

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.

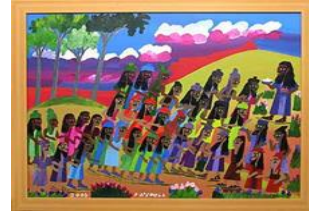
Year 3

In this unit the children will develop understanding of the parts of the Mass specifically how Sacred Scripture proclaims ways in which we are saved and how it reveals God. 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?' The unit will introduce work on the Presentation of our Lord in the temple and the Baptism of Jesus to enable pupils to begin to explore how people recognised God's revelation of Himself in Jesus.

The multi-faith element explores what happens at the Gurdwara – the Sikh place of worship.

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
- Look up and find out about the Gurdwara and compare it to our church. Are there any similarities or differences?



Year 1

Children will focus on stories from the Bible that show how special Jesus was. They will learn to understand what a parable is. They will look in detail at the parable of the Good Samaritan. They will; discuss what the stories are telling us about Jesus and the impact on how we should behave and act.

Help At Home

- Read a fable such as the tortoise and the snail 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 things they have done over a period of time.

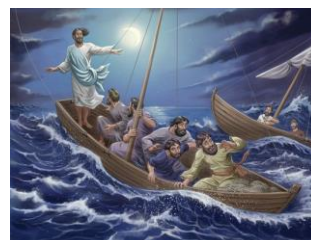
Year 2

The children will explore some of the miracle stories that show how special Jesus is. They will particularly focus on the parable of the calming of the storm and the healing of the leper.

The multi-faith element explores some of the things that Muslims do to show their faith.

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 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.
- Read some more miracle stories from the Bible and try to explore what it means for us today.



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

Year 4

This unit considers two examples of God's revelation of Himself in Jesus. It explores and develops children's understanding of the transfiguration and makes links with the Trinity i.e. the father, Son and Holy Spirit. It also develops the symbolism of light to show the presence of the Holy Spirit and focuses on the story of Jesus' presentation in the temple. The children will focus on the story of the presentation, making links between the feelings of Anna and Simeon to those of Mary and Joseph.



Help at Home

- Read with them the transfiguration story in the Bible and make a link with making the sign of the cross and the Trinity.
- Talk to them 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.

In the multi-faith element the stories of Guru Nanak are covered and there is an opportunity to reflect on his teachings.

Help at Home

- Allow your child to choose one or two parables to read together or to you and get them to explain the message and how this helps us in our ministry i.e. how we behave and what we should be telling others.
- Re look at their own Baptism and the words that are said- what do they really mean?
- Look up some of the stores of Guru Nanak – what messages do these give Sikhs.

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.

The multi-faith element looks at the role of the guru in the Sikh religion.



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.