

St Mary's RC Primary School, Middleton



Prayer and Liturgy / Collective Worship Policy

Reviewed July 2023

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Vision Statement:

**Nurturing growth, igniting dreams,
building futures, guided by God.**

Our Pupil Voice School Council, in conjunction with staff, parents and governors created our Vision Statement.

Mission Statement:

*As the family of St. Mary's, learning and growing in God's love, joyfully, we **pray, play and respect all**, changing our world forever.*

Policy for Collective Worship / Prayer & Liturgy

Introduction:

Prayer & Liturgy at St Mary's RC Primary School is the coming together of children and staff for the purpose of worshipping, praising, thanking, celebrating and deepening our relationship with God.

We believe that Christian worship in a Catholic school is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our loving response, in word and action to God's invitation to enter into relationship, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the witness of the Holy Spirit.

The school is a Catholic foundation and therefore, while respecting diversity of belief and commitment, it reflects and follows the traditions of the Church and has Christ at its heart. The worship includes all those who seek to explore and deepen their spiritual beliefs, enabling all members of the community to reflect their shared understanding.

All children and staff are involved and given an opportunity to respond in an act of worship each day. This includes silent spaces, spontaneous prayer, singing and more standard prayer. It gives everyone an opportunity to contemplate the mystery of God, the wonder of life, and to share our common aims and demonstrate our community spirit. On these occasions, children are given opportunities to lead, participate and respond in a variety of ways.

Terminology:

Collective Worship (CW) is a term used in legislation; all schools are expected to provide Collective Worship. In Catholic Education, we are starting to use the term "Prayer and Liturgy" to coincide with changes to the RECD. Throughout this document, Prayer and Liturgy will be used as a term, but it is expected that this terminology may not be embedded by children until 2026, when the RECD changes come in to force.

Legal Requirements:

We acknowledge the legal requirement that there must be a daily act of worship for all pupils¹. This can take place at any time during the school day and can be either a single act of worship for all pupils, or separate acts of worship in Key Stages or classes. We understand that simply holding an assembly that includes a prayer, said either by the teacher or everyone present, does not fulfil this requirement. We also acknowledge that Prayer & Liturgy and assembly are distinct activities.

The act of worship is not designated curriculum time and will not be subsumed under any part of the curriculum, including Religious Education. As a rule, Prayer & Liturgy will take place on the school premises. However, the Governing Body has the discretion to allow acts of worship to be held elsewhere, for example for whole school Masses to take place in Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, Langley, as part of our commitment to celebrate special occasions and to live out our Mission Statement by sustaining our home-school-parish links. In this school, as with any Voluntary Aided School, responsibility for arranging Prayer & Liturgy rests with the Governing Body after consultation with the Headteacher.

At St Mary's, we have a designated Prayer and Liturgy Lead, Miss Emma Thomas, whose responsibility it is to coordinate all aspects of Prayer and Liturgy throughout school life. She works closely with Mr Michael McGrail, Religious Education Lead, to ensure the spiritual development of children is continuous and deepens as children grow. From October 2023, Miss Thomas is co-leading Religious Education with Mr McGrail. Since January 2024, Miss Thomas has sole responsibility for Religious Education, Collective Worship and Catholic Life and Mission across school due to long term absence and is being supported by SLT and the Headteacher.

¹ Parents have a right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. However, given the importance of Prayer & Liturgy in a Catholic school, parents and prospective parents need to be made aware of the fact that it can never be confined to 'timetabled slots' but may take place in a variety of contexts other than those which are specifically structured.

The Place of Prayer & Liturgy in the Life of our School:

We endorse the belief that Prayer & Liturgy takes into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in it:

- ⊕ Those who form part of the worshipping community in church;
- ⊕ Those for whom school may be their first and only experience of church;
- ⊕ Those from other Christian traditions, or none;
- ⊕ Those from other faith backgrounds;
- ⊕ It will be an educational activity or experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain.

We will continue to foster and deepen the children's personal relationship with God our Father daily in prayer. We do this by helping them become aware of God's presence in their lives and of His love for them by leading them to respond to Him in a manner suited to their age. This may be in one of the following ways:

- ⊕ Prayer of silence;
- ⊕ Spontaneous prayer;
- ⊕ Praying through gesture or action;
- ⊕ Formal prayer;
- ⊕ Prayer through song, for example Taizé chanting or hymns.

Worship in this school is more than just a legal requirement. It is an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic tradition.

The Aims of Prayer & Liturgy:

We believe that Prayer & Liturgy in our school aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff:

- ⊕ To promote and develop an appreciation of more active participation in prayer, liturgy and worship, relevant to the age and experience of each child;
- ⊕ To contemplate something of the mystery of God;
- ⊕ To consider spiritual and moral issues, in order to explore their own beliefs;
- ⊕ To respond to and celebrate life;
- ⊕ To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit;
- ⊕ To develop and sustain a common ethos and shared values;
- ⊕ To grow in liturgical understanding and development;
- ⊕ To reinforce prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition;
- ⊕ To take time out to 'wonder at', 'to come to terms with' and 'to give worth to'.
- ⊕ To develop strong links with our parish community;
- ⊕ To live out our school's Mission Statement and Vision Statement.

Principles:

All acts of Worship in this school will:

- ⊕ Celebrate the presence of God in our life and school community;
- ⊕ Be a high quality activity, fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic character;
- ⊕ Support learners' spiritual development;
- ⊕ Give children positive liturgical experiences appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds, in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church.

In order to do this, celebrations will:

- ⊕ Be kept small wherever possible or appropriate, to help to personalise the experience;
- ⊕ Be short and appropriately paced (approximately one minute per year of a child's life should be spent on Prayer & Liturgy – as a minimum)
- ⊕ Be simple, including a range of experiences offered in a variety of groupings and in a variety of settings;
- ⊕ Seek to involve staff and pupils at all times, in preparation and in leadership.

Organisation

In order to achieve the above, Prayer & Liturgy is organised as follows:

EYFS: Daily class prayer and worship, concentrating on the weekly focus of the school, following the liturgical calendar (see Appendix A). Where appropriate, the Wednesday Word focus for the week is used in Prayer & Liturgy sessions. Following February half term, Reception are invited to participate in cross-phase worship with KS1. Following May half term, Reception are invited to participate in Mass to celebrate the end of the year. Reception and Nursery also visit church at appropriate times of the year such as Christmas and to coincide with Religious Education lessons.

Year One: Daily class prayer and worship, concentrating on the weekly focus of school, following the liturgical calendar. Following Christmas, Year One are invited to participate in worship with Year Two. This is a change this year to coincide with the introduction of Continuous Provision in Year One from September. Year One are also invited to Mass at particular points of the year. They also participate in Singing Worship Assemblies with Year Two.

Y2 and KS2:

Monday: Class-based worship - morning prayer, Grace before/after meals, evening prayer

Tuesday: Class-based worship - morning prayer, Grace before/after meals, evening prayer

Wednesday: Class-based worship - morning prayer, Grace before/after meals, evening prayer

Thursday: Singing Worship Assembly and planning session for child-led worship on Friday; KS1 rewards assembly

Friday: Class-based worship based on the following Sunday's Gospel, led by children.

KS2 rewards assembly also takes place on a Friday, when we celebrate children's successes and pray together as key stages. Pupil-led worships take place at 8:35 for all classes except two where there are timetable restrictions. This Assembly changes to liturgical worship assemblies when seen appropriate throughout the liturgical year, for example Christmas, Candlemas, specific feast days, Easter.

Throughout the school, a group of children in each class takes responsibility for one Act Prayer & Liturgy each week, in order to develop their liturgical understanding and development. Their Class Teacher and the Prayer & Liturgy Lead will aid them in their planning. This child-led worship is adapted for each age group, with EYFS being mostly planned and led by staff with one or two choices made by the children for gather / welcome and response / witness, up to UKS2 where children use Lectio Divina within their worships in the planning and leading stages independently, with minimal support from staff. Each class is also responsible for writing their

own class prayer, which is said at the start of every day. The exception to this is EYFS, where Nursery use a standard morning prayer (Father in Heaven) and Reception use the Hail Mary with Mary being patron saint of our school. Other classes create a class prayer to use and this is to give ownership to prayer to the children.

In EYFS, teachers use the focus word of the week from Wednesday Word to help support their worship and also use toys / own experiences to allow the children to understand more of the Word of God. In Reception, this is built on with more scripture used throughout the year. KS1 and KS2 use the Gospel from the week coming, using Wednesday Word as a starting point. In UKS2, from Summer Term, children are encouraged to produce thematic worships using their own ideas rather than using the Wednesday Word every week if they feel the need to - this is currently in development.

Both children and staff will lead Prayer & Liturgy in each class, with the amount led by children adapted for different phases. This worship follows the pattern of the liturgical year. Each class can follow the school theme for that week, however if there is a topical news event they have the freedom to utilise informal prayer times to recognise / celebrate as appropriate. At the beginning of each year, the RE team gives out the themes for Prayer & Liturgy. The theme is to be updated weekly and communicated to staff during the planning time put aside for weekly worship (Thursday mornings). The RE Lead (Prayer & Liturgy) will be responsible for the effective communication of the topics and resources available. Classes will then be free to deliver the theme as they wish, although standard resources are made available

Pupil Voice Teams

At St Mary's, we have many different pupil groups that are open to children across KS2. These include: GIFT Team, Laudato Si, Young Interpreters, Science Ambassadors, School Council, High-Fiver Mental Health Ambassadors and Mini Vinnies. These are all very popular with our KS2 children and are seen as a group to be proud of. Each one is led by an adult.

GIFT Team

Our GIFT Team are appointed each year from Year 6. They formally apply and are interviewed by the Headteacher and Governors. Due to the high status and popularity of this role, we have incorporated aspects of Catholic Social Teaching by establishing various groups into our school life. To prepare them for the GIFT team, two children in each class are also appointed Prayer Leaders on a weekly basis and it is their responsibility to help plan and lead Friday worships in their classes. Children are very keen to be Prayer Leaders in their classes and teachers do not limit this appointment to Christians. We also have a Laudato Si group, whose responsibility it is to pass on how we can be stewards of God's creation. The GIFT team also lead weekly prayer sessions in the library before school and in the outdoor classroom at lunchtimes. The prayer sessions have been reviewed and adapted to be more enjoyable and promote the idea that prayer and a relationship with God can be creative and fun. They are also responsible for producing a podcast each week based on the Wednesday Word which is uploaded to our school website. Our new prayer garden walk will also be used by the GIFT team in the new year.

Participation in the Wider Community:

Following on from making their First Holy Communion, our children are encouraged to take an active part in the local parish community by serving on the altar, participating in the Chapel Choir and participating in weekend Masses. Our Chapel Choir sing once a month in Our Lady of the Assumption. Our pupil groups have been responsible for fundraising in the local and wider community, raising money for charities such as CAFOD, the Poppy Appeal, Springhill Hospice, Mary's Meals, St Joseph's Penny, CARITAS, Middleton Foodbank, Lighthouse Project, Rotary Club shoebox campaign. We also have awareness days during which children learn about issues affecting the local community. We recently had a visit from Andy Burnham, during which the children were able to explain their purpose and what they wanted the local community to be like. Our Laudato Si team have also made links with local community schools and have been embarking on litter picks across Langley. Our choir have also been entertaining local care homes and our Mini Vinnies have spent time talking to the elderly. We consider our school to be a beacon for change. The local community have come together recently with our school to fundraise for a new crucifix for the front of our school. Children also prepare cards for church and the local mosque at particular times of the year such as Eid, Easter, Christmas. School produces art canvases of a high quality for our local parish church depicting different parts of the Bible.

.Planning:

Collective Worship / Prayer & Liturgy in this school is planned separately from the Religious Education topics studied and revolves around the liturgical year. This is to provide the children with different experiences in their R.E. lessons as compared to Prayer & Liturgy time. This also allows for personalisation from class to class. This also allows children to utilise and be exposed to more scripture in order to help justify opinions in discussions in RE lessons and their own actions away from the classroom. The use of Lectio Divina is allowing children to be more self reflective in periods of silence and children enjoy the calm, reflective atmosphere that our chosen worship methods are creating.

A liturgical structure for Prayer & Liturgy:

We follow a four-part structure to Prayer & Liturgy, which also incorporates Lectio Divina:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Welcome (Gather) | How we come together, the setting, the environment |
| Lectio Divina (Word) | The Word of God is proclaimed multiple times and reflected on in an age-appropriate way. Children are encouraged to reflect as a reader, writer and believer when listening to pieces of scripture. |
| Chat & Catch (Responding to the Word) | The response to the Word leads into a time of prayerful reflection which may be accompanied by a symbolic action. |
| Mission (Going Forth) | Giving the children something to hold on to from the experience of the liturgy that they can take into their daily lives |

School Masses:

Masses will take place throughout the school year at Our Lady of the Assumption RC Church, Middleton. These Masses will be attended by a variety of groups, phases or by the whole school community. Governors and members of the wider community are invited through invitation in the parish newsletter. The liturgy will follow the readings of the day unless the Mass is for a specific theme or purpose for example, Leaver's Mass for Year 6. The children will be involved in reading, acting out, singing and praying throughout the Mass. The GIFT team will be responsible to write bidding prayers on some occasions. The children will also be instrumental in choosing which hymns to sing. Children will be encouraged to participate fully in Mass, with Mass settings provided in booklets. More increasingly, our children are learning to sing Mass parts including the Sanctus, the Lord's Prayer, the Gospel Acclamation and the Gloria.

Display:

Each classroom has focal points for both Religious Education and Prayer & Liturgy. These may be the same area and should contain a candle, Rosary beads, a picture of Pope Francis, photographs of children and an area for children to pray for each other. Children in every class should have a space in which to contemplate, reflect and pray within their classroom. They should be given opportunities in which to write prayers. This area is to be decorated with coloured cloth based on the liturgical colour of the season. Class teachers are free to add to this as they deem fit for parts of the year, for example Nativity scenes at Christmas.

Each classroom should have a crucifix displayed (in form of an El Salvador-style crucifix or a more standard crucifix) in order to provide a focus for all learning and to uphold our Catholic values within everything we do in school.

Staff and Governor Meetings:

Every staff meeting is to start with an appropriate prayer, whether silence, spontaneous or formal prayer. Each INSET is to start with a reflection and prayer using the Lectio Divina model. Governor meetings also start with prayers.

Staff are also encouraged to participate in a monthly reflection before school, led by a member of SLT or the RE leads. During Advent and Lent, these are to take place weekly on Friday mornings and led by members of staff as appropriate.

Class Saints:

Each class across the school to have a devotion to a class saint, chosen by the class teacher. Children are to find out information about the Class Saint and devote a day each year to their saint. This day could be on the saint's feast day. A party for the saint is to be organised for each class alongside the day off timetable to reflect on the saint. Current class saints are:

Nursery – St Mary

Reception – St Mary - we repeat this as not all our Reception children attended our Nursery.

1OD – St Mother Teresa

1LF – St Nicholas

2D – St Francis of Assisi

2W – St Clare

3B – St Jude

3R – St Bernadette

4M – St Patrick

4GB – St George

5T – St Cecelia

5H – St Maximilian

6B – St Josephine Bakhita

6L – St David

Standardised formal prayers should also be visible in classes from Y1 upwards. EYFS should have the prayers written in **bold** visible in the classroom:

- ✚ **The school prayer (Almighty God)**
- ✚ **The Lord's Prayer**
- ✚ **The Hail Mary**
- ✚ The Glory Be
- ✚ Y3 – the Act of Contrition
- ✚ Grace Before Meals
- ✚ Grace After Meals
- ✚ End of the day prayer (Father in Heaven)
- ✚ **The class prayer, created by children on transition day.**
- ✚ **The diocesan prayer, Stay with us Lord, on our journey.**
- ✚ **Y6 also pray the Angelus once a day at 12:00.**

Daily Prayer:

The prayers above form part of the school's day on a daily basis, regardless if coming together for an assembly or an Act of Collective Worship. As a minimum, every class says the following prayers, every day:

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| Registration: | The class prayer or an age appropriate prayer. |
| Before lunch: | Grace Before Meals |
| After lunch: | Grace After Meals |
| End of the day: | Father in Heaven |

Themes for Prayer & Liturgy:

Themes for Prayer & Liturgy run alongside the liturgical calendar. Occasionally, Life to the Full (RSHE Curriculum) provides other prayers that are used to enhance the curriculum further. Where appropriate, we come together to reflect as a school on topical events such as Queen Elizabeth's passing, Remembrance Day and international events.

- **Other celebrations / Masses (this list is not exhaustive and is subject to change)**
- **September**
 - o Induction of the Y6 GIFT team – whole school Mass
 - o House Saint Days – St Mother Theresa, St Father Damien of Molokai, St Bernadette, St Maximilian Kolbe – these are spread across the year to coincide with saint’s feast days.
 - o St Vincent de Paul
- **October**
 - o KS2 children are taught the appropriate prayers connected to the Rosary: The Angelus, Glory Be.
 - o Daily morning Rosary club – break times in the outdoor classroom or library, weather dependent
- **November**
 - o All Saints / All Souls – KS2 Mass
 - o Remembrance Service – whole school service in courtyard, led by GIFT team.
- **December**
 - o Advent services depending upon the amount of weeks in Autumn 2. These are held as phase assemblies.
- **Christmas**
 - o Each year, children from every class perform and retell the story of the Nativity in a variety of ways:
 - o **Nursery:** Nativity play
 - o **Reception:** Nativity play
 - o **KS1:** Christmas Carol service;
 - o **KS2:** Christmas Carol Service;
 - o Whole school Mass to mark Christmas
 - o The GIFT team lead a Nativity Tableau in a similar form to Stations of the Cross but for the Nativity story. They also use opportunities to flashmob school in role to depict the Nativity.
 - o Upper KS2 – an afternoon reflection on the Christmas story and work done during Advent
 - o The Magi complete a visit to each classroom throughout Advent and Christmastide

- **January**
 - o The Epiphany – Mass or service in school
 - o Candlemas

- **February**
 - o St Valentine

- **March (depending when Easter falls)**
 - o Ash Wednesday – if in term time, school participate in a service to receive ashes led by Father Tadgh. If not in term time, parents are encouraged to take their children to Our Lady’s

- **Holy Week / Easter**
 - o Holy Week worships including GIFT team depiction of Last Supper and Taize workshops
 - o Whole school Mass to mark Easter
 - o Stations of the Cross services, class-based, year-group based and phase-based, both pupil and staff-led;
 - o Whole school journey to the cross including leaving pebbles in our forest school worship area
 - o Stations of the Resurrection services (as above)

Summer

- o **May:** Crowning of Mary, Rosary work across school
- o **Ascension Thursday** – KS2 Mass
- o **Sts Peter and Paul:** Y2 – 6 Mass
- o **Year 3:** First Holy Communion celebrations
- o **Year 5:** Opera in conjunction with the Royal Opera House
- o **Year 6:** End of year production (Manchester Arts) and Leavers’ Service
- o **Leavers’ Mass at end of year**

We encourage parents to take their children to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent. Class Masses also take place for Key Stage Two classes throughout the year.

Sacraments of Initiation

Children in Year Three who are baptised are invited to participate in the parish-wide Sacramental Programme, which involves the making of their first Holy Communion and Reconciliation. The school supports the parish catechesis in a variety of ways and the school celebrates the children's achievements with celebratory Mass and breakfast, in school following their First Holy Communion. Older children who, for whatever reason, did not make their Holy Communion in Year Three are still able to do so upon request.

Recording

Prayer & Liturgy is recorded:

- 🕊 On a liturgy planner to keep note of themes, leaders, learner groupings and resources. Copies of these plans are kept inside phase floor books specifically for Prayer & Liturgy for each phase.
- 🕊 Through displays, a portfolio of examples, collections of learners' contributions, prayers, reflections, photographs, videos etc.
- 🕊 Videos are kept secure via the use of Seesaw. QR codes are placed in the floor books where appropriate.
- 🕊 Some videos are also uploaded to our private You Tube channel, with a link provided on our website.

Monitoring and Evaluation

At least once a year, the school's provision of worship will be evaluated to consider whether it meets the needs of all learners and whether learners are making progress in acquiring skills and abilities in organising and leading worship. This will be done through observation of Prayer & Liturgy as the Headteacher and Religious Education Leads see fit. In addition, Pupil Voice will be carried out on a termly basis with groups of children from across all classes. The Religious Education Leads will be involved in the monitoring, assessment and evaluation of RE to establish whether skills developed in RE and Prayer & Liturgy are transferring across and leading to the spiritual development of all children.

Resources

Resources are regularly audited by the RE Leads. Each classroom has a box of basic resources (coloured cloths, Rosary beads, bible, prayer book and candle), but class teachers are able to add to this as they see fit. Each class also has a picture frame in which to place an icon or appropriate picture to accompany the weekly worship. Every class also has a picture of Pope Francis, Bishop John Arnold and his diocesan prayer, the Mission Statement, the Mission Statement hoop and the Vision Statement is displayed on their class candle.

Right of Withdrawal

We expect all children to attend mass and assembly. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excluded from attending religious worship and alternative arrangements will be made for the supervision of the child during assembly time. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act. The Headteacher will keep a record of any children who is withdrawn from Collective Worship.

Policy Monitoring and Review

This policy is monitored by the RE Leads and is evaluated and reviewed by the whole school staff and governors every two years. The Chair of Governors, Mrs Margaret Hyde, will play an integral part in this, alongside the Parish Priest, Cannon Tadgh. The Governors concerned liaise with the Headteacher and RE Leads before reporting to the Full Governing Board on Religious Education and Collective Worship / Prayer & Liturgy.

Date of adoption by Governing Body July 2023, adaptations made in November 2023 and adopted December 2023.

Renewal Date July 2024

Appendix 1

The Role of Leader for Collective Worship / Prayer & Liturgy

- ⊕ Formulating a written policy for Collective Worship (Prayer and Liturgy)
- ⊕ Ensuring that there is a development plan for Prayer & Liturgy which may at times form part of the school development plan
- ⊕ Ensuring that Prayer & Liturgy is appropriate to the age, aptitudes and family backgrounds of learners
- ⊕ Ensuring that Prayer & Liturgy takes account of the religious and educational needs of all who share in it and is rooted in the principles of the 'Directory on Children's Masses'
- ⊕ Assisting the Governors, Religious Education Lead and Headteacher to carry out their legal responsibilities with regard to Prayer & Liturgy / Collective Worship

Planning, recording, monitoring and evaluating

- ⊕ Maintaining and developing effective procedures and documentation
- ⊕ Observing, on occasions, an Act of Prayer & Liturgy
- ⊕ Informing the Headteacher and Governors of standards and developments in Prayer & Liturgy

Communication

- ⊕ Communicating to members of the school community the significance and content of Acts of Prayer & Liturgy
- ⊕ Reporting to and consulting with the governors and Headteacher regarding matters of concern and development
- ⊕ Acting as consultant to colleagues
- ⊕ Encouraging positive attitudes towards Prayer & Liturgy
- ⊕ Informing newly appointed colleagues of school policy regarding Prayer & Liturgy Communicating with parents, governors and the parish community
- ⊕ Liaison with the Parish Priest
- ⊕ Liaison with Salford Diocese where appropriate to do so.

Professional development/ongoing formation

- ④ Leading and organising in-service training and ongoing formation for Prayer & Liturgy
- ④ Attending appropriate in-service courses and reporting back
- ④ Keeping up-to-date by personal reading

Resources

- ④ Evaluating existing resources
- ④ Developing the resources available for Prayer & Liturgy including visual aids, artefacts, drapes, music, visitors, leaders, new and relevant books, posters etc
- ④ Budgeting effectively

Appendix 2 - School Statement on Prayer & Liturgy

It is the responsibility of every Catholic school to provide for all its members a vital experience of liturgy, worship and prayer which:

- ✚ names and celebrates God present and active in authentic human experience
- ✚ is educative
- ✚ is within our Catholic tradition

The purpose of these experiences is:

- ✚ to raise our mind and heart to God
- ✚ to develop the school as a community of faith
- ✚ to assist learners in developing their relationship with God, creation and the community of the Church
- ✚ to witness to the community and the wider world

Prayer & Liturgy in our schools will be:

- ✚ properly planned
- ✚ adequately resourced
- ✚ recorded
- ✚ monitored
- ✚ evaluated

in order to ensure that the Prayer & Liturgy experienced within the school is a relevant, meaningful and positive contribution to the religious, spiritual and moral development of all members of the community.

Review Date: July 2024

St Mary's Prayer Development Plan, 2023-24

| Phase | Objectives outlined in the Religious Education Curriculum Directory | What this looks like at St. Mary's R.C. Primary School |
|---|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">3-5 (EYFS)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊕ Experience and recognise prayer is talking and listening to God ⊕ Experience praying with others as a celebration ⊕ To be able to join in simple prayers and hymns | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊕ Learn how to make the Sign of the Cross, close eyes, join hands and can explain the significance of these actions. ⊕ Prayers at different points of the day eg morning, lunch, end of day ⊕ Using "Come and Join The Circle" by B. Farrell as a start to worships. ⊕ Sit quietly and listen to relaxing music to enable pupils the opportunity to listen to God. ⊕ Children know the Vision Statement ⊕ Children know the Mission Statement ⊕ Learn the Hail Mary in BSL, song and prayer form ⊕ Collective worship as class, phase and later in the year cross phase. ⊕ Attend Mass – at least once per term |
| <p style="text-align: center;">5-7 (KS1)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊕ Signs and symbols used by the Church ⊕ Prayers used at the Eucharist ⊕ Prayers of the Mass ⊕ Prayers from scripture and tradition Jesus prayer to his Father ⊕ Ways in which people pray in Church | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊕ As above, PLUS: ⊕ Attend Key Stage Mass at least once in the year (Y1) ⊕ Attend Mass with KS2 at least twice more in the year (Y2) ⊕ "Let us pray for" displays in class with children's photographs. ⊕ Children begin to write their own prayers and intercessions and are encouraged to pray at the class altar. Some responses being recorded in the floorbook ⊕ Teach pupils the Our Father, Glory Be and introducing the Rosary ⊕ Rosary packs to be sent home in May and October with a reflection book for family prayer; ⊕ Nativity / Christmas packs to be sent home in December similar to Rosary packs ⊕ Mass settings – Alleluia and Gloria (Peruvian) "and with Your Spirit" response ⊕ Pupils are exposed to Mass settings and are encouraged to begin to join in with said responses. ⊕ Pupils are taught non-verbal actions of Mass such as genuflection, blessing with Holy Water, action at the Gospel acclamation "Peace in my mind, peace on my lips, peace in my heart". ⊕ Children make use of the new prayer garden, the library during morning worship, the peace pole at breaks and lunch and opportunities to write in the class floorbook for prayer. ⊕ Stations of the Cross and Stations of the Resurrection are reflected and prayed upon, but at a lower level than KS2. |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| <p>7-9 (LKS2)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊕ Signs and symbols and their significance in Liturgy ⊕ Prayer in the life of Jesus ⊕ The prayer Jesus taught his friends (Our Father) and its significance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊕ As above, PLUS: ⊕ Masses as outlined above for feastdays and special occasions. Y6 lead much of the Mass. Children are integral in the choice for hymns for Mass. ⊕ A variety of hymns are practised from different traditions and cultures including but not limited to Taize prayer, African chants, traditional hymns, more modern hymns, praise and worship songs by Hillsong and songs written by the Music Lead. |
| <p>9-11 (UKS2)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊕ A variety of prayer and prayer forms, formal and informal used for personal and community prayer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊕ The GIFT team, Laudato Si team, Mini Vinnies, Young Interpreters and High Fivers are recruited from across KS2 to participate in the charitable work of the school. ⊕ The GIFT team actively plan, lead and participate in prayer sessions including but not limited to church; ⊕ Traditional prayers directly associated with the Sacraments are taught, for example the Act of Contrition in Y3 ⊕ Mass settings including Sanctus, Lamb of God, Eucharistic Prayer responses. ⊕ Lectio Divina is encouraged throughout RE and Prayer & Liturgy sessions ⊕ Big Questions are reflected upon during prayer and in RE teaching. ⊕ Children in UKS2 lead their own Stations of the Cross. Children in LKS2 pray the Stations of the Cross led by their teacher. ⊕ Children in UKS2 lead their own Stations of the Resurrection. Children in LKS2 pray the Stations of the Resurrection led by their teacher. ⊕ How to pray according to the correct point in the Liturgical year, eg Lenten Promises, Holy Souls ⊕ Different types of prayer – asking, thanking, praising, saying sorry, listening to God through silent reflection but also in actions. |

Standard Prayers across the school, said every day

| <u>Morning Prayer</u> | <u>Grace Before Meals</u> | <u>Grace After Meals</u> | <u>Evening Prayer</u> |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Each class from Y1 upwards creates a class prayer to use every morning.</p> <p>Nursery – Father in Heaven Reception – Hail Mary</p> | <p>Bless us O Lord, as we sit together. Bless the food we eat today. Bless the hands that make the food. Bless us O Lord, Amen</p> | <p>Thank you God for the food we have eaten, Thank you God for all our friends, Thank you God for everything, Thank you God, Amen.</p> | <p>O my God, I've come to say Thank you for your love today. Thank you for my family and all the friends you give to me. Guard me in the dark of night, And in the morning send your light. Amen</p> |

Prayers taught per phase

| EYFS | KS1 | LKS2 | UKS2 |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>Sign of the cross Morning Prayer Grace Before Meals Grace After Meals End of day Hail Mary</p> | <p>Sign of the cross Morning Prayer – a class prayer Grace Before Meals Grace After Meals End of day Hail Mary A prayer to start RE lessons Diocesan Prayer School prayer Our Father Litany of saints (pray for us) Common Mass responses (readings)</p> | <p>Sign of the cross Morning Prayer – a class prayer Grace Before Meals Grace After Meals End of day Hail Mary A prayer to start RE lessons Our Father Litany of saints (pray for us) Diocesan Prayer School prayer Glory Be Act of contrition Common mass responses for Eucharist Gloria (sung) Sanctus (sung) Gospel acclamations (sung)</p> | <p>Sign of the cross Morning Prayer – a class prayer Grace Before Meals Grace After Meals End of day Hail Mary A prayer to start RE lessons Our Father Litany of saints (pray for us) Diocesan Prayer School Prayer Glory Be Act of contrition Common mass responses for Eucharist Gloria (sung) Sanctus (sung) Gospel acclamations (sung) Angelus (Y6 – October, Y5 – May) Eternal Rest Taize prayers in different languages</p> |

Singing Worship Assembly 2023-24 - Subject to alterations

Autumn 1

| KS1 | KS2 |
|--|--|
| Our God is a Great Big God Here I am to worship 10,000 Reasons Alleluia Give Thanks Walk In The Light Peruvian Gloria Hail Mary (BSL version) As I kneel before you | Our God is a Great Big God Here I am to worship 10,000 Reasons Alleluia Give Thanks Walk In The Light Peruvian Gloria Hail Mary (BSL) As I kneel before you Take Me Lord, Use My Life All Over The World Bread of Life Where are you bound, Mary? Holy Virgin By God's Decree Ubi Caritas (Taize) |

Autumn 2

| KS1 | KS2 |
|--|--|
| If I Were A Butterfly Stay Awake Be Ready (Gospel acclamation) Little Donkey Angel Gabriel Starry Night Ring Out The Bells Come and Worship Him Maranatha Come Lord Jesus | Abide With Me If I Were A Butterfly Stay Awake Be Ready (Gospel Acclamation) Come and Worship Him Love Shone Down Away in a Manger Silent Night Angel Gabriel Little Donkey Starry Night Taize chants including Wait for the Lord, Bless the Lord My Soul, Adoramus Te Domine O Little Town of Bethlehem Cranbrook (While Shepherds Watched) Maranatha Come Lord Jesus |

Spring 1

| KS1 | KS2 |
|---|---|
| We Three Kings Blessed are You, Lord Give Me Oil In My Lamp Shine Jesus Shine Sing Hosanna (round) Father In My Life I See Our Father (round) | We Three Kings Blessed are You Lord Give Me Oil In My Lamp We Come To Your Feast Shine Jesus Shine Sing Hosanna (round) Father In My Life I See The Servant King Our Father (round) |

Spring 2

| KS1 | KS2 |
|---|---|
| <p>God Forgave My Sin Taize chants including Jesus Remember Me and Stay With Me Give me joy in my heart Our Father (Round) The Stone Has Rolled Away Easter Hallelujah Here comes Jesus riding on a donkey</p> | <p>God Forgave My Sin Taize chants including Jesus Remember Me and Stay with me The Servant King Ours Were The Sins You Bore This Is My Body Here comes Jesus riding on a donkey Our Father (round) Give me joy in my heart The Stone Has Rolled Away Easter Hallelujah</p> |

Summer 1

| KS1 | KS2 |
|--|--|
| <p>Seek Ye First Abba Father Send Your Spirit Choruses of Marian hymns sang by KS2 Father In My Life I See The Stone has rolled away Lord of the dance Shine Jesus Shine</p> | <p>Seek Ye First Shine Jesus Shine Mary did you know Abba Father Send Your Spirit Immaculate Mary Bring Flowers of the Rarest Christ Be Our Light Father In My Life I See The Stone has rolled away Now the green blade riseth Lord of the dance</p> |

Summer 2

| KS1 | KS2 |
|--|--|
| <p>One More Step Along The World I Go Colours of Day Here I am the Lord Recapping appropriate hymns</p> | <p>I Will Be With You One More Step Along The World I Go Colours of Day Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace Dear Lord and Father Of Mankind Here I am Lord Recapping appropriate hymns</p> |