



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. The other religions are covered over a 3 year cycle as outlined below.

Academic Year	Additional Religion
2015 - 2016	Sikhism
2016 - 2017	Hinduism
2017 - 2018	Islam

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