



St. Basil's
Catholic Primary School

Guide to Religious Education at St. Basil's

Religious Education is the core subject in the curriculum and influences all that we teach and enables us to develop the whole person.

Through religious education teaching and learning we aim to:

- ❑ Provide each child with the opportunity to develop their relationship with God.
- ❑ Promote knowledge and understanding of Catholic faith and life.
- ❑ Develop awareness and understanding of the impact of faith upon our daily lives.
- ❑ Foster attitudes of respect towards all who live in our society.
- ❑ Develop skills linked to the reflection upon and practice of religious belief.

The 'Come and See' programme which we follow at St Basil's, offers the opportunity to search, to explore, to discover, and to respond. The programme supports the belief of Christ being at the centre of all that we do. In each of the terms it addresses 3 key questions to be explored through the teaching and learning in the different topics.

- ❑ *Where do I come from?* (Autumn term)
- ❑ *Who am I?* (Spring term)
- ❑ *Why am I here?* (Summer term)

Across the academic year, the children are involved in studying 9 themes/topics. The themes are explored over a 4 week period, with time dedicated to exploring the basis of the theme, revealing the meaning of scripture and the Church's teaching. Time is spent reflecting on each child's learning and experiences.

There are three different types of themes within 'Come and See', each theme is covered once a term. They are:

- Church themes
- Sacramental themes
- Christian Living themes

Each time the theme is revisited, the focus is from a different perspective. ..

AUTUMN

The themes are developed in the light of an understanding of Creation:

Domestic Church - Family focuses on life as gift, myself as a unique and loved creation, the love and care that can be expressed in family groups.

Baptism/Confirmation - Belonging focuses on the call to belong, the creative potential that belonging develops; and Baptism and Confirmation, sacraments of the gift of God's life and friendship.

Advent/Christmas - Loving focuses on the capacity for entering into loving relationships and the perfect gift and revelation of God's love, Jesus, born of Mary, born as one of us.

SPRING

The themes are developed in the light of an understanding of Incarnation:

Local Church - Community focuses on the people of God gathered in Christ, united in the journey of faith, in care for one another, in sharing their story and in celebration.

Eucharist - Relating focuses on the invitation to know Jesus, to live in communion with him and with one another.

Lent/Easter - Giving focuses on Jesus' loving self-giving on the cross, the Father's love that raises him to new life and the challenge to Christians to follow Jesus' example of self-giving.

SUMMER

The themes are developed in the light of an understanding of Redemption and the work of the Holy Spirit:

Pentecost - Serving focuses on the on-going mission of Jesus Christ in the Church through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reconciliation - Inter-relating focuses on the love, compassion and forgiveness of God the Father revealed in Jesus and poured out by the Spirit to bring forgiveness and reconciliation in the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Universal Church - World focuses on the same love revealed in the diversity of the world and its people, and in the gifts of the Spirit that bear fruit in love, joy, justice and peace for all people.

Each theme is explored in the different year groups as a different named topic.

Other Religions

During the year we also explore the other faith of **Judaism** for one week and an additional religion for one week. We are currently focusing on the religion of **Islam** as our additional choice.

THEMES & TOPICS	EARLY YEARS 1 & 2	YEAR 1 & FS 1	YEAR 2 & FS 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
Domestic church family	Myself God knows and loves each one	Families God's love and care for every family	Beginnings God at every beginning	Homes God's dream for every family	People The family of God in Scripture	Ourselves Created in the image & likeness of God	Loving God who never stops loving
Baptism/confirmation belonging	Welcome Baptism; a welcome to God's family	Belonging Baptism an invitation to belong to God's family	Signs & symbols Signs & symbols in Baptism	Promises Promises made at Baptism	Called Confirmation: a call to witness	Life choices Marriage commitment and service	Vocation & commitment The vocation of priesthood and religious life
Advent/Christmas loving	Birthday Looking forward to Jesus' birthday	Waiting Advent a time to look forward to Christmas	Preparations Advent; preparing to celebrate Christmas	Visitors Advent: waiting for the coming of Jesus	Gift God's gift of love & friendship in Jesus	Hope Advent; waiting in joyful hope for Jesus; the promised one	Expectations Jesus born to show God to the world
Local church community	Celebrating People celebrate in Church	Special people People in the parish family	Books The books used in Church	Journeys Christian family's journey with Jesus	Community life in the local Christian community: ministries in the parish	Mission Continuing Jesus' mission in diocese [ecumenism]	Sources The Bible, the special book for the Church
Eucharist relating	Gathering The parish family gathers to celebrate Eucharist	Meals Mass; Jesus' special meal	Thanksgiving Mass a special time for saying thank you to God for everything, especially Jesus	Listening & sharing Jesus gives himself to us in a special way	Giving & receiving Living in communion	Memorial sacrifice The Eucharist the living memorial of Jesus' sacrifice	Unity Eucharist enables people to live in communion.
Lent/Easter giving	Growing Looking forward to Easter	Change Lent a time for change	Opportunities Lent; an opportunity to start anew in order to celebrate Jesus' new life	Giving all Lent a time to remember Jesus' total giving	Self discipline Celebrating growth to new life	Sacrifice Lent a time of aligning with the sacrifice already made by Jesus	Death & new life Celebrating Jesus' death & resurrection
Pentecost serving	Good News Passing on the Good news of Jesus	Holidays & holydays Pentecost: feast of the Holy Spirit	Spread the word Pentecost a time to spread the Good News	Energy Gifts of the Holy Spirit	New life To hear & live the Easter message	Transformation Celebration of the Spirit's transforming power	Witnesses The Holy Spirit enables people to become witnesses
Reconciliation Inter-relating	Friends Friends of Jesus	Being sorry God helps us to choose well Sacrament of Reconciliation	Rules Reasons for rules in the Christian family Sacrament of Reconciliation	Choices The importance of examination of conscience Sacrament of Reconciliation	Building bridges Admitting wrong, being reconciled with God and each other Sacrament of Reconciliation	Freedom & responsibility Commandments enable Christians to be free & responsible	Healing Sacrament of the Sick
Universal Church world	Our world God's wonderful world	Neighbours Neighbours share God's world	Treasures God's treasure; the world	Special places Holy places for Jesus & the Christian	God's people Different saints show people what God is like	Stewardship The Church is called to the stewardship of Creation	Common good Work of the worldwide Christian family