



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School  
Religious Education Newsletter  
Summer 1 2026



**Love God, love others, love ourselves.**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we continue our journey through this season of the Church year, we are reminded that Community and Participation is at the heart of Catholic Social Teaching. It calls each of us to be active members of our community, supporting one another, celebrating our shared faith, and ensuring that everyone feels included and valued.

This term also offers many opportunities to reflect on important feast days in the Church. We remember St. Bernadette, whose faith and humility continue to inspire us, and we look ahead to the great solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul, pillars of the Church who remind us of the strength found in faith and leadership. Alongside these, we celebrate other significant moments in the liturgical calendar, such as the Ascension of the Lord, when we reflect on Jesus' return to the Father and the mission entrusted to His followers.

As we approach the joyful feast of Pentecost, we are invited to open our hearts to the Holy Spirit, who brings courage, guidance, and unity. May this special time inspire us to live out our faith more fully, working together in our school, parish, and wider community to build a world rooted in love, respect, and service to others.

Mrs. Sharkey

St. Therese of Lisieux Class

Our reception children will look at the symbolism of the Holy Spirit in the Bible. They will explore the meaning of Pentecost. They will learn that the word Gospel means Good News and they will learn about the traditions of the Catholic faith such as attending mass every Sunday to celebrate. They will learn the meaning of community linked to school and parish.

St Francis of Assisi's Class

Year 1 will focus their learning this half term on the period of time between the resurrection and Pentecost. They will start with the times that Jesus appeared to his followers during this time and the message that he gave them to take forward. They will know that the mission of the Catholic Church begins with Pentecost when the early Christians opened their heart to the Holy Spirit.

St. Anne's Class

Year 2 look at various events before the Ascension. They will look at the times that Jesus appeared to the Apostles and they will study the Acts in which Peter talks to the crowd during Pentecost and the conversion of Saul. They will learn about the fruits of the Holy Spirit and how these values are evidence of the Holy Spirit within us all. They will look at how the Holy Spirit is symbolised in art as wind, fire and the dove.

*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

John 1:9

St. Joseph's Class

Year 3 will begin to look at the Early Church through the acts as well as the letters of St. Paul. They will explore the community of God through the trinity – the eternal exchange of love between the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. They will learn more about the Mother of God and how she guided the first disciples through prayer and mass. They will also reflect in the Eucharist as they prepare to make their Holy Communion in May.

St. Thomas More

Year 4 will look at the times Jesus appeared prior to the ascension. They will look at the Empty Tomb and the appearance of Jesus on the shore of Tiberius. They will learn that the first Pope was St. Peter and that Pope Leo is his successor. They will learn the Apostles Creed which summarises the beliefs of the early Christians and our own beliefs today. They will also learn that May is the month of Our Lady and will join in the Rosary and the Magnificat.



## Love God, love others, love ourselves.

### St Bernadette's Class

Year 5 will learn about Pentecost through the Acts within the Bible. They will look at Paul's letter to the Corinthians. They will learn about the sacrament of Confirmation and what echoes of this there are in the Scripture. They will use the YouCat text to support their understanding of the Holy Spirit and what it means to us as Catholics. They will revisit the gifts and the fruits of the Holy Spirit. They will explore artistic representations of the Holy Spirit in art and in the Bible.

### St. Maximillian Kolbe's Class

Year 6 will look at the appearance of Jesus to Mary Magdalen and the Apostles. They will learn through the Acts and the letter to the Corinthians, that Jesus is the last Adam. They will explore examples of saints who have borne witness to Christ – St Margaret Mary Alacoque and her devotion to the Sacred Heart, St. Teresa of Calcutta and her mercy for the poor and St Oscar Romero and his mission to speak out against oppression. They will explore the work of Christian Charities over the world that help people facing injustice and persecution.

### Dates for your diary

**23<sup>rd</sup> April**

St George's Day (wear a red accessory)

**May**

The month of Our Lady

**1<sup>st</sup> May**

St. Joseph The Worker Feast Day

**8<sup>th</sup> May**

Year 1 RE assembly and parent lunch

**15<sup>th</sup> May**

Year 3 RE assembly and lunch

**22<sup>nd</sup> May**

Year 2 sharing assembly and lunch

**24<sup>th</sup> May**

Mary Help of Christians

**31<sup>st</sup> May**

The visitation of Mary

## *This half term's prayers...*

**EYFS:** Our youngest children will learn the Hail Mary and begin to join in with the Rosary.

**Year 1 and year 2** will be practising the prayers of the Rosary

**Year 3 and 4** will be learning the Apostles Creed and Hail Holy Queen,

**Year 5 and 6** will be learning The Magnificat, Hail Holy Queen for the month of May.

All Prayers can be found on the school website.



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## This Half Term our Catholic Social Teaching focus is: **Community and Participation**



In Catholic Social Teaching, we learn about Community and Participation. This means that every person is important, and we are all meant to belong, join in, and help one another. God made us to live together, not alone. We are happiest when we feel part of a loving community.

Being part of a community can mean many things. It can be our family at home, our friends at school, our class, our neighbourhood, and our church. Each of these places helps us feel safe, loved, and valued.

When we join in and take part, it helps our mental health too. Talking, laughing, playing, and sharing our feelings with others can make us feel happier and less worried. When we feel included, we know we matter. And when we include others, we help them feel the same way.

Today, lots of communication happens online. We might message friends, play games, or share things on the internet. While this can be fun, it's also really important to spend time face to face with people. Smiling, talking, and playing together in real life helps us build strong friendships and feel truly connected.

Spending time with our family is very important. Eating meals together, talking about our day, or playing games can help us feel loved and supported. At school, we can build our community by working together, being kind, and helping each other learn.

We should always try to include everyone. If someone is sitting alone, we can invite them to join us. If someone is feeling sad, we can listen and show we care. Small acts of kindness can make a big difference. When we help others feel welcome, we make our school a happier place for everyone.

Being part of a community also means helping out. We can share, take turns, and look after each other. Everyone has something special to offer, and together we make our community stronger.

Our parish community is also very important. When we go to church, we gather as God's family. We pray together, sing together, and support one another. It reminds us that we are never alone—God is always with us, and so are our brothers and sisters in faith.

God wants us to live with love, kindness, and respect. When we take part, include others, and care for our communities, we are following Jesus' example and helping to make the world a better place.



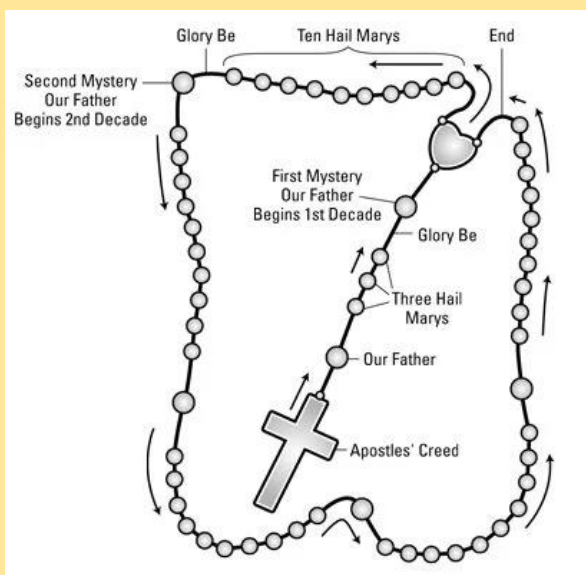


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## *Our Faith In Action*

### **May – The month of Our Lady**

May is a special and prayerful time in the Church as we honour Mary, the Mother of Jesus, often known as the Month of Our Lady. It is a time when we are invited to reflect on Mary's faith, humility, and trust in God, and to follow her example in our own lives. Throughout this month, we will be deepening our devotion to Mary in a variety of ways, including our Rosary Club, which will be led by our dedicated Mini Vinnies. The Rosary is a beautiful and meditative prayer that helps us reflect on key moments in the lives of Jesus and Mary.



### **Salve Regina Hail Holy Queen**

**Hail, holy Queen,  
Mother of Mercy  
Hail our life,  
our sweetness  
and our hope.  
To thee do we cry,  
Poor banished  
children of Eve,  
To thee do we  
send up our sighs,  
Mourning and weeping  
in this vale of tears.  
Turn then,  
most gracious advocate,  
Thine eyes of mercy  
toward us  
And after this our exile,  
Show unto us  
the blessed fruit  
of thy womb, Jesus.  
O clement,  
O loving,  
O sweet Virgin Mary.**

**Pray for us,  
O holy Mother of God,**

**That we may be  
made worthy  
of the promises  
of Christ.**



By Bl Herman the Cripple  
(1013–1054)