

# IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

The month of May is dedicated to Our Lady

## **THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

(18 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**

(28 May)

This is the day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Church.

## **THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**

(4 June)

Today we celebrate our belief in the Trinity, the three persons of God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

## **THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF THE LORD**

(11 June)

On this feast we give thanks to God for the gift of Jesus in the form of bread and wine.

## **THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS**

(16 June)

On this day we remember how much Jesus loves us all.

## **SS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES**

(29 June)

We celebrate the lives of these important saints who helped establish the Christian Church.

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## SUMMER TERM 2026 ST JOSEPH'S

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we return to school after Easter, the Church is still celebrating this great event. Easter lasts for 50 days, from Easter Sunday to Pentecost. It is a joyous time of new life. The focus of this term's work in Religious Education is the role that the Holy Spirit plays in our lives. We also teach some simple beliefs of other world faiths in this term, encouraging knowledge and mutual respect. We continue to follow the RED (Religious Education Directory).

**The Catholic Social Teaching Principles we are learning from this term are: Life and Dignity of the Human Person: every person deserves respect and welcome and Dignity of Workers: God made us all unique and special, every person's work should be respected and valued.**

### BRANCH 5 : TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH first half of summer term

**EYFS:** The children will learn the important stories of Jesus's resurrection and return to his father in heaven and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

**YEAR 1:** The children will hear the story of the Road to Emmaus, the Ascension and the story of Pentecost. They will begin to make connections between the Good News of Jesus and the apostles' mission.

**YEAR 2:** The children will develop their understanding of the stories of Ascension and Pentecost they will learn how people were changed by the Holy Spirit. They will learn from the examples of St Paul, the apostles and other saints.

**YEAR 3:** The children will be reminded of the series of events after the Resurrection of Jesus. They will look at how Mass today mirrors Mass celebrated by the first disciples. The children will explore the mystery of the Holy Trinity.

**YEAR 4:** The children will learn the story of St Peter, the first Pope, whom Jesus built his church upon. They will learn about the Resurrection of Christ.

**YEAR 5:** The children will study the Sacrament of Confirmation, understanding its link with scripture and that it recalls the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus' disciples at Pentecost.

**YEAR 6:** The children will continue to journey with St John's gospel reading of Jesus' Resurrection and reflecting back finding theological links. The children will develop their thinking around how Christian charity and people living the gospel, including saints and martyrs, can challenge injustice and help others.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk about 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. Discuss how the Holy Spirit help us in our own lives and how we can ask for strength, courage and faith when we are facing challenges in our lives. Get creative and make an art piece showing a symbol of the Holy Spirit (a dove, flame or water) and write a prayer on your Holy Spirit symbol. Keep your prayer nearby at bedtimes this term.

### BRANCH 6: DIALOGUE AND ENCOUNTER second half of summer term

**EYFS:** The children will reflect on the importance of listening when others speak, developing attitudes of respect. They will hear about St Peter and St Paul, friends of Jesus and how they can be a friend to Jesus too.

**YEAR 1:** The children will develop their understanding of what being a Christian means. They will learn how Christians celebrate their faith in other parts of the world. The children will also learn more about Judaism, learning that The Torah contains stories that lead Jewish people to live a good life.

**YEAR 2:** The children will learn from Jesus' parable of The Good Samaritan, who is our neighbour? They will reflect on the message and challenge of how we can become a good neighbour to all. They will learn how Jewish people celebrate Shabbat at home and in synagogue, looking at Jewish beliefs and practices.

**YEAR 3:** The children will learn about the history of the story behind the Jewish Passover, when the Hebrew people were liberated from slavery in Egypt. They will learn to make simple links between the Last Supper and Passover. The children will learn about the Muslim faith and how people of Islam live their faith according to the five central beliefs of Islam.

**YEAR 4:** The children will learn about St Paul and his encounter with Christ on the road to Damascus. They will study his travels and teaching as an apostle of Christ. The children will also learn about the five pillars of the Muslim faith and understand some ways Muslims live out their beliefs.

**YEAR 5:** The children will look at how Christians understand the Bible as a sacred text which has led people of faith over centuries. It was written by people inspired by the Holy Spirit. The children will learn about the Torah, its centrality to Jewish faith, some basic prayers of the Jewish faith and how Jews live their lives in their faith.

**YEAR 6:** The children will develop their understanding of how they can be a good neighbour to those around them. They will know that Catholics are called to promote the common good. Children will also learn about a specific faith, Hinduism, its history as the world's oldest religion and the practices and beliefs of Hindu peoples.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Together, look through a family scrapbook or photos on your phone 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. Discuss how we can be a good neighbour to others we meet, including those of a different faith to our own.