 21-27**	**Jesus says, "If you want to follow me, you need to think of others before yourself."**	Selflessness Following God's plan	**Philippians 2:4** "And Look for one another's, not just your own."	Year A 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Human Dignity**	Footprints Small sandals	
6.9.26	**Matthew 18: 15-20**	**Where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am among them.**	Praying as a Community	**Acts 1:14** *"They gathered frequently to pray as a group."*	Year A 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Solidarity,**	Peg dolls	
13.9.26	**Matthew 18: 21-35**	**Jesus wants us to forgive others again and again, just as God always forgives us.**	Forgiveness	**Colossians 3:13** *"Be tolerant with one another and forgive one another."*	Year A 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Solidarity,**	Picture of children hugging	
20.9.26	**Matthew 20: 1-16**	**God loves everyone and is generous to all, even when we think things should be different.**	Generosity	**Isaiah 55:8-9** *"For my thoughts," says the Lord, "are not like yours, and my ways are different from yours*	Year A 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Option for the Poor**	Purse and coins	
27.9.26	**Matthew 21: 28-32**	**Be true to your word. Do what you say you will do.**	Faith in Action	**James 1:22** *"Do not deceive yourselves by just listening to his word, instead put it into practice."*	Year A 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Participation**	Cafod Live Simply Logo	
4.10.26	**Matthew 21: 33-43**	**Something that seems unimportant can become very special and important in God's plan.**	Seeing potential in all things	**Psalm 118:22-23** *"The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all. This was done by the Lord; what a wonderful sight it is!"*	Year A 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Stewardship**	Acorns	

11.10.26	**Matthew 22: 1-14**	**God invites everyone to be part of His family**	God's kingdom is for everyone	**Isaiah 25:6** *"Here on Mount Zion the Lord Almighty will prepare for all nations a banquet of the richest food and the finest wine."*	Year A 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Participation**	Plate and artificial food	
18.10.26	**Matthew 22: 15-21**	**Jesus teaches us to give to God what belongs to God and to be honest and respectful in our responsibilities.**	Respect civil responsibility and remain faithful to God	**Romans 13:7** *"Pay, then, what you owe them; pay them your personal and property taxes, and show respect and honour for them all."*	Year A 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Participation**	Plastic coins	
25.10.26	**Matthew 22: 34-40**	**You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself**	Wholehearted devotion to God	**Deuteronomy 6:5** *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength."*	Year A 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Solidarity**	Paper Hearts	
1.11.26	**Matthew 5: 1-12a**	**Blessed are the poor in spirit**	Living according to God's will.	**Micah 6:8** *"What he requires of us is this: to do what is just, to show constant love, and to live in humble fellowship with our God."*	All Saints Solemnity	**Option for the Poor**	Small mirror (look at ourselves)	
8.11.26	**Matthew 25: 1-13**	**Jesus teaches us to be ready for God's love and guidance every day**	Get ready Be prepared	**Luke 12:35-36** *"Be ready for whatever comes, dressed for action and with your lamps lit, like servants waiting for their master to come home from a wedding feast..."*	Year A 32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Participation**	Image of Oil Lamp	
15.11.26	**Matthew 25: 14-15, 19-21**	**Use your gifts and talents wisely and joyfully, so you can make a difference**	Use your gifts to be of service	**1 Peter 4:10** *"Each one, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God."*	Year A 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Stewardship**	Gift bags, wrapped box	
22.11.26	**Matthew 25: 31-46**	**True discipleship is shown through concrete acts of love and mercy,**	Looking after those in need	**Proverbs 19:17** *"When you give to the poor, it is like lending to the Lord, and the Lord will pay you back."*	Year A Christ the King Solemnity	**Option for the Poor**	Pair of paper hands	

29.11.26	**Mark 13:33-37**	**Stay Awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come**	Hope and Expectation	**Romans 13:11** *"You must do this, because you know that the time has come for you to wake up from your sleep. For salvation is nearer now than when we first believed."*	Year B 1st Sunday of Advent	**Stewardship**	Alarm clock	
6.12.26	**Mark 1:1-8**	**Jesus' cousin John the Baptist tells us to get ready for the Lord**	Be ready to receive the Lord.	**Isaiah 40:3** *"A voice cries out, 'Prepare in the wilderness a road for the Lord! Clear the way in the desert for our God!'"*	Year B 2nd Sunday of Advent	**Participation**	Sand and peg doll	
13.12.26	**John 1: 6-8, 19-28**	**God sent John as his messenger**	Joy and Anticipation	**John 3:30** *"He must become more important while I become less important."*	Year B 3rd Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday	**Participation**	A lantern	
20.12.26	**Luke 1: 26-38**	**The angel Gabriel announces the birth of Jesus**	Saying Yes to God	**Luke 1:45** *"How happy you are to believe that the Lord's message to you will come true!"*	Year B 4th Sunday of Advent	**Participation**	Our Lady and Angel Peg Doll	
27.12.26	**Luke 2: 39-40**	**The child grew, filled with wisdom**	Jesus grew in wisdom	**Luke 2:52** *"And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man."*	Feast of The Holy Family	**Human Dignity**	Nativity Set	

Catholic Social Teaching Principle (CAFOD version)	Pupil-Friendly Meaning
Human Dignity	Everyone is special because they are made by God.
Common Good	We should think about what helps everyone.
Participation	Everyone should have a chance to take part and make a difference.
Stewardship	We care for God's world.
Option for the Poor	We put people in greatest need first.
Solidarity	We are one family and help each other.
Subsidiarity	People closest to a problem should help make decisions.

Candlemass Term

3.1.27	**John 1: 1-5, 9-14**	**The Word became flesh and dwelt among us**	Jesus shows us exactly what God is like.	**Colossians 1:15-20** *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created…*	2nd Sunday of Christmas	**Human Dignity**	Nativity Set	
10.1.27	**Mark 1: 7-11**	**You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased**	Baptism of Jesus	**Matthew 3:13-17** *"This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."*	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord	**Human Dignity**	Dove	
17.1.27	**John 1: 35-42**	**They went to see where Jesus was staying, and they spent time with him there.**	Spending time with Jesus and learning from him.	**Luke 10:38-42** *"Mary sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying."* (Luke 10:39)	2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Participation**	Picture of Jesus with people sitting at his feet listening to him	
24.1.27	**Mark 1: 14-20**	**Repent and believe in the gospel**	Say sorry and try to live like Jesus	**Acts 2:38-39** *"Peter said to them, 'Turn away from your sins, and each one of you be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ, so that your sins will be forgiven.*	3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (Sunday of the Word of God)	**Participation**	Fishing net and small fish	
31.1.27	**Mark 1: 21-28**	**He taught them as one who had authority**	Jesus teaches with God's power.	**Matthew 7:29** "He wasn't like the teachers of the Law; instead, he taught with authority."	4th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Human Dignity**	Picture of ears – listen to Jesus' message	
7.2.27	**Mark 1: 29-39**	**He healed many who were sick with various diseases**	Jesus helps people who are sick	**Matthew 9:35** *"Jesus went around visiting all the towns and villages. He taught in the synagogues, preached the Good News about the Kingdom, and healed people who had all kinds of disease and sickness."*	5th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Solidarity**	Plasters bandages	
14.2.27	**Mark 1: 12-15**	**Jesus was tempted**	Choosing between right and wrong	**1 Corinthians 10:13** *"God keeps his promise, and he will not allow you to be tested beyond your power to remain firm."*	1st Sunday of Lent	**Stewardship**	Small collection of pebbles	

21.2.27	Mark 9: 2-10	**This is my beloved Son**	The Transfiguration	**Hebrews 1:1-3** *"He reflects the brightness of God's glory and is the exact likeness of God's own being."*	2nd Sunday of Lent	**Human Dignity**	Image of Jesus at the Transfiguration	
28.2.27	John 2: 13-25	**"Stop making my Father's house a marketplace."**	True Worship Respect for God's House	**Psalm 69:9** *"My devotion to your Temple burns in me like a fire; the insults which are hurled at you fall on me."*	3rd Sunday of Lent	**Stewardship**	Image of Jesus overturning tables	
7.3.27	John 3: 14-21	**For God so loved the world that he gave his only son**	God's Love for the World	**1 John 4:9-10** *"And God showed his love for us by sending his only Son into the world, so that we might have life through him. This is what love is*	4th Sunday of Lent Laetare Sunday	**Human Dignity**	Large Heart or Globe	
14.3.27	John 12: 23-33	**A grain of wheat remains no more than a single grain unless it drops to the ground and dies**	Sacrifice Serving Through self-giving love	**Philippians 2:8-9** *"He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death, his death on the cross.*	5th Sunday of Lent	**Solidarity**	Grains of wheat	
21.3.27	John 12: 12-16	**"Praise God! God bless him who comes in the name of the Lord!"**	Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem. Jesus the Humble King	**Zechariah 9:9** *"Rejoice, rejoice, people of Zion! Shout for joy, you people of Jerusalem! Look, your king is coming to you!*	Palm Sunday	**Participation**	Palm Leaves	
28.3.27	Mark 16: 1-7	**Jesus has risen**	Christ is Risen	**1 Corinthians 15:3-4** *"I passed on to you what I received, which is of the greatest importance: that Christ died for our sins, as written in the Scriptures; that he was buried and that he was raised to life three days later."*	Easter Sunday	**Human Dignity**	Cross draped with a white cloth Sign: Alleluia He is Riden	
4.4.27	John 20: 19-31	**Then Jesus came and stood among them**	Jesus Appears to His Disciples	**2 Corinthians 5:7** *"For our life is a matter of faith, not of sight."*	2nd Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday	**Participation**	Holy Spirit Dove Sign: Peace be with you	

Trinity Term

11.4.27	Luke 24: 35-48	**"This is what is written: the Messiah must suffer and must rise from death three days later."**	**Jesus Appears to his Disciples**	**John 20:19-23** The risen Jesus appears to the disciples, offers them peace, shows them his wounds, and sends them out in mission.	3rd Sunday of Easter	**Participation**	Cross with white cloth	
18.4.27	John 10: 11-18	**"I am the good shepherd, who is willing to die for the sheep."**	**God protects, guides and cares for his people**	**Psalm 23:1-4** "The Lord is my shepherd; I have everything I need.	4th Sunday of Easter	**Solidarity**	Sheep Shepherd's Crook	
25.4.27	John 15: 1-8	**"I am the real vine, and my Father is the gardener."**	**Growing in God's Love**	**Galatians 5:22-23** The "fruit of the Spirit" passage, which helps explain the kind of fruit Christians bear when they remain in Christ.	5th Sunday of Easter	**Participation**	Bunch of Grapes or Ivy Plant	
2.5.27	John 15: 9-17	**"My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you"**	**God is love**	**1 John 4:7-12** "Dear friends, let us love one another, because love comes from God. Whoever loves is a child of God and knows God… God is love."	6th Sunday of Easter	**Solidarity**	Heart Shapes	
9.5.27	John 17: 11b - 19	**"May they may be one, just as you and I are one."**	**Following Jesus Together**	**1 Peter 1:22-23** "Love one another earnestly with all your heart."	7th Sunday of Easter	**Solidarity**	Blank Jigsaw pieces	
16.5.27	John 20: 19-23	**"As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit."**	**The Gift of the Holy Spirit**	**Acts 1:8** "But when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power, and you will be witnesses for me…"	Pentecost	**Participation**	Dove	
23.5.27	Matthew 28: 16-20	**"I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Go then to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples."**	**Go make disciples**	**Acts 1:8** "But when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power, and you will be witnesses for me in Jerusalem, in all of Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."	Solemnity of The Most Holy Trinity	**Participation**	Globe Footprints Sandals	
30.5.27	Mark 14: 12-16	**Jesus Eats the Passover Meal with his Disciples**	A Special Meal	**John 6:51** "I am the living bread that came down from heaven."	Solemnity of Corpus Christi	**Participation**	Bread and chalice	

6.6.27	Mark 3: 20-35	**I assure you that people can be forgiven all their sins.**	**Part of God's Family**	**1 John 3:1** "See how much the Father has loved us! His love is so great that we are called God's children."	10th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Solidarity**	Photos of families Peg dolls	
13.6.27	Mark 4: 26-34	**A man takes a mustard seed, the smallest seed in the world, and plants it in the ground.**	**God Helps Us Grow**	**1 Corinthians 3:6-9** "I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow.	11th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Participation**	Seeds Small pots Soil	
20.6.27	Mark 4: 35- 41	**Jesus calms the storm**	**Safe with Jesus**	**Psalm 107:28-30** "Then in their trouble they called to the Lord, and he saved them from their distress. He calmed the raging storm, and the waves became quiet.	12th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Solidarity**	Small boat Jesus peg doll	
27.6.27	Mark 5: 21-24, 35b-43	**"Little girl, I tell you to get up."**	**Jesus Brings New Life**	**John 11:25-26** Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even though they die."	13th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Human Dignity**	Jar for children's prayers Plasters	
4.7.27	Mark 6: 1-6	**Prophets are respected everywhere except in their own hometown**	**Welcoming Jesus**	**Psalm 118:22** "The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all."	14th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Human Dignity**	Small model houses Stone	
11.7.27	Mark 6: 7-13	**Jesus sends out the Twelve Disciples**	**Sent by Jesus**	**Luke 10:1-9** Jesus sends out his followers in pairs to proclaim the Kingdom of God, bringing peace, healing, and the Good News.	15th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Participation**	Footsteps peg dolls	
18.7.27	Mark 6: 30-34	**"Let us go off by ourselves to someplace where we will be alone and you can rest for a while."**	**Jesus Cares for Us**	**Ezekiel 34:15**: "I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will let them rest."	16th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Option for the Poor**	Small boat Blue cloth	
25.7.27	John 6: 1-15	**Jesus feeds 5,000 with loaves and fishes**	**Enough for Everyone**	**Ephesians 3:20** "To him who by means of his power working in us is able to do so much more than we can ever ask for, or even think of..."	17th Sunday of Ordinary Time	**Option for the Poor**	5 small bread loaves 2 fish or fish shapes	

HYMNODY

Hymns to Select from in Each Liturgical Season

Liturgical Season	Hymn / Song	Weblink
Advent	The Servant King	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/servant-king
Advent	Waiting for Christmas	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=suQ3AAq3Esg
Advent	The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zRm8qrccik0
Advent	O Come, O Come Emmanuel	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/o-come-o-come-emmanuel
Ordinary Time	I Sign Your Cross Over Me	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/sign-your-cross
Ordinary Time	Blessed Be Your Name	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/8nydp98em8d5cbjxfdfezaw5wwj3dk?rq=blessed
Ordinary Time	Shine Jesus Shine	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/sign-your-cross
Ordinary Time	My Lighthouse	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OaW_4MWSE6I
Ordinary Time	This Is My Body	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/this-is-my-body
Ordinary Time	God's Spirit Is in My Heart	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9VTQvYG-bl4
Ordinary Time	Here I Am Lord	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/48paylkfdk2jg8tbbjhyby34rbpyg2
Ordinary Time	Make Me a Channel of Your Peace	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/make-me-a-channel-of-your-peace
Ordinary Time	L.O.V.E.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FOsnEkcKWKM
Ordinary Time	Sing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FElItXUgItw
Ordinary Time	We Are Unity	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GMvAQXjQCDs
Ordinary Time	Light a Candle	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yyfj6XRme9k
Ordinary Time	Gospel Medley	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LUVwrxBLp5c
Ordinary Time	City on a Hill	https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=city+on+a+hill
Ordinary Time	Shine - From the Inside Out	https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=shine+from+the+inside+out
Ordinary Time	I Can Only Imagine	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lYfgMcR7-e4
Ordinary Time	No Outsiders	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6J_Qu5esWM0
Ordinary Time	For Everyone Born	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cdOvOXEiss0
Ordinary Time	10,000 Reasons	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXDGE_lRI0E
Ordinary Time	Our God Is a Great Big God!	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OeXl6Ah-nRk
Ordinary Time	You Forgive Me	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JRZcNg8tqSs
Ordinary Time	Christ Be Our Light	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/ghnl4dx8es7wsahec6en3628ylw8p6
Lent	Be Still for the Presence of the Lord	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/be-still-for-the-presence-of-the-lord?categoryId=64e475c9c47649745ed3fdb9
Lent	Sing Hosanna!	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/sing-hosanna-sing-hosanna
Lent	The Servant King	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/servant-king
Lent	Waymaker	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/mep3khz6ym87wffeg253h8998swals
Pentecost / Eastertide	Lord I Lift Your Name on High	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/lord-i-lift-your-name-on-high
Pentecost / May	Gentle Woman	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RERoQ1biLdE
Pentecost / May	I Will Be With You	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kYD0IYRZMIw
Pentecost / May	As I Kneel Before You	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/as-i-kneel-before-you-ave-maria
Pentecost / Eastertide	Christ Is Risen!	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Z3e6UGml34
Pentecost / Eastertide	How Great Is Our God	https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/worship-songs/v/how-great-is-our-god