



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

At St Mary's we live and learn, sharing God's love.

RE AND CATHOLIC LIFE NEWSLETTER

Spring/Summer 2025

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

As we return to school after Easter, the Church is still celebrating this great event. The focus of the work in Religious Education is:

EYFS, Years 1, 2 and 3 - 'To know you more clearly' - Branch 5 'To the ends of the Earth'.

Years 4, 5 and 6 - Come and See - the role the Holy Spirit plays in our lives.

EYFS, Years 1, 2 and 3 - Branch 5 'To the ends of the Earth'

During this branch, the children will learn about

- the events that flowed from the Resurrection and Ascension in the coming of the Holy Spirit
- the work of the Apostles and the early church
- about the Catholic Church today as the apostolic church and how its liturgy and structures flow from the early Church.

The children will have opportunities to consider:

- What will I **see** and **hear** to help me to understand? (Understand)
- How will I **discover** more? (Discern)
- What can I **do** now? (Respond)

The key teaching points for each year group are as follows -

	Hear	Believe	Celebrate	Live
Nursery	Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to look after us.	The Holy Spirit looks after us.	The parish church is a special place where we meet our friends.	We gather with friends at church, especially on a Sunday.
Reception	The story of Pentecost.	The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.	Pentecost is a special celebration in the church.	The parish church and the parish family meet to celebrate.
Year 1	Luke 24:13-35 Acts 1:1-11 Acts 2:1-4	The mission of the church begins at Pentecost.	The church celebrates the Ascension and Pentecost on special days of celebration.	How Pentecost is celebrated in another part of the world.
Year 2	Luke 24:36-53 Acts 2:1-9, 12-13 Acts 9:1-19 Gal 5:22-23	God is love. The fruits of the Spirit.	Christians pray to the Holy Spirit for help.	There are different symbols of the Holy Spirit. Examples of Saints.
Year 3	Luke 24:13-35 Matthew 28:16-20 Acts 1:12-14 Acts 2:42-47 1 Corinthians 11:23-27	There is only one God, who is three persons.	Prayers which reference the trinity and the work of the Holy Spirit.	Being a Christian means to share the gospel. The mystery of the Trinity is represented symbolically.

Years 4, 5 and 6 – Come and See (Pentecost, Reconciliation, Universal Church and Hinduism)

PENTECOST—SERVING

(4 weeks)

Year 4	NEW LIFE - To hear and live the Easter message
Year 5	TRANSFORMATION - Celebration of the Spirit's transforming power
Year 6	WITNESSES - The Holy Spirit enables people to become witnesses

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk about good news in your family and how you shared it. Ask your child to tell you the story of Pentecost and the work of the Holy Spirit.

RECONCILIATION—INTER-RELATING

(4 weeks)

Year 4	BUILDING BRIDGES - Admitting wrong, being reconciled with God and each other
Year 5	FREEDOM & RESPONSIBILITY - Commandments enable Christians to be free & responsible
Year 6	HEALING - Sacrament of the Sick

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk together about times when you have forgiven and been forgiven. Discuss the importance of saying sorry. Look for opportunities for forgiveness and reconciliation in the day to day life of the family.

HINDUISM

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

UNIVERSAL CHURCH—WORLD

(4 weeks)

Year 4	GOD'S PEOPLE - Different saints show people what God is like
Year 5	STEWARDSHIP - The Church is called to the stewardship of Creation
Year 6	COMMON GOOD - Work of the worldwide Christian family

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Together, look through a family scrapbook or photograph album of a visit to a place that is special for your family. Look at a globe or an atlas. Find a special place and pray for the people of that country. Discuss how we can look after our world and support our neighbours, near and far.

CATHOLIC LIFE AND MISSION

Please see more dates on the next page.

Each Thursday - each department will attend mass in turn. All are welcome to join us.

7th June 10am - First Holy Communion mass - please keep the children in your prayers as they receive the Sacrament.

12th June - Nugent Care Mass at St. Mary's Church - all welcome

29th June - Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul (mass at St. Mary's 10am)

30th June - Y5 retreat to Liverpool Cathedral.

w/b 7th July - Enterprise Week (generating funds for charity)

17th July - 2pm - Leaver's Mass at St. Mary's church - all welcome

IMPORTANT DATES

Easter is such an important Christian festival – it's when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. The Bible says that Christ died on a cross on a day called Good Friday, was buried for three days and came back to life on Easter Sunday.

MAUNDY THURSDAY (The Last Supper)

17th April

GOOD FRIDAY (Jesus' crucifixion)

18th April

EASTER SUNDAY (The resurrection of the Lord)

20th April

The whole month of May is dedicated to Our Lady

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

29th May

After his Resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples over a period of forty days.

Ascension Day is when we celebrate Jesus' return to his Father in Heaven.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

8th June

This is the day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Church.

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

15th June

Today we celebrate our belief in the Trinity, the three persons of God: The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

19th June

On this feast we give thanks to God for the gift of Jesus in the form of bread and wine.

THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

27th June

On this day we remember how much Jesus loves us all.

SS. PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

29th June

We celebrate the lives of these important saints who helped establish the Christian Church.