

IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

ALL SAINTS

(1 November)

We celebrate the lives of special and ordinary people who have responded to God's invitation to love.

THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)

(2 November)

Today and throughout the rest of November we pray for those who have died. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING

(26 November)

ADVENT

(Begins 3 December)

Advent means 'coming'. We think of the coming of Jesus when he was born but we also think of his promise that he would come again at the end of time. It is a time of waiting and preparing. It is only in the last week of Advent that we focus upon the events to be celebrated at Christmas.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

(8 December)

This feast marks the first stage of the existence of Mary, the mother of Jesus. She was 'full of grace' from the very beginning and co-operated with God throughout her life.

CHRISTMAS DAY, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

(25 December)

On this day we begin our celebration of the birth of Christ.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

(30 December)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

AUTUMN TERM 2023

COME AND SEE AT HOME

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term we will be studying the four themes of Creation, Prayers, Saints and Feasts, Advent and Christmas. Each class will approach the themes through different topics. The children will also study Judaism this term EYFS and Year 3 will follow new planning from the Religious Education Directory and will explore different units from the rest of the school which will last the whole half-term.

CREATION

Year 1	PRAISE – Creation in the Bible and praising through psalms/prayers
Year 2	GOD AS CREATOR – the Word of God and protecting God’s creation
Year 4	THE IMAGE OF GOD – respecting similarities and differences
Year 5	CO-CREATORS – how we become creators; the Beatitudes
Year 6	GOD’S LAW – the call to be a ‘People of God’; the ten commandments
EYFS	CREATION & COVENANT - we can be stewards of creation.
Year 3	CREATION & COVENANT - Eucharist- thanking God for creation

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Go for a family nature walk. Encourage your child to look around and think about God’s creation. How can we be stewards and take care of the world around us?

PRAYER, SAINTS & FEASTS

Year 1	PRAYER – the purpose of prayer; how saints help us know God
Year 2	RESPONDING – saints who have responded to the call of Jesus
Year 4	ROSARY – the prayer life of Jesus; praying to Mary
Year 5	PILGRIMAGE – a journey of prayer; St Teresa of Avila
Year 6	MARY’S FEASTS – feasts celebrated in Mary’s honour; saints and praying to the dead
EYFS	PROPHECY & PROMISE - Mass and the Liturgy of the Word & Advent
Year 3	PROPHECY & PROMISE - key aspects of the Nativity & Advent

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Different saints responded to the call of Jesus during their lives. Can your child name any saints? Does your family pray to a particular saint? How can we, like the saints, respond to the call of Jesus?

JUDAISM

Pupils will study various aspects of Judaism for one week. Ask them what they have been learning about.

ADVENT

Early Years	See above
Year 1	RESPONSE – Mary and Joseph respond to God and get ready for the birth of Jesus
Year 2	SYMBOLISM - symbols and getting ready for Jesus
Year 3	See above
Year 4	ANCESTORS – the nature of the Messiah and historical context His ancestors
Year 5	PROMISE – the promise revealed in the Old Testament
Year 6	THE CHURCH – Explores Advent through parables, prayers & hymns

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Discuss with your child how your family welcomes visitors to your home.
Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree.
Use the CAFOD or Mission websites to get a religious Advent

CHRISTMAS

Year 1	GIFTS – Why did the Wise Men bring gifts?
Year 2	JOURNEYS – the journey of the Magi; the Flight to Egypt
Year 4	ANGELS – Angels as messengers of Good News; the birth of John the Baptist
Year 5	DIFFICULTIES – looking at Matthew’s Gospel and the difficulties faced by Mary and Joseph
Year 6	THE WORD – looking at the birth of Jesus in St. John’s Gospel; the meaning of Incarnation

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

What does Christmas mean to you and your family? How will your family celebrate the birth of Jesus? Talk to your child about the traditions in your family.
Research and find out the meaning behind some of the symbols of Christmas e.g. bells and Christmas trees.