

IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

ALL SAINTS

(1 November)

We celebrate the lives of special and ordinary people who have responded to God's invitation to love.

THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)

(2 November)

Today and throughout the rest of November we pray for those who have died. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

(26 November)

ADVENT

(Begins 3 December)

Advent means 'coming'. We think of the coming of Jesus when he was born but we also think of his promise that he would come again at the end of time. It is a time of waiting and preparing. It is only in the last week of Advent that we focus upon the events to be celebrated at Christmas.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

(8 December)

This feast marks the first stage of the existence of Mary, the mother of Jesus. She was 'full of grace' from the very beginning and co-operated with God throughout her life.

CHRISTMAS DAY, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

(25 December)

On this day we begin our celebration of the birth of Christ.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

(31 December)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term we will be studying two topics which align to the Church year. In Autumn 1 we will be studying creation and covenant and in Autumn 2 our topic is prophecy and promise which takes us through Advent and into Christmas.

CREATION AND COVENANT

AUTUMN 1

EYFS: The children will learn the words and actions of the sign of the cross. They will learn that the whole of creation shows God's love for us. God made the earth and sky. God made all the people all over the world. God made all the animals. God made all the plants. God made the air, the ground and the water. And, God tells us we must take good of them. It is an important job! STEWARDSHIP. They will learn that we enter God's family the Church through Baptism.

Year 3/4: The children will learn that the Creation stories in Genesis use symbolism to explain the relationship between God, human beings, and the world. They will learn that all human beings are made in God's image and all people have dignity and are created equal and a way in which human beings' image (imitate) God is through care for each other, and that caring for Creation is one of the ways we care for each other.

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Consider ways that you can care for God's creation

- Pick up litter on your way to school
- Help with a beach clean
- Water the plants in your garden
- Notice the beauty and wonder of God's creation.
- Take photos of God's creation.
- Help at home and in your community
- Donate to the food

PROPHECY AND PROMISE

AUTUMN 2

EYFS: The children will hear the Scripture of 'The Annunciation', 'The Nativity' and 'The Shepherds visit'. They will learn that Mary was chosen by God and Jesus was born in a stable. They will use the tradition of the crib to tell the story of Jesus' birth. They learn that in Advent we help others and ourselves, showing our love for God.

Year 3/4: The children will learn about the structure of the Mass and the liturgy of the word. They will visit a Church to look for signs and symbols and learn about their meaning. When learning about Advent they will focus on the symbols and actions that help Catholics live out the Season of Advent and explore the meaning of Advent. They will learn about 'The Annunciation' through Scripture and hymns.

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Discuss with the children how your family welcomes visitors to your home.

Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree.

Use the CAFOD or Missio websites to get a religious Advent calendar.