

“As unique individuals, we do our best at work and play for the love of God and others.”



Collective worship Policy

Collective Worship in the Life of Our School

We believe that Christian worship in a Catholic school is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our loving response, in word and action to God's invitation to enter into relationship, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the witness of the Holy Spirit.

Worship in this school is more than just a legal requirement. It is an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic tradition. Collective worship takes into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in it:

- Those who form part of the worshipping community in church;
- Those for whom school may be their first and only experience of church;
- Those from other Christian traditions;
- Those from other faith backgrounds or no faith background;
- It will be an educational activity or experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain.

The Aims of Collective Worship

We believe that Collective Worship in our school aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff:

- To contemplate something of the mystery of God
- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- To explore their own beliefs
- To respond to and celebrate life
- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit
- To develop a common ethos and shared values
- To enrich religious experience
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development
- To reinforce prayers that are part of the Catholic tradition
- To reinforce positive attitudes
- To participate fully
- To make time to 'wonder at', 'to come to terms with' and 'to give worth to'

Principles

All acts of Worship in this school will:

- Give glory and honour to God
- Be a quality activity fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic Character
- Give children positive liturgical experiences appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church.

In order to do this, celebrations will:

- Be kept small wherever possible or appropriate to personalise the experience
- Be short and appropriately paced
- Be simple, including a range of experiences offered in a variety of groupings and in a variety of settings.

Planning

Collective Worship in this school is planned following a structure with reference to the Church's seasons, Ten Ten resources, The Way the Truth the Life, the Shrewsbury diocese resources, significant dates (Appendix 2) and the RE Curriculum Directory.

- Scripture will be the focus for most acts of worship
- It will relate to the school community in the light of the school's aims and Mission
- There will be flexibility to respond to changing situations within the school and the wider community
- We will aim to teach children the skills to enable them to prepare, organise and lead worship

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Monitoring and Evaluation

Throughout the year, as part of the school's monitoring calendar, the school's provision of worship will be evaluated to consider whether it meets the needs of pupils and whether it truly reflects the aims and mission of the school.

Resources

There are many resources available for planning Collective Worship. These are stored centrally in the cupboard outside the staffroom and are reviewed regularly as part of the RE Lead's monitoring role. There are several Internet sites that are also a useful resource for planning.

Timetable

In order to achieve the above, Collective Worship is organised as follows:

Monday – Whole school assembly centred around Gospel readings using Ten Ten resources and led by class teachers

Tuesday – Class collective worship using Ten Ten resources

Wednesday – Whole school assembly centred around Gospel readings and led by SLT.

Thursday – Class collective worship prepared using Shrewsbury diocese resources - Y2-Y6 children to plan and lead.

Friday – Whole School Assembly led by Mrs McGuire, including school news and attendance awards.

Attending Mass

Mass is an integral part of worship at St Benedict's and takes place in church at least once per half term. Mass in school will highlight a special occasion and will usually be led by the children. When preparing these celebrations, reference will be made to the *'Directory for Masses with Children'* as a basis for our practice. In addition to our half termly whole school masses, Key Stage 2 classes attend mass weekly and this is done on a rota.

Children will be encouraged to participate in Sunday Masses throughout the year. Children will be prepared for the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation, usually during Y3. Special Sunday Masses are arranged with Catechists and the Parish Priest for the children to participate in.

Leader of Collective Worship

The RE Lead leads all areas of R.E. including collective worship. They will work in partnership with the Parish Priest and the Headteacher to make sure that all collective worship is both Catholic in organisation and content. They inform and enable all members of staff and the children to fully engage in following the Catholic faith.

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Appendix 1

Prayers used at the school

Morning Prayer (Reception-Y6)

Dear God,
I thank you for each day of my life,
It is a gift from you.
Help me to use this gift well to serve you
And the people I meet each day.
Amen

Lunch-time Prayer (Reception-Y6)

Hail Mary, full of grace
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
Now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Home-time prayer

God our Father, I've come to say
Thank you for your love today.
Thank you for my family
And all the friends you give to me
Guard me in the dark of night
And in the morning send your light. Amen

Prayer to the Guardian Angel (Y2-6)

Angel of God, my guardian dear,
To whom God's love commit me here,
Ever this day be at my side
To light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen

Prayer to the Holy Spirit (Y5-6)

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and there will be a new creation
And you will renew the face of the earth.
Let us pray:
O God, you instruct the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant by the same Holy Spirit we may choose what is right and ever rejoice in his consultation, through Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

The Memorare (Y5-6)

Remember, O most loving Virgin Mary, that it is a thing unheard of,
That anyone ever had recourse to your protection, implored your help,
Or sought your intercession, and was left forsaken.
Filled, therefore, with confidence in your goodness,
I fly to you, O Mother, Virgin of virgins.
To you I come, before you I stand, a sorrowful sinner.
Despise not my poor words, O Mother of the Word of God,
But graciously hear and grant my prayer. Amen.

The Angelus (Y3-6)

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary
And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

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Hail Mary...
Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
Be it done unto me according to the word.
Hail Mary...
And the Word was made flesh
And dwelt among us
Hail Mary...
Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.
Let us pray.
Pour forth we beseech you, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts;
the message of an angel, may, by his passion and cross be brought to the glory of his resurrection.
Through Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

Hail Mary (R-Y6)

Hail Mary, full of grace
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
Now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Our Father (Y1-6)

Our Father,
Who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name;
Thy kingdom come;
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

The Glory Be (Y1-6)

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen

Eternal Rest (Y1-6)

Eternal rest, give unto him/her O Lord,
And let perpetual light shine upon him/her.
May he/she rest in peace. Amen

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Appendix 2

RE lessons and Collective worships

Please use one RE lesson per half term to teach about one of our house saints.

Autumn 1 – St Raphael

Autumn 2 – St Fina

Spring 1 – St Joan of Arc

Spring 2 – St Katharine

Summer 1 - St Bernadette

Summer 2 - St Elizabeth

Collective worships	
September	2 nd - New Beginnings 29 th – St Raphael’s Feast Day
October	7 th – Our Lady of the Rosary 16 th – Harvest festival
November	3 rd – All Saints and All Souls (actual dates are 1 st and 2 nd) 11 th – Remembrance day 23 rd – Christ the King (actual date is 22 nd) 30 th - Start of Advent (actual date is 29 th)
December	Advent 8 th – The Immaculate Conception
January	6 th The Epiphany 25 th – The conversion of St Paul
February	2 nd – The presentation of the Lord
March	3 rd – St Katharine’s Feast Day 12 th – St Fina’s Feast Day 12 th – Ash Wednesday (actual date is 17 th) Lent 29 th – Palm Sunday (actual date is 18 th) 29 th – 1 st April – teach the events of Holy week
April	1 st - Holy Thursday 16 th – St Bernadette’s Feast Day
May	13 th – The Ascension 24 th – Pentecost (actual date is 23 rd) 24 th – Virgin Mary 30 th – The Most Holy Trinity 30 th – St Joan of Arc’s Feast Day
June	4 th – Corpus Christi (actual date is 3 rd) 29 th – St Peter and Paul
July	4 th - St Elizabeth’s Feast Day 11 th – St Benedict’s Feast Day