

St Mary's RC Primary School, Middleton



Prayer and Liturgy Policy

Reviewed September 2026

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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 Prayer & Liturgy

Introduction:

Prayer and 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 use the terms 'Prayer and Liturgy' to coincide with the changes to the RECD and Prayer and Liturgy Directory.

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. Whilst we acknowledge that Prayer and Liturgy and assembly are distinct activities, we do encourage the use of the school prayer during reward assemblies to evoke a sense of togetherness. Children of other faiths, rites or of no faith are not pressured in to participating within this, but instead to reflect in their own way.

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 aspects of school 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 Collective Worship/Prayer and Liturgy rests with the Governing Body after consultation with the Headteacher.

At St Mary's, our RE lead, Miss Emma Thomas, is our Prayer and Liturgy Lead. She works closely with SLT. The decision was taken for Miss Thomas to become RE Lead following the last inspection, in which she led school to an Outstanding rating. She is supported by SLT where needed.

¹ Parents have a right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. However, given the importance of Collective Worship 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 and Liturgy in the Life of our School:

We endorse the belief that Prayer and 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. We specifically believe that we inspire children and staff to come together through prayer and that those of any faith or worldview should be incorporated into all aspects of the school's spiritual life, whatever that means for the individual.

The Aims of Collective Worship/Prayer and Liturgy:

We believe that Collective Worship 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 Collective Worship – 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, Collective Worship is organised as follows:

EYFS: Daily class prayer and worship, concentrating on the weekly focus of the school, following the Annual Plan of Provision (APoP). 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.

KS1: Daily class prayer and worship, concentrating on the weekly focus of school, following the APoP. Year One are also invited to Mass at particular points of the year. Singing Praise Assembly takes place weekly with EYFS and Year Two to allow for planning time for prayer leaders to work with their class teacher on their Collective Worship for the week. At the start of the academic year, EYFS do not participate, but as the year progresses, they begin to join in.

Monday: Class-based worship

Tuesday: Singing praise assembly (hymn practice with a focus on the following week's Gospel)

Wednesday: Class-based worship

Thursday: Class-based worship.

Friday: Child-led worship in class, planned and delivered in tandem with a teacher. Rewards assembly also takes place on a Friday for EYFS and KS1.

KS2:

Monday: Singing Praise Assembly (hymn practice with a focus on the following week's Gospel)

Tuesday: Class-based worship

Wednesday: Class-based worship

Thursday: Class-based worship. Rewards assembly also takes place on a Thursday, when we celebrate children's successes and pray together as key stages.

Friday: Class-based worship based on the following Sunday's Gospel, led by children. Y6 create

their own themed worship and plan and deliver in their houses.

Throughout the school, a group of children in each class takes responsibility for one Act of Collective Worship each week, in order to develop their liturgical understanding and development. Their Class Teacher and the Collective Worship 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. This is to give ownership to prayer to the children.

EYFS uses Mark 10 Little Liturgies where appropriate to do so, recapping the Gospel from the Sunday before. They 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.

KS1 and KS2 use the Gospel from the week coming, using Wednesday Word as a starting point.

Pupil Voice Teams

(GIFT Team, Laudato Si, Mini Vinnies, Young Interpreters, Class Prayer Leads, High-Fivers/Mental Health Ambassadors, Pupil Voice School Council)

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. 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. 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. From September, our children will be invited once a month to lead the worship on Saturday evenings.

Planning:

Collective Worship 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 Collective Worship 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.

Both children and staff will lead Collective Worship 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 co-ordinator gives out the themes for Collective Worship. 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.

A liturgical structure for Prayer & Liturgy:

We follow a four-part structure to Prayer & Liturgy / Collective Worship, which also incorporates Lectio and Visio Divina where appropriate:

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, including all staff. Governors and members of the wider community will be 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. 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 class should have a focal point for both Religious Education and Collective Worship. These may be the same area and should contain a candle, Rosary beads, a picture of Pope Leo, the school prayer book, 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 to also start with prayer, to be minuted.

Staff are also encouraged to participate in a monthly reflection before school, led by a member of SLT or the RE leads.

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**
- ✙ Grace Before Meals (age appropriate for EYFS and KS1)
- ✙ Grace After Meals (age appropriate for EYFS and KS1)
- ✙ End of the day prayer (Father in Heaven)
- ✙ **The diocesan prayer, Stay with us Lord, on our journey.**
- ✙ Y2 – The Act of Contrition
- ✙ Y3 – Come Holy Spirit, Apostles Creed
- ✙ Y4 – Angel of God, Prayer of St Richard of Chichester
- ✙ Y5 – Act of Faith, Act of Hope, Act of Love
- ✙ Y6 – Nicene Creed, Magnificat

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:	An age-appropriate prayer from the list above.
Before lunch:	Grace Before Meals
After lunch:	Grace After Meals
End of the day:	Father in Heaven

To incorporate our ethos and strengthen our faith, the Children's Creed should be recited regularly in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

Themes for Collective Worship:

Themes for Collective Worship run alongside the liturgical calendar. Occasionally, Life to the Full (RSHE

Curriculum) provides other prayers that are used to enhance the curriculum further.

Other celebrations / Masses (this list is not exhaustive and is subject to change; see our Annual Plan of Provision for more detail)

- **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
 - 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 for parents;
 - o **KS2:** Christmas Carol Service/ Concert Evening
 - 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.

- **January**
 - o The Epiphany – Mass or service in school – whole 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 and Miss Thomas. 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 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**

This year, we are planning in specific times of the year where children receive the Sacrament of

Reconciliation (Lent and Advent), with each class in KS2 attending Mass within that time. We also ensure to take children across to Mass at least once a half term where possible and we are invited to lead singing on a Saturday night once a term for the parish.

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

Collective Worship 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 Collective worship 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.

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 Collective Worship 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 CW 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.

Right of Withdrawal

We expect 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.

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

Renewed September 2026.

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 Collective Worship which may at times form part of the school development plan
- ✚ Ensuring that Collective Worship is appropriate to the age, aptitudes and family backgrounds of learners
- ✚ Ensuring that Collective Worship 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 Collective Worship

Planning, recording, monitoring and evaluating

- ✚ Maintaining and developing effective procedures and documentation
- ✚ Observing, on occasions, an Act of Collective Worship
- ✚ Informing the Headteacher and Governors of standards and developments in Collective Worship

Communication

- ✚ Communicating to members of the school community the significance and content of Acts of Collective Worship
- ✚ Reporting to and consulting with the governors and Headteacher regarding matters of concern and development
- ✚ Acting as consultant to colleagues
- ✚ Encouraging positive attitudes towards Collective Worship
- ✚ Informing newly appointed colleagues of school policy regarding Collective Worship
- ✚ 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

- ⦿ Leading and organising in-service training and ongoing formation for Collective Worship
- ⦿ Attending appropriate in-service courses and reporting back
- ⦿ Keeping up-to-date by personal reading

Resources

- ⦿ Evaluating existing resources
- ⦿ Developing the resources available for Collective Worship including visual aids, artefacts, drapes, music, visitors, leaders, new and relevant books, posters etc
- ⦿ Budgeting effectively

Appendix 2 - School Statement on Collective Worship

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

Collective Worship in our schools will be:

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

in order to ensure that the Collective Worship 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

Appendix 3: Collective Worship Action Plan

St Mary's Prayer Development Plan, 2026-27

Phase	Objectives outlined in the Religious Education Curriculum Directory	What this looks like at St. Mary's R.C. Primary School
3-5 (EYFS)	- 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	- 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
5-7 (KS1)	- 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	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.

7-9 (LKS2)	- 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	
9-11 (UKS2)	A variety of prayer and prayer forms, formal and informal used for personal and community prayer	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. - 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.

In October, as St Mary's School, we celebrate the month of the Rosary. The children learn about the Rosary, and how and why we pray it as we do. Each class follows this plan to ensure progression throughout the school:

Year 1 – Basic introduction to the Rosary/Hail Mary Prayer – learn and understand that Mary said it is a special prayer

Year 2 – As Year 1 – to look the 4 mysteries and identify them (basic knowledge)

Year 3 – As Year 2 – link to our positive emotions.

Year 4 – Focus on the 4 mysteries as Year 3 but in depth focus on Glorious Mysteries

Year 5 - Focus on the 4 mysteries as Year 3 but in depth focus on Luminous Mysteries

Year 6 – In depth look at all the mysteries

Revised and adopted by the Governing Body

Date: September 2026

Review Date: September 2028