



St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

ALL SAINTS

(1st 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)

(2nd 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, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

(26th November)

ADVENT

(Begins 3rd 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

(8th 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

(25th December)

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

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

(31st December)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term we will be studying the three themes of Domestic Church (Family), Baptism and Confirmation (Belonging) and Advent and Christmas (Loving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics. The children will also spend a week studying Judaism. The children in Early Years will be following the new RE curriculum – To Know You More Clearly which will be rolled out to other year groups in due course.

DOMESTIC CHURCH - FAMILY

(4th September 2023 – 29th September 2023)

Year 1	FAMILIES - God's love and care for every family
Year 2	BEGINNINGS - God is present in every beginning
Year 3	HOMES - God's vision for every family
Year 4	PEOPLE - The family of God in Scripture
Year 5	OURSELVES - Created in the image and likeness of God
Year 6	LOVING - God who never stops loving

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Make a collage using family photographs of all the significant family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. who show God's love.

Write underneath it
"We show God's love to one another."

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - BELONGING

(2nd October 2023 – 3rd November 2023)

Year 1	BELONGING - Baptism: an invitation to belong to God's family
Year 2	SIGNS AND SYMBOLS - Signs and symbols in Baptism
Year 3	PROMISES - Promises made at Baptism
Year 4	CALLED - Confirmation: a call to witness
Year 5	LIFE CHOICES - Marriage, commitment and service
Year 6	VOCATION AND COMMITMENT - The vocation of priesthood and religious life

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism and/or Confirmation about their memories of this celebration.

JUDAISM *(6th November 2023 – 17th November 2023)*

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

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - LOVING

(Insert dates)

Year 1	WAITING - Advent: a time to look forward to Christmas
Year 2	PREPARATIONS - Advent: preparing to celebrate Christmas
Year 3	VISITORS - waiting for the coming of Jesus
Year 4	GIFT - God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus
Year 5	HOPE - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus, the promised one
Year 6	EXPECTATIONS - Jesus born to show God to the world

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Discuss with the children 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 Missio websites to get a religious Advent calendar.

EARLY YEARS (NEW RED – TO KNOW YOU MORE CLEARLY)

4th September 2023 – 20th October 2023 – Creation and Covenant – The Christian belief that God made each one of us and that God made the Wonderful World
30th October 2023 – 19th December 2023 – Prophecy and Promise – The fulfilment of God's promise in a messiah, Jesus Christ. The Advent season and the story of the nativity of Jesus.

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk about who is in your family tree

Talk with children how your family 'waits' for Jesus.