

R.E. NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS

God Matters

During January/February your child(ren) will be studying REVELATION in Religious Education:



Reception

Children will be introduced and explore the role of the Church in getting to know God. In doing this they will look at the priest and the symbols in the church i.e. the stations, the lectern etc. They will also explore the idea of God's love for us and how Jesus showed love to people by listening to some of the stories from the Bible. They will also learn to recognise what the word Christian means and how there are other faiths such as Sikhism.

Help At Home

- When you visit the church discuss that this is God's house look for the things that tell you it is God's house and make links with how people tell your house apart from someone else's.
- Talk about who the Priest is and how he teaches us about God.
- Walk around the church and identify how many symbols of God/ Jesus they can spot.
- Talk about how they show people they love them.



Year 1

In this unit the children will be introduced to stories that show how special Jesus is. They will explore the Good Samaritan and what God's love is like. The children will also be introduced to miracle stories, which show how important Jesus is.

Help At Home

- Read a fable such as the tortoise and the hare and talk about it being a story but that it has a message. Make a link with the story of the Good Samaritan.
- Ask the children to tell you each day how they have shown they are a Good Samaritan like Jesus and you could also tell them how you have been one.
- Children could keep a list of all the good things they have done over a period of time.

Year 3

In this unit, the children will develop understanding of the parts of the Mass specifically The Liturgy of the Word, and how it reveals God's message. It explores the response of Samuel to God's plan and considers what we can learn from it. We explore the question 'Does God still call people today?'

Help at Home

- Talk to your child about the Lectern. Explain that this is where God's word is proclaimed through the readings and the specifically the Gospel.
- Look at when the Presentation of Christ is celebrated

Year 2

The children will explore some of the stories that show how special Jesus is eg The Wedding Feast of Cana. They will particularly focus on the parable of the sower.



Help at home

- Talk about the kinds of people Jesus may have helped if he were with us today. I.e. the homeless, refugees.
- Try to make links with the miracle stories and our lives today eg At the wedding feast, Mary said "Do what Jesus tells you". Do we always do what Jesus tells us?
- Read some more miracle stories and parables from the Bible and try to explore what it means for us today eg The Calming of the Storm - Jesus helped the disciples in the boat when they were frightened and afraid. He can help us too if we talk to him in prayer.

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Year 4

This unit considers two examples of God's revelation of Himself in Jesus. In the Presentation of Jesus in the temple, the revelation of God is recognised by Simeon and Anna. In the Transfiguration, the disciples respond with fear but beheld His glory. Consideration is also given to the symbolism of light and why this symbol is important.

Help at Home

- Read the transfiguration story in the Bible with your child and link it with making the sign of the cross and the Trinity.
- Talk to your child about their feelings when they are in the dark and in the light. Ask them to explain why they feel how they do.
- Go for a short walk in the dark and use a torch to find your way. Turn the torch out for a bit and then try walking - what happens?
- Make the link that Jesus was like a torch for people to follow if they wanted.



Key events

- Presentation of Our Lord – Candlemas 2nd February
- Our Lady Of Lourdes 11th February



Year 5

This unit considers the recognition of God's revelation of Himself in Jesus, by John the Baptist. The children will deepen their understanding of the purpose and impact of Jesus's baptism and identity that it was the start of his ministry. They will then consider the messages and symbolism of the Kingdom parables and how their messages can be lived out in our lives.

Help at Home

- **Allow your child to choose one or two parables to read and get them to discuss the message in them and how this message helps us in our ministry i.e. how we behave and what we should be telling others.**
- **Talk about their own Baptism and look at the words that are said - what do they really mean?**
- **Look at artwork depicting Jesus's baptism by John. Which of the images show the Trinity? How is colour / light used to show this special moment? Which is your favourite and why?**

Year 6

This unit examines the conversion of St Paul. The impact of this conversion to himself, on those around him and the Church are considered. The children will then consider the role of Bishops and Popes in revealing Jesus to others in today's world.



Help at Home

- **Look up famous people who have become Christians and discuss why such people became Christians. Discuss the challenges famous people have in standing up for their faith. Ask your child if they find it difficult to admit they are Catholic/Christian or have a faith to friends who don't.**
- **Find out more about Who Saul/St Paul was not just the conversion story.**
- **Write a biography of Paul for young children.**