

Catholic Primary School

RE Newsletter 3

Be the light to those around you!

Dear Parents,

Spring Term 2019

We begin this term full of the joy of the Christmas season which ends for us at the celebration of the Baptism of Jesus on 13th January. On the 2nd February we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) when Jesus is recognised as 'the light of the world'. We must also remember that each one of us is called to be a 'light', an inspiration to those around us.



In this issue of the newsletter you will find what your child is learning about in each year group. We hope you find this newsletter of interest and as always, please keep us in your prayers as we continue to support your children in their religious education.

Dates from the Church's calendar:

6 th January	The Epiphany of the Lord	26 th January	Ss. Timothy & Titus
12 th January	St. Aelred of Rievaulx	28 th January	St. Thomas Aquinas
13 th January	The Baptism of Jesus	31 st January	St. John Bosco
17 th January	St. Anthony	2nd February	Presentation of Jesus
21 st January	St. Agnus	8 th February	St. Josephine Bakhita
24 th January	St. Francis de Sales	11 th February	Our Lady of Lourdes
25 th January	Conversion of St. Paul		

Nursery – The Holy Family

This half term, the children in the Nursery class will be getting to know the Holy Family. The children will become aware that Jesus was taken on a family outing to the temple by his parents. They will also understand that Jesus as a child got lost from his parents. They will understand the love within the Holy Family and that we are loved by Jesus as we are part of that family.

Reception - Getting to know Jesus

This half term, the children in the Reception classes will be getting to know Jesus. Throughout the topic, the children will be given opportunities to become aware that Jesus has a great love for each one of us and will think of ways in which we can show our love for Jesus. They will hear that Jesus cured people who were sick and think of ways we can show our love for sick people.



At home

You could help your children by:

- saying or sharing prayers together
- talk about people who help us e.g. nurses, doctors
- talk about how we can help others
- giving them jobs which help at home

Year 1 – Families and Celebrations

“The Christian family ... can and should be called a domestic church. It is a community of faith, hope and charity”

Catechism of the Catholic Church

The children will learn about what it means to be a member of a family and to be a member of the school community. They will learn what it means to belong to the Church family.



They will hear how Jesus’ family took him to the Temple and think about why this was a special occasion. They will learn about some of the celebrations in the Church and why we celebrate these occasions.

At home

You could help your children by:

- discussing the importance of celebrations in our lives
- encourage children to think about Church celebrations e.g. Christmas, Easter etc

Year 2 – The Good News

“Jesus is sent to preach good news to the poor. Jesus identifies himself with the poor of every kind and makes active love toward them the condition for entering his kingdom.”

Catechism of the Catholic Church

The children will learn that Jesus brought the good news of God’s love and that this changed people’s lives. They will learn that Jesus used his power to help others and reflect on the importance of these events.

They will reflect on how they can bring good news to their family and friends.

At home

You could help your children by:

- highlighting opportunities when they can give thanks to God
- read stories about Jesus helping people, e.g. The feeding of the 5000

Year 3 – Called to Change (Reconciliation)

The children will learn what it means to make the wrong choices and reflect on how wrong choices affect us and others. They will learn that Jesus calls people to change and on the importance that God always loves us, even if we make wrong choices. They will learn the meaning of reconciliation and know and experience what happens during the Sacrament of Reconciliation and take the sacrament of First Forgiveness.



At home

You could help your children by:

- Preparing for their First Forgiveness
- Assist them in learning the Act of Contrition.

Year 4 – Jesus, the Teacher

The children will learn that Jesus was born into a Jewish family and find out about the story of the presentation in the Temple.

They will learn that Jesus attended synagogue as a child and as an adult read the Torah. They will learn that Jesus travelled about teaching people.

The children will learn that Jesus came to show us the way to live, understand why Jesus used parables to teach people and know and understand some of the parables Jesus told. The children will have a chance to appreciate the relevance of the parables for us today and recognise that Lent gives us an opportunity to live as Jesus wants us to.

At home:

You could help your children by:

- read some well known parables, e.g. ‘The Sower’ and talk about what they mean for us



Year 5 – Inspirational People

“Love of neighbour ... involves working for a just society... It includes love for the poor. Love of neighbour is also an expression of our search for God.”

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

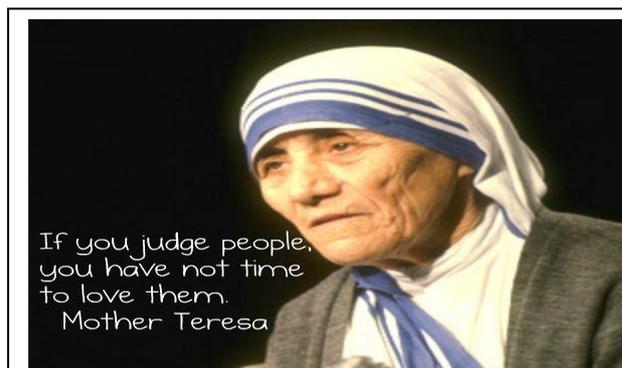
The children will learn about the conditions for following Jesus and learn how Jesus described a true disciple. They will have a chance to reflect on their commitment to following Jesus.

They will learn the story of a person who had a special love for those rejected by society and about someone who was an inspiration for young people. They will identify people today who are an inspiration in their service of others.

At home:

You could help your children by

- encouraging them to research some information about inspirational people and saints



Year 6 – Exploring the Mass

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

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

The children will learn that the Sacrament of the Eucharist is a thanksgiving for the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. They will begin to understand that in the Mass we participate in Jesus’ sacrifice to God the Father and learn what happened at the Last Supper. The children consider why Jesus is called the ‘bread of life’.

They will learn the different parts of the Mass and become familiar with most of the responses. The children will learn that the bread and wine are consecrated during Mass and become the body and blood of Jesus. They will also identify some sources of the belief in the Eucharist and explain how these beliefs came about.

At home:

You could help your children by:

- bringing their attention to the Eucharistic prayer during Mass
- ask them during the week to explain what they have been learning during their RE lessons