



# Religious Education Summer Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we return to school after Easter, the Church is still celebrating this great event. The focus of this term's work in Religious Education is the role that the Holy Spirit plays in our lives. We will be studying the three themes of Pentecost (Serving), Reconciliation (Inter-relating) and Universal Church (World). The children will also spend one week studying Islam as part of our other faiths coverage.

## Religious Education Spring EYFS

### ***Branch 5 – To the ends of the earth***

In Branch 5 we will be learning about when Jesus went back to his Father and that he sent a special friend, the Holy Spirit, to look after us. The children will hear a simple retelling of the Story of Pentecost and hear about the early Christian community in Acts 2: 42-47. We believe that the Holy Spirit is our friend and looks after us, the parish church is a special place where we meet our friends and say prayers, especially on a Sunday. In our Catholic Social Teaching we will be learning how Jesus knows that people can be happy with families and friends and that we can let these important people help us. He asks us to help them too. We need each other. **We are called to live as Family and Community.** All people are God's children. That makes us brothers and sisters. We can be very different from each other but, but we are still one family – God's family. **Solidarity.**

### ***Branch 6 – Dialogue and encounter***

Dialogue: *Friends of Jesus.* The children will hear a simple version of the life of St Peter and St Paul, who were friends of Jesus (and our class names). We will invite someone from the parish to come in and talk about their faith and why it matters to them to be a friend of Jesus. We will also be inviting someone into the class from the local area or a school community member to talk about their local (faith) community and why it matters to them.

### PENTECOST - SERVING

(15<sup>th</sup> April – 10<sup>th</sup> May)

- Year 1 **HOLIDAYS AND HOLYDAYS** – Pentecost: feast of the Holy Spirit
- Year 2 **SPREAD THE WORD** – Pentecost: a time to spread the Good News
- Year 3 **ENERGY** – Gifts of the Holy Spirit
- Year 4 **NEW LIFE** – To hear and live the Easter message
- Year 5 **TRANSFORMATION** – celebration of the Spirit's transforming power
- Year 6 **WITNESSES** – The Holy Spirit enables people to become witnesses

### SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk about the Good News in your family and how you shared it. Ask your child to tell you the story of Pentecost and the work of the Holy Spirit.

### RECONCILIATION – INTER-RELATING

(13<sup>th</sup> May – 14<sup>th</sup> June)

- Year 1 **BEING SORRY** – God helps us choose well
- Year 2 **RULES** – Reasons for rules in the Christian family
- Year 3 **CHOICES** – Importance of examination of conscience
- Year 4 **BUILDING BRIDGES** – Admitting wrong, being reconciled with God and each other
- Year 5 **FREEDOM & RESPONSIBILITY** – Commandments enable Christians to be free and responsible
- Year 6 **HEALING** – Sacrament of the sick

### SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk together about times you have forgiven and been forgiven.  
Discuss the importance of saying sorry. Look for opportunities for forgiveness and reconciliation in the day-to-day life of the family.

### UNIVERSAL CHURCH - WORLD

(17<sup>th</sup> June – 12<sup>th</sup> July)

- Year 1 **NEIGHBOURS** – Neighbours share God's world
- Year 2 **TREASURES** – God's treasure; the world
- Year 3 **SPECIAL PLACES** – Holy places for Jesus and the Christian community
- Year 4 **GOD'S PEOPLE** – Different Saints show people what God is like
- Year 5 **STEWARDSHIP** – The Church is called to the stewardship of Creation
- Year 6 **COMMON GOOD** – Work of the worldwide Christian family

### SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

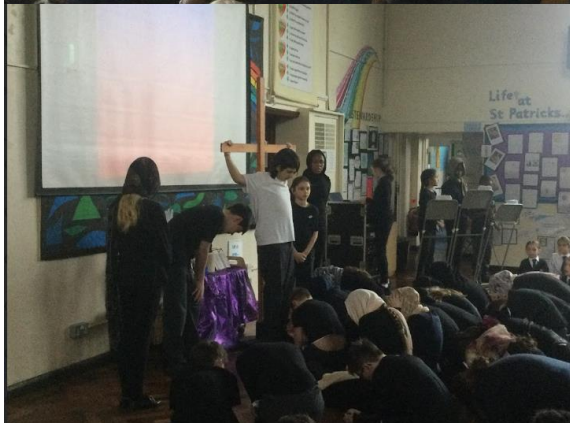
Together, look through a family scrapbook or photograph album of a visit to a place that is special for your family. Look at a globe or an atlas. Find a special place and pray for the people of that country. Discuss how we can look after our world and support our neighbours, near and far.

### ISLAM (15<sup>th</sup> July – 19<sup>th</sup> July)

Pupils will study various aspects of Islam for one week.  
Ask them what they have been learning about.

# What we did last term

Our Spring term ended with a beautiful, moving performance of The Passion by Year 6.



# Important Dates this term

The month of May is dedicated to Our Lady.

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

9<sup>TH</sup> MAY – After his resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples over a period of forty days. Ascension Day is when we celebrate Jesus' return to his Father in Heaven.

## PENTECOST SUNDAY

19<sup>th</sup> May – This is the day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Church.

## THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

26<sup>th</sup> May – Today we celebrate our belief in the Trinity, the three persons of God; the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

30<sup>th</sup> May – On this, our Church's feast day, we give thanks to God for the gift of Jesus in the form of bread and wine.

## THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

7<sup>th</sup> June – On this day, we remember how much Jesus loves us all.

## SS. PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

29<sup>th</sup> June – We celebrate the lives of these important saints who helped establish the Christian Church.