

St Joseph & St Theresa Catholic Primary School



Prayer & Liturgy Policy

Our Mission
"Growing together with Jesus"



Growing in the gifts, that God has given us
On our journey together
Developing as Jesus holds our hand.

"We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us"

Romans 12:6

"Pray always. He knows our needs better than we do." Pope Francis.

At St Joseph and St Theresa's, prayer and liturgy is a fundamental part of all areas of school life. Prayer and liturgy at our school helps us all to develop our relationship with God. Prayer and liturgy is rooted in our mission statement, in the Catholic Pupil Profile Virtues and Catholic Social Teaching.

Legal Requirement

All schools in England, including academies and free schools, are required by law to carry out a daily act of Collective Worship. For Catholic schools, this requirement is made explicit within the Trust Deed of the Archdiocese of Birmingham and Articles of Association. This legal document, under both statutory and canonical law states that “*religious worship is to be in accordance with the rites, practises, discipline and liturgical norms of the Catholic Church; and at all times the school is to serve as a witness to the Catholic Faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ.*”

Prayer

St Joseph and St Theresa provides a wide variety of experiences of prayer and liturgy to our children, which are appropriate to their age and capacity. The children are given the opportunity to listen to scripture, use symbols, prayer in silence, take part in meditation and reflection and to listen to liturgical music. We encourage all children to take part in prayer and liturgy fully, deeply and with confidence.

Liturgy

Liturgy at St Joseph and St Theresa is planned with reference to the Learning and Growing as people of God scheme, significant dates in the liturgical seasons, the Pupil Profile Virtues and Catholic Social Teaching. The children will be given the opportunity to listen to and respond to scripture, thinking about how this can affect their own words and actions. Liturgy may also focus on current events in the local, national and global community, and will be influenced by the curriculum and wider life of the school.

As they move through the school, the children will develop their skills of working together to prepare and lead experiences of prayer and liturgy. They will undertake this with confidence and understanding and in UKS2 will be able to evaluate the quality of prayer they have planned, identifying how to improve next time.

All prayer and liturgy will be based on the Liturgical Structure of Gather, Listen, Respond and Go Forth.

Mass

For Catholics, the Mass is central to the practise of their faith. At St Joseph and St Theresa’s the children are taught that at mass, we remember the Last Supper and that the bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Jesus.

Mass is held weekly, either at St Joseph’s Catholic Church or in our school chapel. This is either class-led, key-stage led or whole school. The class teachers and children plan and lead their Mass, taking into account any feast days, the Liturgical Year and sacramental preparations.

Parish family mass also takes place once a half term on a Saturday evening at 5pm at St Joseph’s Catholic Church. This is led by three classes, who undertake the planning and preparation of the mass, the readings and art work related to liturgical scripture of the day.

Expectations

The prayer and liturgy provided at our school is at all times Catholic and takes place on a daily basis. It is our duty as a school to ensure that all the children come to know and experience and participate in as many forms of prayer as possible.

Teachers and children will be able to provide high quality prayer and worship by having age appropriate opportunities for prayer outlined in the school timetable. Leaders will ensure that high quality prayer and liturgy is modelled and that the children are given the opportunity to plan, lead and evaluate prayer and liturgy.

The school will provide opportunities to include parents and families to be involved in the prayer life of the school, as well as members of the parish, and local Catholic community. For example, parents are invited to class masses and liturgies.

Prayer and liturgy will be regularly monitored and evaluated and leaders will ensure that it is accurately resourced.

Outlined below are the prayer and liturgy expectations of our school:

Daily:

Prayers are said during class everyday:

- Prayer at the start and end of every day
- Grace before and **after** meals are said every day
- The Ten Ten daily prayers may also be used to supplement prayer in the classroom
- Any other prayers appropriate to the liturgical season – See Liturgical season prayer sheet and Teach Us To Pray document

Weekly:

- Monday: Whole School Gospel Assembly based on the Ten Ten resources, and celebrating the achievements of the children.
- Tuesday: Key Stage 1 Assembly led by KSI staff and based on the Pupil Profile Virtues and Catholic Social Teaching
- Wednesday: Key Stage 2 Assembly led by KS2 staff and based on the Pupil Profile Virtues and Catholic Social Teaching
- Thursday: Mass for a class, key stage or whole school. This will be celebrated in the chapel, school hall or St Joseph’s Catholic church
- Friday: Worship Through Song Assembly where the children come together to sing and sign songs related to the liturgical year
- Staff Prayer: Staff prayers are led by the head teacher or another member of SLT during Monday morning briefing. Staff take it in turns to lead staff prayer during all staff meetings.
- Meditation: All classes to take part in a guided meditation weekly. This links to the gospel assembly from Monday morning. This can be led by teaching staff or by the children
- Pupil led prayer: Pupils are given the age appropriate opportunity to work with teachers to prepare experiences of Prayer and Liturgy. They should also be involved in evaluating the quality of the prayer and liturgy that they have planned.

Over the course of the academic year:

- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: This takes place half termly in the school chapel and is a time of quiet prayer, praise thanksgiving and intercession before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.
- Carol Service: A liturgical celebration led by key stage 2 of scripture readings, reflections and carols in preparation for the season of Christmas. This takes place at St Joseph’s Catholic Church and parents and the parish community are invited to attend.
- Class-led liturgies: These are planned and led by the class teachers and the children. Parents are invited to attend:

Year 1	May Procession
Year 2	The Rosary

Year 3	Lent
Year 4	Stations of the Cross
Year 5	Advent
Year 6	Pentecost

- School Led Masses: These take place half termly. Classes and their staff take it in turns to plan and lead these masses. It is an opportunity to come and celebrate Mass with the parish
- Retreats: Classes in Key Stage 2 are all given the opportunity to take part in a retreat:

Year 5	Retreat with One Life Music and the Catholic Cannock Cluster at Our Lady of Lourdes
Year 6	Retreat at Cardinal Griffin Catholic College with Cannock Catholic Cluster

- Dawn Devotions: The children and parents are invited into the school chapel prior to the beginning of the day to take part in liturgy. This will be linked to the liturgical year and may include the Rosary. This is led by the RE leader and the Mini Vinnies
- Sacramental Preparation: Children who will be receiving the sacraments will be invited to attend a Mass of Commitment in preparation for them to receive the sacraments. School led child and parent workshops take place to mark the start and end of the preparation period. Parish led parent workshops take place during the sacramental preparation period to support parents in their own sacramental role
- Reconciliation: Children in key stage 2 will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent and Advent
- One Life Music: Throughout the school year, the children will take part in the daily liturgy bursts with One Life Music, as well as the live streams
- Governor Meetings: These meetings always begin with a time of prayer

Prayers that should be known:

<u>EYFS</u>	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>
Grace Before Meals Grace After Meals Morning Prayer School Mission Prayer Prayer at the end of the day Our Father Hail Mary Sign of the Cross	Act of Faith, Hope and Love Glory Be Prayer to the Guardian Angel	Act of Faith Act of Hope Eternal Rest Prayer of St Francis of Assisi The Joyful Mysteries

<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Year 6</u>
Act of Love Act of Contrition The Angelus The Luminous Mysteries	Prayer to the Guardian Angel Prayer of St Richard of Chichester The Memorare The Sorrowful Mysteries	Regina Caeli The Magnificat The Glorious Mysteries Diocesan Prayer for Vocations	Hail Holy Queen Prayer to the Holy Spirit The Rosary

Leadership and Monitoring

Leaders and governors will promote, monitor and evaluate prayer and liturgy in the school throughout the year, according to the monitoring cycle:

- We will ensure that the Foundation of the school is honoured and that the worship policy is firmly based upon the intentions set down in the Trust Deed.
- We will ensure that the Prayer & Liturgy Policy is put into practice and monitored by the appropriate Governor.
- The link Governor is involved in monitoring prayer and liturgy. Our link Governor is Steph Hewitt
- The RE lead and headteacher has responsibility for managing prayer and liturgy on a day-to-day basis, ensuring that all legal requirements are complied with. The RE lead also keeps in touch with national developments in school worship and acts in an advisory capacity, supporting colleagues.
- Leaders in school will Monitor and evaluate prayer and liturgy.
- Monitoring is an on-going process carried out by children, class teachers and RE lead.

Inclusion

All pupils have equal opportunity to take part in prayer and liturgy and to benefit from the experience. Pupils with special educational needs are supported to join in all aspects of prayer and liturgy which is fully inclusive. The school invites and encourages the local community to join in whenever possible

Progression in Prayer and Liturgy (with child led)

Prayers that children should participate in & have knowledge of:	Class led liturgy (whole school)	Mass Planning and participation	Planning child-led prayer and liturgy	Taking part in class and child-led prayer and liturgy	Responding to class and child-led prayer and liturgy	Ownership of prayer and liturgy class books
EYFS: Nursery/Reception						
Morning Prayer End of the Day Prayer School mission prayer Sign of the Cross As above and: Grace before meals Grace after meals Our Father Hail Mary	N/A	Opportunities throughout the year for children to meet Father Linh. Children are taught a range of songs linked to our prayer & liturgy and RE sessions.	Our special helper/VIP of the day leads our morning prayer. As the year progresses, children become more confident in reciting our class prayers. Children may choose a favourite learnt hymn to sing during prayer & liturgy.	Children will begin to correctly make the sign of the cross. They will begin to understand the structure of P&L sessions. Children will join in with known prayers and listen to the words of prayers they don't know. A child may lead prayer during P&L.	Children re-enact events and experiences within the role play areas. Bible stories are shared regularly. Wild worship book is used to plan prayer during forest school sessions.	We complete our prayer & liturgy and class books with the children. We add photographs, their own thoughts, ideas and reflections. We use our nursery floor book to link curriculum experiences in prayer.
KSI: Year 1/Year 2						
As above and: Act of Faith, Hope & Love Glory Be Prayer to the Guardian Angel As above and: Act of Faith Act of Hope Eternal Rest Prayer of St Francis of Assisi The Joyful Mysteries	May Procession Rosary Liturgy Christmas Nativity	Join in with most songs confidently. Begin to join in with Mass responses independently. To listen to simple readings attentively and be able to ask and answer questions. To look prayerful and reverent at times of prayer. To know when to make the sign of peace in Mass. Complete KSI mass reflection sheet	To know to ring the bell to start prayer & liturgy. To lead known prayers independently. To be able to choose an appropriate prayer for prayer & liturgy.	To make the sign of the cross accurately. To begin to become familiar with the P&L structure modelled by the teacher. To join in with known prayers confidently. Children to think of their own prayers and to share during prayer & liturgy.	For children to be able to ask and answer questions about the scripture and prayers heard in P&L. To begin to discuss how the P&L affects other areas of their lives with the support of an adult.	Children's ideas and reflections to be noted down during prayer & liturgy to be added to P&L book. Photographs to be taken and added to books.
LKS2: Year 3/Year 4						
As above and: The Act of Love The Act of Contrition The Confiteor (I confess to Almighty God...) The Angelus The Luminous Mysteries As above and:	Lent Liturgy (Link to Reconciliation) Stations of the Cross	Join in confidently with the songs and all mass responses, with the support of the mass card or PPT presentation. Children listen to the readings and the Gospel and can answer questions about what we can learn from them and how it can	Plan prayer and liturgy in a small group with support of the teacher. Use the Liturgy planner to ensure the four parts are included. Use the Catholic Children's Prayer book as well as the class prayers to choose appropriate prayers for their class. They can choose symbols appropriate to	Children are deeply engaged in prayer and liturgy and are beginning to understand that you can pray in a variety of ways e.g. in silence, by listening to scripture, focussing on music etc.	The children are beginning to independently make connections with their prayer and how it affects other areas of their school/home life e.g. when praying about forgiveness during Lent, they demonstrate that they can do this in their own life. The children can think about how what they hear in scripture and	With teacher/TA support, children write notes to gather the thoughts and responses after the prayer session

