

Prayer and Liturgy at St Mary's

NURSERY

In Nursery, our children are taught the Sign of the Cross, a morning prayer, grace before meals and after meals and an end of the day prayer, Children participate mostly with actions; this builds throughout the year to repeating prayers and joining in with hymns. They learn what it means to gather and look at the Word of the week rather than a whole Gospel story.

EYFS

RECEPTION

In Reception, children choose the items for the altar / worship space. Worship sessions are led by staff. Children are chosen to show examples from life. Scripture use is increased from a simple word to more Biblical stories as the year progresses. More songs and hymns are introduced. Once staff feel the children are ready, they participate in Singing Worship Assemblies.

New prayers introduced: Hail Mary

Y1

In Year One, children participate in planning sessions with their teacher, looking at the Gospel for the following Sunday, using the Wednesday Word. Children plan a weekly four-part worship with guidance from staff. Staff read the Gospel. New songs and hymns are introduced. At appropriate times of the year, Year One participate in school Masses and Singing Worship Assemblies.

New Prayers: A prayer to start RE lessons, Diocesan Prayer, School Prayer, Litany - Pray For Us, Our Father

Y2

In Year Two, children plan a four-part worship with their class teacher once a week, based on the Gospel for the following Sunday. Pupil independence is encouraged by the use of Lectio Divina and explaining what their favourite part of the scripture is. Year Two participate in Singing Worship Assembly from the start of the year as well as age-appropriate phase worships.

New Prayers: Common Mass responses such as Gospel Acclamations, Psalm responses, "and with Your Spirit".

Y3

Children are invited to participate in the Sacramental Programme in Year Three. Pupil led worship uses the Gospel of the following Sunday, using the Wednesday Word as a basis for discussion. Children plan alongside their teacher, but there is much less guidance than in KS1.

New prayers: Glory Be, Act of Contrition, Common Mass parts for the Eucharist, Gloria (sung), Sanctus (sung), Gospel acclamations (sung). An informal class prayer is said once a day.
Mary Farmer retreat - preparing for the Sacraments

Y4

In Year Four, children embed their sacramental journey by participating in class and school Masses. Pupil led worship is more independent, with staff there more to help with explanations in planning sessions. Staff do not participate in any leading in worship sessions as children are expected to lead themselves using a writing frame if needed.

New prayers: Informal class prayer, prayers connected to class saint.

Y5

In Year Five, pupil led worship is embedded. Staff are on hand to offer advice only and are full participants in worship rather than leading. Year Five begin to develop thematic worships after Spring term. Class masses involve children reading prayers.
Mary Farmer retreat - Laudato Si

New Prayers: in May, the Angelus is introduced. Eternal Rest.

Y6

In Year Six, children are invited to become members of the GIFT team. Pupil led worship is almost completely independent in planning and carrying out with a mixture of thematic and weekly Gospel worships throughout the year. The GIFT team also plan and lead a Podcast each week connected to the Gospel of the week.
Mary Farmer retreat - transition to Y7

New prayer: The Angelus said daily at 12pm.