



## BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

*“Supporting Catholic schools to provide excellent education where pupils flourish,  
and Christ is made known to all.”*

### Good Practice Ideas and Suggestions for Collective Worship in Catholic Primary Schools in Socially Distant Times

#### Context

It is very difficult to give generic advice as ‘one size does not fit all’! Each school has its own individual circumstances and different, individual Risk Assessments, according to the needs of the pupils and staff and the restrictions of the various buildings/rooms. Any ideas here, are shared for consideration and adaptation within your context and it is very possible that you have already thought about many of them.

**However, what is clear and non-negotiable is that daily Collective Worship must take place.**

***‘Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them -Matthew 18:19-20***



#### Practice

For 2-3 times a week, this may take the form of prayers, a scripture reading and reflective music/listening (not singing) to a hymn, in individual classrooms with the appropriate focal table, lighted candle and relevant artefacts. There are good opportunities here for developing pupils’ skills in leading worship for their peers. The need for more individually based class assemblies may also deepen and develop a wider group of staff members’ knowledge of the finer points of the liturgical year and a wider range of saints’ days.

**For the other 2-3 days in the week, it may be more 'involved' and for a wider audience than just individual classes:**

- Individual classes or, if your Risk Assessment allows, year groups could 'zoom'/otherwise 'stream' an assembly from the hall to all other classes, thereby enabling whole school themes to be shared and connecting the whole school community. This would enable schools to share important themes from a 'recovery curriculum' or elements to support mental health and well-being, for example, with the whole school.
- Similarly, Headteachers may wish to lead individual classes/year groups in Collective Worship in the hall or their classrooms and stream it to other classes in their classrooms. Celebration assemblies, noting achievements of pupils throughout the week with their photograph and examples of work/kindnesses etc, may be conducted in this way
- Individual members of staff may prepare assemblies that more than one class use, again developing the sense of shared experiences. This may be especially useful to NQTs/those new to teaching in Catholic schools.
- TenTen have (subscription based) resources for 10 minute classroom based assemblies and a training video for teachers on delivering these. <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/primary-subscription/assemblies/>
- There are many online assemblies, eg CAFOD assemblies which could be 'watched' either individually or simultaneously to create the sense of shared experiences.
- All the previously used assembly resource books will still provide useful materials eg 'Assemblies for Liturgical Seasons and School Occasions' (volumes 1 and 2) by Jude Groden, R.S.M and Christopher O'Donnell, O Carm
- The opportunity could be taken to do class based Guided Meditations. Useful ideas for these will be found in: 'Guided Meditation for Children-How to Teach Children to Pray Using Scripture' by Jane Reehorst, B.V.M or 'A Year of Mindfulness-Guided Meditation for Christian Schools' by Dr Clare Campbell.
- Classes could focus on prayerful reading of the Word of God, using, for example, 'With the Word of God-Lectio Divina' by Jude Groden RSM and Christopher O'Donnell O.Carm
- As parents are unlikely to be able to attend assemblies, parents could be invited to watch streamed versions of assemblies and to contribute to home/school prayer books so that school and home were united in prayer.
- The arrangements for Masses will vary from school to school but if your local parish does not live stream Mass, details can be found on the diocesan website of when weekday Masses are live streamed. Some Parish Priests may be able to live stream a Mass specifically for school. Daily Masses and other liturgical services from around England and Ireland can also be found on <https://www.churchservices.tv/whats-on-now/>



## Resources/Useful Links

Details	Website link
<b>Bible Society</b>	<a href="https://www.rcdea.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/The-God-Who-Speaks-Brochure-Final.pdf">https://www.rcdea.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/The-God-Who-Speaks-Brochure-Final.pdf</a>
<b>Liturgy Office:</b> For materials to support prayer and worship throughout the liturgical year see the website	<a href="https://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/">https://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/</a> <a href="https://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/liturgy/diocesan-supplement/">https://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/liturgy/diocesan-supplement/</a> 
<b>Universalis:</b> For materials to support daily Liturgy and Mass throughout the year visit the website. Alternatively, subscribe to it and this resource can be available on your electronic device(s)	<a href="https://universalis.com/">https://universalis.com/</a> 
<b>Catholic Culture:</b> For information about the liturgical year, prayers, resources, activities, recipes and more see the website	<a href="https://catholicculture.org">https://catholicculture.org</a> 
<b>CAFOD:</b> For free pupil-led Collective Worship materials as well as resources to support assemblies to support the liturgical year and various themes visit their website	<a href="https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Collective-worship-resources">https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Collective-worship-resources</a> 
<b>Mission Together:</b> For resources to support prayer, worship and mission during the liturgical year visit the website	<a href="https://missiontogether.org.uk/">https://missiontogether.org.uk/</a> 

<p><b>Pope's Prayer Intentions:</b> For the Pope's monthly prayer intentions every year</p>	<p><a href="https://www.popesprayer.va/the-challenges-facing-humanity-and-assists-the-mission-of-the-church/#INTENTIONS">https://www.popesprayer.va/the-challenges-facing-humanity-and-assists-the-mission-of-the-church/#INTENTIONS</a></p> 
<p><b>Loyola Press</b> Materials including 3 minute retreats, Sunday Connection with differentiated explanations of the weekly Gospel and Saints' Stories</p>	<p><a href="https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/family/catholic-kids/">https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/family/catholic-kids/</a></p> <p><b>LOYOLAPRESS.</b></p>
<p><b>National Gallery Paintings</b> Paintings could be used to stimulate discussion or illustrate the scripture shared.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/explore-the-paintings/artist-a-to-z">http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/explore-the-paintings/artist-a-to-z</a></p> 
<p><b>Churches Together</b> Has some useful ideas for topical assemblies</p>	<p><a href="https://ctbi.org.uk/">https://ctbi.org.uk/</a></p> 

## October Resources

### Rosary

Animated Rosary for children

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yg3XpfrM6hM>

Children's Rosary song with lyrics

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XXL-TvRICvs>

### Joyful Mysteries

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7a1666IE1ao>

### Sorrowful Mysteries

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rr-Og8CFDOo>

### Hail Mary

Hail Mary Gentle Woman sung by Jamie Biller

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RERoQ1biLdE>

Hail Mary Signing Video (song)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PglEF7mTf2E>

## Teaching the Rosary

### Mission Together

PowerPoint on notes on how to say the Rosary

<https://missiontogether.org.uk/resources-by-month/calendar-may/>

### Teaching Catholic Kids

Explanation of how to say the Rosary, with various resources:

<https://teachingcatholickids.com/teaching-children-the-rosary/>

Printable Rosary diagram

<https://www.saintanneshelper.com/rosary-coloring-pages.html>

Videos – the Rosary

<https://www.saintanneshelper.com/catholic-rosary.html>

**Loyola Press**

Prayers and diagrams for saying the Rosary

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/scripture-and-tradition/devotions/praying-the-rosary/>

Rosary prayer cloths activity

<https://www.loyolapress.com/faith-formation/activities/rosary-prayer-cloths-activity/>

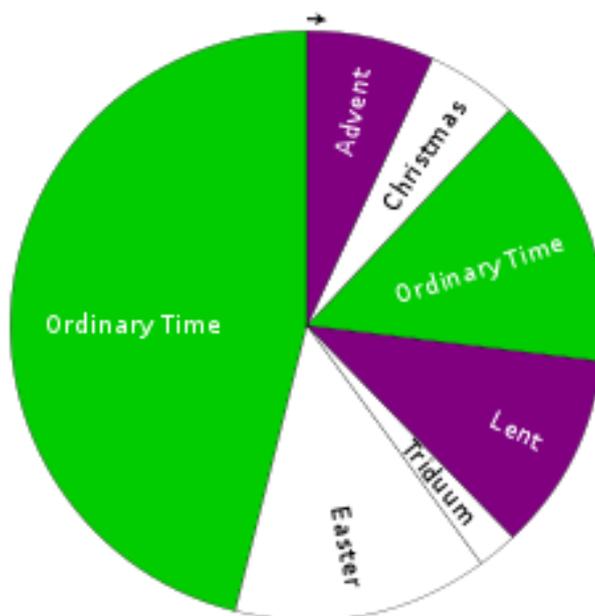
Make a Rosary activity

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/parish-ministry/intergenerational-catechesis/mary/rosary-activity-center/>

Creative ways to say the Rosary

<https://catechistsjourney.loyolapress.com/2016/10/creative-ways-to-pray-the-rosary>

## The Liturgical Year: The Church's Calendar



The Church's Calendar has been included to support your school with prayer and Collective Worship throughout the school year. It is centred on the Liturgical Year, although it begins in September when the school year begins. Each of the Christian seasons are explained briefly and liturgically appropriate prayer intentions are included.

Special dates and feast days have also been included, although this is not an exhaustive list. They have been included to support you in planning which topics/themes/celebrations can be focused on each month, as it is not recommended that all dates be celebrated. It is better to do less, well. Those highlighted in red are feasts of martyrs and those in bold are holy days of obligation.

Some national and international days have been included so that they can be incorporated into prayer and liturgy where appropriate. We hope that you can bring them to life with your energy and creative ways of sharing them with others. Celebrations from other faiths have also been included so that you can be sensitive to the celebrations of other believers.

We hope that this can support your school community in growing in faith through prayer and liturgy as you journey through the year together.



## September: Special dates

LITURGICAL YEAR	NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS	OTHER FAITHS/CULTURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Gregory (3<sup>rd</sup>)</li> <li>• St Teresa of Calcutta (5<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Nativity of the Virgin Mary (8<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Holy Name of Mary (12<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St John Chrysostom (13<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Exaltation of the Cross (14<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Our Lady of Sorrows (15<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Korean Martyrs (20<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist (21<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• Our Lady of Walsingham (24<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Vincent de Paul (27<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Jerome (30<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Day of Charity (5<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• National Literacy Day (8<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• World Suicide Prevention Day (10<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• First Aid Day (14<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• International Day of Democracy (15<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• World Ozone Day (16<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• International Day of Peace (UN) (21<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• Maritime Day (26<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• World Tourism Day (27<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• International Translation Day (30<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul> <p>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday – World Rivers Day Last week – Day of Deaf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rosh Hashanah</b> (Jewish New Year – Sept/Oct)</li> <li>• <b>Yom Kippur</b> (Jewish Day of Atonement – Sept/Oct)</li> <li>• <b>Eid al-Adha</b> (Islamic sacrifice of Ibrahim – date varies)</li> <li>• <b>Ashura</b> (Islamic)</li> <li>• <b>Krishna Janmashtami</b> (Hindu Birth of Krishna)</li> <li>• <b>Raksha Bandhan</b> (Hindu relationships)</li> <li>• Pahila Prakash Sri Guru Granth Sahib (Sikh Title of Guru Granth Sahib 1<sup>st</sup>)</li> </ul>

Liturgical Colour	SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER	Note
<b>GREEN</b>	World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation Education Sunday Home Mission Day World Mission Day	The dates of these will change each year. Please check

## October- Month of the Rosary: Special dates

LITURGICAL YEAR	NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS	OTHER FAITHS/CULTURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Thérèse of Lisieux (1<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• Guardian Angels (2<sup>nd</sup>)</li> <li>• St Francis of Assisi (4<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Our Lady of the Rosary (7<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St John Henry Newman (9<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St John XXIII (11<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Edward the Confessor (13<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Theresa of Avila (15<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Luke, Evangelist (18<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St John Paul II (22<sup>nd</sup>)</li> <li>• Ss Simon and Jude (28<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Blessed Martyrs of Douai College (29<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Day of Older Persons (1st)</li> <li>• International Day of Non-Violence (2nd)</li> <li>• Animal Welfare Day (4th)</li> <li>• World Teachers Day (5th)</li> <li>• World Mental Health Day (10th)</li> <li>• International Day of the Girl-Child (11th)</li> <li>• UN National Disaster Reduction Day (13th)</li> <li>• International Day of Rural Women (15th)</li> <li>• World Food Day (16th)</li> <li>• International Poverty Eradication Day (17th)</li> <li>• UN day (24<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul> <p>Black History Month One World Week (varies) 1st Monday – World Habitat Day 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday – World Sight Day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sukkot</b> (Jewish Feast of Tabernacles – Sept/Oct)</li> <li>• <b>Simchat Torah</b> (Jewish celebration of Torah – Sept/Oct)</li> <li>• <b>Navratri</b> (Hindu good over evil)</li> <li>• Arba'een (Islamic)</li> <li>• Bandhi Chhor Divas (Sikh Celebration of Freedom – 27<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Shemini Atzeret (Jewish memorial)</li> </ul>

Liturgical Colour	SUNDAYS IN OCTOBER	Note
<b>GREEN</b>	Ordinary Time	<b>Month of the Rosary</b>
<b>WHITE</b>	Feasts of Our Lady	

## November- Month of Remembrance: Special dates

LITURGICAL YEAR	NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS	OTHER FAITHS/CULTURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>All Saints (1<sup>st</sup>)</b></li> <li>• All Souls (2<sup>nd</sup>)</li> <li>• St Martin de Pores (3<sup>rd</sup>)</li> <li>• St Charles Borromeo (4<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Lateran Basilica (9<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Martin of Tours (11<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Frances Xavier Cabrini (13<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Albert the Great (15<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Margaret of Scotland (16<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Presentation of Mary (21<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• <b>St Cecilia (22<sup>nd</sup>)</b></li> <li>• <b>St Andrew (30<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World Tsunami Day (5<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• National Stress Awareness Day (6<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• World Science Day for Peace and Development (10<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Remembrance Sunday (11<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• World Kindness Day (13<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• International Day for Tolerance (16<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• World Day of the Poor (17<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• World Toilet Day (19<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Universal Children's Day (20<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Carers' Rights Day (21<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (25<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Month of Remembrance: Remembrance Sunday is the beginning of Interfaith Week.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Diwali</b> (Hindu festival of Light)</li> <li>• Eid-e-Shuja (Islamic – date varies)</li> <li>• <b>Mawlid an-Nabī</b> (Islamic Birthday of the Prophet Muhammed Oct/Nov)</li> <li>• <b>Guru Nanak Gurburab</b> (Sikh Birth of Guru Nanak Nov)</li> <li>• Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (Sikh 22<sup>nd</sup>)</li> <li>• Mitzvah Day (Jewish – links to Day of the Poor)</li> </ul>

Liturgical Colour	SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER	Note
<b>Green, WHITE, purple or black</b>	Remembrance Sunday	<b>These dates vary each year. World Day of the Poor is the week before Christ the King.</b>
<b>GREEN</b>	Ordinary Time	
WHITE	Christ the King- the last Sunday of the Church's year	
<b>PURPLE</b>	Advent	

## SEASON of Advent: The Beginning of the Church Year

PRAYER INTENTIONS during Advent and Christmastide (Based on the Liturgical Year)	Liturgical Colour
Migrants and Refugees (Migrants' day - 3 <sup>rd</sup> December)	PURPLE
Openness to the Word of God (Bible Sunday – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent)	
Expectant Mothers (especially on 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday)	



Advent is a time to:

1. Prepare for the Solemnities of Christmas in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered
2. Prepare hearts and minds for the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time

During this time, the readings focus on the promise of the Messiah in the prophecies of the Old Testament and the preparation of Mary and John the Baptist. It is a time of joyful expectation.

The empty crib is used as a symbol for reflection during Advent and Catholics often avail themselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and recite the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary.

This season begins on the Sunday nearest to the Feast of St Andrew (30<sup>th</sup> November) and lasts until Christmas Eve. It always has four Sundays.

## December: Special dates

LITURGICAL YEAR	NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS	OTHER FAITHS/CULTURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Francis Xavier (3rd)</li> <li>• St Nicholas (6<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Ambrose (7<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Immaculate Conception (8<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Our Lady of Guadalupe (12<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Lucy (13<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St John of the Cross (14<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Christmas day (25<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Stephen (26<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St John the Apostle (27<sup>th</sup>) &amp; the Holy Family</li> <li>• Holy Innocents (28<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Pollution Control Day &amp; Abolition of Slavery (2nd)</li> <li>• International Day of Persons with Disabilities (3rd)</li> <li>• International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development &amp; World Soil Day (5th)</li> <li>• Human Rights Day (10th)</li> <li>• World Energy Conservation Day (14th)</li> <li>• International Migrants Day (18<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• International Human Solidarity Day (20<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hanukkah/Chanukah (Jewish Festival of Light – Nov/Dec)</li> <li>• Martyrdom of the Sahibzade (Sikh sons of Guru Gobind Singh 21<sup>th</sup> , 26<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>

Liturgical Colour	SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER	Note
VIOLET ROSE	1,2 and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays in Advent 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday (Gaudete)	The dates of these will change each year. Please check

## SEASON of Christmas

Liturgical Colour	SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER	Note
WHITE/ <b>GOLD</b>	Christmas Feast of the Holy Family	This is the Sunday after Christmas day.



Christmas begins at the Christmas Vigil on Christmas Eve until the Baptism of Jesus. The 12 days of Christmas are from the Christmas Vigil until 6<sup>th</sup> January which is when the feast of the Epiphany (Coming of the Magi/Wise Men) is celebrated. There are 40 days from Christmas to the Presentation of Jesus (Candlemas).

This is the season in which the importance of Jesus' birth as well as his early manifestations is reflected upon.

## January: Special dates

LITURGICAL YEAR	NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS	OTHER FAITHS/CULTURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mary, Mother of God (1<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>Epiphany (6<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>Baptism of Our Lord</li> <li>St Anthony (17<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li><b>St Agnes (21<sup>st</sup>)</b></li> <li>St Francis de Sales; Our Lady of Peace (24<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>Conversion of St Paul, Apostle (25<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li><b>Ss Timothy and Titus (26<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>St Thomas Aquinas (28<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>St John Bosco (31<sup>st</sup>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Braille Day (4<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>International Day of Education (24<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>World Leprosy Day/Hansen's Disease (26<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust and Genocide (27<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18-25<sup>th</sup> Jan)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tu B'Shvat (Jewish New Year for trees Jan-Feb)</li> <li>Birth of Guru Gobind Singh, Founder of Sikhism (Sikh – 5<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>Maghi (Sikh - 14<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>

Liturgical Colour	SUNDAYS IN JANUARY	Note
WHITE	Epiphany	The Baptism of Our Lord is celebrated on the Sunday after Epiphany. There are 12 days between Christmas and the Epiphany.
WHITE	Baptism of the Lord	
GREEN	World Peace Day (2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time)	
GREEN	Sunday of the Word (3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time)	

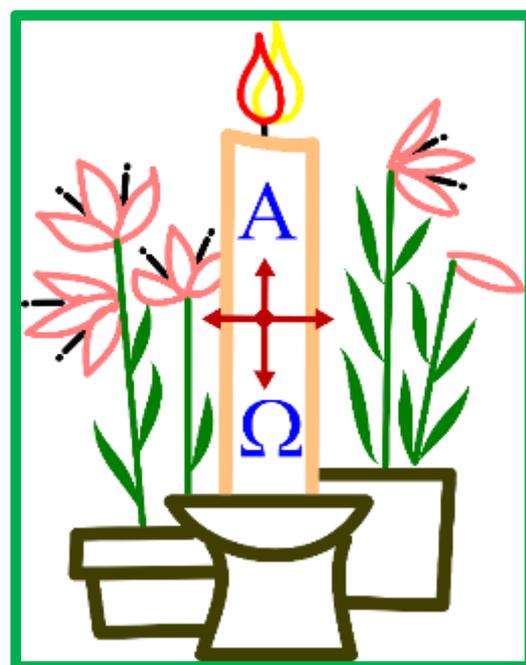
## SEASON of Ordinary Time: Spring – Epiphany to Shrove Tuesday

PRAYER INTENTIONS FROM EPIPHANY TO SHROVE TUESDAY (Based on the Liturgical Year)	Liturgical Colour
<b>Christian Unity</b> (Octave or prayer for Christian unity in January)	<b>GREEN</b>
<b>Peace on Earth</b> (Peace Day – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time)	
<b>Victims of Human Trafficking</b> (Feast of St Josephine Bakhita)	
<b>Sick and Those Who Care For Them</b> (World day of the Sick – Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes)	
<b>Europe</b> (Feast of Ss Cyril and Methodius)	
<b>Racial Justice</b> (Racial Justice day - 3 Sundays before Lent)	
<b>Unemployed</b> (Day for the unemployed – Sunday before Lent)	

During this season, readings centre on the teachings and parables of Jesus, encouraging reflection what it means to be a follower of Christ.

Throughout ordinary time, individuals also focus on the saints and how they can imitate their holiness as Christ's followers.

Prayers for the above intentions are said especially on these special days.



## February: Special dates

LITURGICAL YEAR	NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS	OTHER FAITHS/CULTURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Brigid (1<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• Presentation of Our Lord (2<sup>nd</sup>)</li> <li>• St Jerome Emiliani (8th)</li> <li>• St Josephine Bakhita (8<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Blaise (3<sup>rd</sup>)</li> <li>• St Agatha (5<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Paul Miki and Companions (6<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Our Lady of Lourdes (11<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Ss Cyril and Methodius (21<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• Chair of St Peter (22<sup>nd</sup>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interfaith Harmony Week - 1<sup>st</sup> week in Feb</li> <li>• World Wetlands Day (2<sup>nd</sup>)</li> <li>• World Cancer Day (4th)</li> <li>• World Pulses Day (10th)</li> <li>• International Day of Women and Girls in Science; Safer Internet Day (11th)</li> <li>• World Day of the Sick (11<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• World Radio Day (13th)</li> <li>• World Day of Social Justice (20th)</li> <li>• International Mother Language Day (21st)</li> <li>• International Polar Bear Day (27<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chinese New Year (Buddhist)</li> <li>• Magha Puka Day (Buddhist Important Event in Life of Buddha)</li> <li>• Fast of Esther (Jewish Feb/Mar)</li> <li>• Purim (Jewish Feb/Mar)</li> </ul>

Liturgical Colour	SUNDAYS IN FEBRUARY	Note
WHITE	Presentation of the Lord	There are 40 days from Christmas to the Presentation of Our Lord, otherwise known as Candlemas. Some people leave their Christmas crib up until this day.
GREEN	Ordinary Time	

## SEASON of Lent: Ash Wednesday – Holy Saturday

<b>PRAYER INTENTIONS during Lent - Ash Wednesday – Holy Saturday</b> (Based on the Liturgical Year)	<b>Liturgical Colour</b>
<b>Penitents and Wanderers</b>	<b>PURPLE</b>
<b>The Needy and Hungry of the World</b> Especially on Lent Fast day (Friday after 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent)	
<b>Candidates for the Sacraments</b> Especially on the Sundays in Lent	
<b>Women</b> Especially on Women’s World day of Prayer (1 <sup>st</sup> Friday in March)	



Lent is the time of preparation for the celebration of Easter and the Paschal Mystery. The final week of Lent is Holy Week, it begins on Palm Sunday and ends on Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil Mass.

The Easter Triduum begins with the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Maundy Thursday (following the Jewish counting of time with the day beginning at sunset). It lasts for three days: Thursday night, Friday night and Saturday night.

The Stations of the Cross are reflected upon during this season as are the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary and it is custom for Catholics to attend the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

## March: Special dates

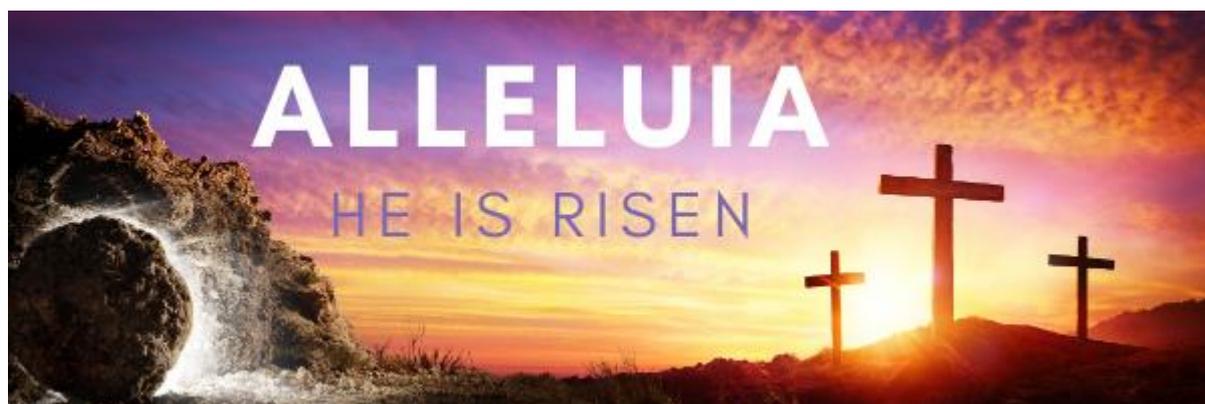
LITURGICAL YEAR	NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS	OTHER FAITHS/CULTURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St David (1<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• St Casimir (4<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• <b>Ss Perpetua and Felicity (7<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>• St John of God (8<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Frances of Rome (9<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Patrick (17<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Cyril of Jerusalem (18<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Joseph (19<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Annunciation (25<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zero Discrimination Day (1<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• World Wildlife Day (2<sup>nd</sup>)</li> <li>• Int Women’s Day (8<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• International Day of Happiness; French Language Day (20<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (21<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• World Poetry Day (21<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• International Day of Forests (21<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• World Water Day (22<sup>nd</sup>)</li> <li>• World Meteorological Day (23<sup>rd</sup>)</li> <li>• Remembrance of Victims of Slavery Day (23<sup>rd</sup>)</li> <li>• Mother’s Day</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pesach</b> (Jewish Passover Mar/Apr)</li> <li>• <b>Holla Mohalla</b> (Sikh Olympics – 17<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• <b>Holi</b> (Hindu Festival of Colours)</li> <li>• <b>Laylat al-Mi’raj</b> (Islamic Mar/Apr)</li> </ul>

Liturgical colour	SUNDAYS IN MARCH	Note
<b>PURPLE</b>	Sundays in Lent	Lent begins on a different date each year. There are 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter.
<b>ROSE</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday (Laetare)	
<b>RED</b>	Palm Sunday (Sunday Before Easter)	

*During Lent, there is no Gloria during the Mass and Alleluia is not said or sung either in the greeting of the Gospel or in any hymn.*

## SEASON of Easter: Easter Sunday to Pentecost

PRAYER INTENTIONS during Easter (Based on the Liturgical Year)	Liturgical Colour
<b>New Members of the Church</b>	<b>WHITE/GOLD</b>
<b>Vocations</b> Especially on the World Day of Prayer for Vocations (4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter)	
<b>Human Work</b> Especially on St Joseph the Worker (1 May)	
<b>The Right Use of Media</b> Especially on World Communications Day (Ascension)	
<b>The Church</b> Especially on Pentecost Sunday	<b>RED</b>



### Easter

Easter Sunday is the greatest of all Christian celebrations. The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated joyfully, as one “great Sunday”. These, above all others, are the days for the singing of the Alleluia.

During this time, the readings centre on the appearances of the risen Christ and the Good Shepherd is read on the Fourth Sunday. Other readings include the words of Jesus at the Last Supper. Prayers focus on the above intentions.

The Ascension of Our Lord is celebrated 40 days after Easter and Pentecost, 50 days after Easter commemorating Jesus sending his Holy Spirit.

## April: Special dates

LITURGICAL YEAR	NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS	OTHER FAITHS/CULTURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Francis of Paolo (2<sup>nd</sup>)</li> <li>• St Isidore (4<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Vincent Ferrer (5<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Stanislaus (11<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St George (23<sup>rd</sup>)</li> <li>• St Mark, Evangelist (25<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Catherine of Siena (29<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action (4th)</li> <li>• International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (6th)</li> <li>• World Health Day (7th)</li> <li>• International Day of Human Space Flight (12th)</li> <li>• Chinese Language Day (20th)</li> <li>• World Creativity and Innovation Day (21st)</li> <li>• World Mother Earth Day (22nd)</li> <li>• Spanish Language Day (23rd)</li> <li>• World Malaria Day (25th)</li> <li>• International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day (26th)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Vaisakhi</b> (Sikh Birth of Kahlisa – 14<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• <b>Veisakha Puja</b> (Buddhist - Buddha's birthday April/May)</li> <li>• <b>Laylat al-Bara'at</b> (Islamic – Sunni/Shia - Mar/Apr)</li> <li>• <b>Muhammad al-Mahdī</b> (Islamic – Shia - Mar/Apr)</li> </ul> <p>The Islamic festivals above occur on the same night</p>

Liturgical Colour	SUNDAYS IN APRIL	Note
WHITE	Easter Sunday 4th Sunday of Easter – Good Shepherd Sunday	

## SEASON of Ordinary Time: Summer – Day after Pentecost until First Sunday of Advent

PRAYER INTENTIONS FROM DAY AFTER Pentecost Until First Day of Advent (Based on the Liturgical Year)	Liturgical Colour
<b>Deeper Understanding Between Christians and Jews</b>	<b>GREEN</b>
<b>Those Who Suffer Persecution</b> Especially on St John Fisher and St Thomas More (22 <sup>nd</sup> June)	
<b>Those Who Suffer Oppression</b> Especially on St John Fisher and St Thomas More (22 <sup>nd</sup> June)	
<b>Those Who Suffer Denial of Human Rights</b> Especially on St John Fisher and St Thomas More (22 <sup>nd</sup> June)	
<b>Europe</b> Especially on the feasts of St Benedict (11 July), St Bridget of Sweden (23 July), St Catherine of Siena (29 April)	
<b>Human Life</b> Especially on the day for Life (3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in June)	
<b>Seafarers</b> Especially on Sea Sunday (2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in July)	



During this season, readings centre on the teachings and parables of Jesus, encouraging reflection what it means to be a follower of Christ.

Throughout ordinary time, individuals also focus on the saints and how they can imitate their holiness as Christ's followers.

Prayers for the above intentions are said especially on these special days.

## May: Special dates

LITURGICAL YEAR	NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS	OTHER FAITHS/CULTURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Joseph the Worker (1<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• Ss Philip and James (3<sup>rd</sup>)</li> <li>• Feast of English Martyrs (4<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Damien de Veuster (10<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Our Lady of Fatima (13<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Matthias (14<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Bede (25<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Augustine (27<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Visitation (31<sup>st</sup>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Ascension Thursday</b> The date of Easter changes every year and the Ascension is celebrated 40 days after Easter Sunday.</p> <p><b>Mary, Mother of the Church</b> Monday after Pentecost</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World Tuna Day (2nd)</li> <li>• World Migratory Birds Day (11th)</li> <li>• International Day of Families (15th)</li> <li>• International Day of Living Together in Peace (16th)</li> <li>• World Telecommunication and Information Day (17th)</li> <li>• World Bee Day (20th)</li> <li>• World day for Cultural Diversity (21st)</li> <li>• International Day of UN Peacekeepers (29th)</li> <li>• World No-Tobacco Day (31st)</li> <li>• Laudato Si week</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Yom HaSho'ah</b> (Jewish Holocaust Remembrance Day)</li> <li>• <b>Shavuot</b> (Jewish Pentecost May/June)</li> <li>• <b>First day of Ramadān</b> (Islamic Fasting – date varies)</li> <li>• <b>Laylat al-Qadr</b> (Islamic – date varies according to Ramadān)</li> </ul>

Liturgical Colour	SUNDAYS IN MAY	Note
WHITE	Sundays in Easter	Pentecost is 10 days after the Ascension (50 days after Easter Sunday)
RED	Pentecost	

## June: Special dates

LITURGICAL YEAR	NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS	OTHER FAITHS/CULTURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Justin (1<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• Charles Lwanga and Companions (3<sup>rd</sup>)</li> <li>• St Boniface (5<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Norbert (6<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Barnabas (11<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Anthony of Padua (13<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Aloysius (21<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• Ss John Fisher and Thomas More (22<sup>nd</sup>)</li> <li>• St John the Baptist (24<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St John Southworth (27<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Ss Peter and Paul (29<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Sacred Heart of Jesus (19 days after Pentecost)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Day for Parents (1st)</li> <li>• World Bicycle Day (3rd)</li> <li>• World Environment Day (5th)</li> <li>• Russian Language Day (6th)</li> <li>• World Oceans day (8th)</li> <li>• World Day Against Child Labour (12th)</li> <li>• World day to Combat Desertification and Drought (17th)</li> <li>• World Refugee Day (20th)</li> <li>• Seafarer Day (25th)</li> <li>• International Asteroid Day (30th)</li> <li>• Father's Day</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chaand Raat</b> (Islamic –date varies – linked to Eid al-Fitr)</li> <li>• <b>Eid al-Fitr</b> (Islamic Break the Fast of Ramadān – date varies – new moon for start of Eid)</li> <li>• Martyrdom of Guru Arjan (Sikh 16<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>

Liturgical Colour	SUNDAYS IN JUNE	Note
WHITE	Most Holy Trinity	Trinity Sunday is the Week after Pentecost and the week before Corpus Christi.
WHITE	Corpus Christi	
GREEN	Ordinary Time	

## July: Special dates

LITURGICAL YEAR	NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS	OTHER FAITHS/CULTURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Oliver Plunket (1<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• St Thomas, the Apostle (3<sup>rd</sup>)</li> <li>• St Elizabeth (5<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Maria Goretti (6<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Benedict (11<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Henry (13<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Bonaventure (15<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Our Lady of Mount Carmel (16<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Mary Magdalene (22<sup>nd</sup>)</li> <li>• St James (25<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Ss Joachim and Anne (26<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• St Martha (29<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Day of Cooperatives (11th)</li> <li>• World Youth Skills Day (15th)</li> <li>• Nelson Mandela Day (18th)</li> <li>• International Day of Friendship (30th)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tisha B'Av (Jewish tragedies)</li> </ul>

Liturgical Colour	SUNDAYS IN JULY	Note
<b>GREEN</b>	<b>Ordinary Time</b>	

***If you remain in me and my words remain in you, then you will ask for anything you wish, and you shall have it. (John 15:7)***

## Appendix

### CLASSROOM FOCAL AREAS:

1. Should be the most vibrant in classroom, reflecting the colour of the liturgical season.
2. Decide on area of focus and whether it will be a combination of R.E. Display and Prayer corner/Table.
3. Age appropriate Bible open, candle, artefact, plant /flowers.
4. Prayers displayed: Formal prayer, classroom saint, worry box, prayer basket.
5. Evidence of Come and See topic
6. Scripture for the week, *Come and see*.
7. Religious depictions of liturgical season.
8. Mission Statement.
9. Cross/Crucifix.
10. Image of God for the week.
11. Take account of cultural diversity of school community.
12. Clean, tidy, refreshed.
13. Aids to prayer, support the learning environment particularly in R.E. Lessons.
14. Liturgy monitors/chaplains/ "junior disciples".

### CLASSROOM PRAYER

#### Traditional:

Sign of the Cross (reverently and correctly)  
 Morning Offering,  
 Our Father, Hail Mary,  
 Prayers before and after meals  
 Prayer at the end of the day.  
 Act of Contrition

## **CLASSROOM COLLECTIVE WORSHIP:**

1. Morning reflection
2. Meditation
3. Lectio Divina
4. Feast of the day
5. Liturgical season
6. Reading of the day
7. Sunday Readings
8. Year of the God who speaks
9. Three minute retreat: [www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com)
10. Prayer of silence
11. Liturgy of the Word (on Special Feast Days)
12. Wednesday Word (subscription)
13. Praying **daily** the Word of God through Art: [www.dailygospel.com](http://www.dailygospel.com)
14. Virtual retreats for Primary Schools: [www.onelifemusic.co.uk](http://www.onelifemusic.co.uk)
15. Christian based poems
16. Praying through religious music

## **SUGGESTED 'ORDER OF SERVICE' FOR CLASSROOM COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

Preparation of venue in advance required, with focus relevant to the theme  
 Entrance: Music appropriate for the occasion  
 Greeting and Introduction of the THEME of Worship  
 Sign of Cross  
 Reference to Focus or Symbol: Lighting of candle, Bible, Crucifix, explain why  
 Hymn  
 Scripture  
 Response  
 Quiet/Reflective moment  
 Prayers  
 Our Father  
 Thought for the day  
 Concluding Hymn (currently must only be listened to, not sung)