



Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy

Prayer and Liturgy Policy

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

Matthew 18:20

This Policy was adopted by The Governing Body of Christ the King Catholic Primary School on:	
Date: March 2026	Signed by:
It will be reviewed in 2 years	March 2028

At Christ the King, we aim to help everyone develop in their journey of faith with God in a positive learning environment as we live out our mission:

The life of the school is underpinned by the school's Mission Statement;

'Christ the King welcomes everyone in our community as we share the joys of our Faith. We worship, learn and play together in the love of Jesus, helping one another to develop the talents given to us by God.'

At Christ the King, Worship is an experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain. It is more than just a legal requirement. It is an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic tradition

Our Vision:

At Christ the King we aim to develop a caring Catholic community with Christ at its centre. Prayer and liturgy in Christ the King names and celebrates God's presence in our lives. It 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 a relationship, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the witness of the Holy Spirit.

Intent:

This policy outlines the purpose and management of prayer and liturgy at Christ the King.

At Christ the King' we pray, love and learn together as one school family, with Christ at our centre. We create and experience joy every day in our home, our school and our parish. Prayer and liturgy is an integral and vital part of the daily life of our school and central to the Catholic tradition and ethos of the school.

As Catholic Christians, we are guided by the values of the Gospel and the beliefs of our own faith tradition. At the same time, we are respectful of the beliefs of others. We celebrate achievement in all aspects of school and home life - everyone is unique and a child of God.

We believe that Prayer and Liturgy in our school aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff:

- To contemplate the mystery of Faith
- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- To explore their own beliefs

- To respond to and celebrate life
- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit
- To develop a common ethos and shared values
- To enrich religious experience
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development
- To reinforce prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition
- To reinforce positive attitudes
- To participate fully
- To encounter Christ in our daily lives

This policy should be read alongside the Religious Education Policy.

How Prayer and Liturgy is organised in our school:

We have a daily act of prayer and liturgy, either as a whole school, Key Stage or class group. Staff in school gather weekly for prayer and reflection as part of staff meetings and briefings. All classes have opportunities to plan and deliver prayer and liturgy across the week. Children are taught to plan and lead prayer times according to their age (in line with the St Thomas Aquinas 'Collective Worship Progression' document). By Key stage 2 the children plan and deliver acts of prayer and liturgy independently with limited adult support.

Prayer and liturgy is conducted in a dignified and respectful way. Children are taught that prayer and liturgy is a period of calm reflection and praise. It is promoted as a special time and children are expected to behave in an appropriate manner. We encourage the children to be quiet and thoughtful- to listen, reflect and meditate upon the teachings and the signs and symbols which are used to encourage their full participation in the prayers, readings, stores, songs and hymns they hear. Children will be encouraged and guided to understand and acknowledge the purpose of gathering, listening and responding, and take forward the mission of the church.

The Weekly Word is introduced in the Mission Monday Celebration of the Word to all children and is revisited in class throughout the week. Children are recognised on a weekly basis for living out our School Mission Statement, demonstrating virtuous behaviour and living out the CTK Catholic Social Teaching principles in our 'Love One Another Awards' Award (Mondays). The winners of this award are shared on Arbor for parents to view. Whole site prayer is held on Fridays in the

form of our celebration assemblies where we review the mission set for the week, share any work from children who lived out the mission, and award one child per class with the Star of the Week award. Hymn Practice takes place every Wednesday on the Junior Site, on a bi-weekly rotation cycle alternating between Middle Phase (years 3 and 4) and Upper Phase (years 5 and 6). Hymn Practice takes place weekly on a Wednesday or Thursday on the Infant Site. Hymns are carefully planned to ensure they are in accordance with the church calendar. Members of the Clergy are invited to lead liturgy and liturgical prayer throughout the year. Our chaplaincy team plans, leads and evaluates a range of prayer opportunities according to the Church's calendar; these include Celebrations of the Word, Lunchtime prayer sessions and Prayer Stations, Lectio Divinas, Visio Divinas and Meditations are also regularly celebrated as a class.

Parents and Governors are invited to a range of prayer opportunities such as Celebrations of the Word, Adoration, Reconciliation, Inspire Workshops and Masses throughout the year.

Prayer and liturgy is planned:

- following a structure with reference to the Church's seasons, RED, feast days, the curriculum and significant dates e.g. Remembrance Day. Scripture will be the focus in most opportunities of prayer.
- Involving consultation with appropriate parties and reference to the school aims and policies
- With flexibility to respond to changing situations within the school and the wider community
- To develop pupils' skills that enable them to prepare, organise and lead prayer.

Structure and Nature of Prayer and Liturgy:

We believe that children should plan and conduct Celebrations of the Word with an increase in independence and a decrease in teacher input as pupils progress through the school. Celebrations of the Word take the following structure:

- **Gather:** How we come together, the setting, the environment (quiet reflective music, lighted candle, prayer focus, crucifix, Bible)
- **Word:** Every Prayer and Liturgy will centre on at least one text from the Bible. The Word of God will be proclaimed from a Bible or Lectionary.
- **Respond:** The response hearing the Word of God may lead to symbolic action or communal prayer.

- **Mission:** Giving the children something to hold on to from the experience of the liturgy that they can take into their daily lives.

A variety of prayer styles will be used appropriate to the age of the children and the occasion. See Appendix 1 'Prayer and Liturgy Timetable'

Implementation:

In EYFS and KS1, children are encouraged to play a part in the planning, preparation and celebration of Acts of Worship. Year on year, children are encouraged to take on more responsibility. By the end of KS1, children should be able to name all parts of an act to worship and work in small groups to plan each section with some adult prompting and support. They will access a range of scripture which will be built on each year.

Key Stage 2: Building on previous years, children will be able to more independently plan, prepare and carry out Acts of worship. By the end of KS2, this should be with only minimal adult supervision. Children will be able to appropriately choose scripture, name a range of ways to gather, know how to respond to the scripture and name a variety of ways of taking learning forward to share with others by creating a range of appropriate 'missions'.

Our Wider School Community

Parents are informed through weekly newsletters on the topic of prayer and liturgy; ideas for families to develop their child's spirituality and shared regularly and are encouraged to follow up and have discussions at home with their children. Whenever possible, parents are warmly invited to join us in our celebrations.

We have close links with Fr John Cahill and Fr Hans and the parishes of Mother of God, Blessed Sacrament and St Peter's. We support parish events and we attend Eucharistic Masses at Mother of God as well as in school.

In Year 6, children are given the opportunity to attend a residential retreat at the Briars Centre and opportunities of prayer are an important part of the Year 3 sleepover.

Monitoring

At least once a term, the school's provision of prayer and liturgy will be evaluated to consider whether it meets the needs of all pupils, whether participants fully engaged in prayer and whether pupils are making progress in acquiring skills and abilities in organising and leading worship.

Prayer and liturgy is monitored in the form of observation, staff and pupil interview, and monitoring of the Prayer Journal books kept by every class.

The RE team have led staff training on Celebrations of the Word, Visio Divinas and they also advise and support other members of staff, liaise with our clergy and parish members.

This policy is monitored by the RE Team including the Executive Headteacher and will be evaluated and reviewed by school staff and governors every two years.

Appendix 1: Culture of Prayer and Liturgical

Appendix 2: TRADITIONAL PRAYERS INFANTS/PRAYERS JUNIORS

Traditional Prayers - EYFS

- Sign of the cross
- Morning and Evening prayers
- Prayers before and after meals
- Responses at Mass (And with your Spirit. Peace be with you. Thanks be to God)
- Greeting the Gospel (Alleluia)

Traditional Prayers - Year 1 and Year 2

- Sign of the cross
- Morning and Evening prayers
- Prayers before and after meals
- Responses at Mass (And with your spirit. Peace be with you. Thanks be to God)
- Greeting the Gospel (Alleluia)
- Prayers for Christmas
- Our Father
- Hail Mary
- Glory be to the Father

Traditional Prayers - Key Stage 2

- Sign of the cross
- Morning and Evening prayers
- Prayers before and after meals
- Responses at Mass (And with your spirit. Peace be with you. Thanks be to God)
- Greeting the Gospel (Alleluia)
- Our Father
- Hail Mary
- Glory be to the Father
- Come Holy Spirit

- Act of sorrow
- I confess
- Angelus
- Benedictus
- Magnificat
- Eternal Rest
- Act of love
- Act of contrition
- The Rosary

Appendix 3: Whole School Celebration of the Word

Appendix 4: Liturgy of the Mass

Appendix 5: Prayer Area Expectations CTK

Appendix 6: Celebration of the Word Planning Document

Appendix 7: Celebration of the Word Monitoring and Evaluation Document

Culture of Prayer at Christ the King



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Whole School Infants/Juniors	<p>Mission Mondays Based on the 'Weekly Word' given by the Nottingham Diocese</p> <p>Planned and led by Head of School with support of Year 6 and Year 2 who set the Weekly Mission.</p> <p>'Love One Another Awards' associated with Catholic Social Teaching Principles</p>		<p>Hymn Practice Infants - Weekly Juniors - Bi-weekly</p> <p>Hymns chosen as part of the Liturgical Year, mapped out by the Head, HoS, RE Leader and Chaplain and Chaplaincy Team.</p> <p>Parish Priest leads on teaching sung parts of the Mass - including Latin.</p>		<p>Celebration of God's Gifts The celebration of talents and gifts from God in Stars of the Week</p> <p>Poetry Recitals CotW - Led by each individual class throughout the year with family and friends invited.</p>
EYFS	Whole School (see above)	<p>Visio/Lectio Divina Led by the class teacher or TA.</p>	Christian Meditation and Personal Prayer	<p>Class Celebration of the Word This is based on the Weekly Word or Catholic Social Teaching Principle.</p> <p>Mark 10 Mission Every other week, children will have the opportunity to worship the 'Little Liturgy' or Mark 10 Mission</p>	Whole School (see above)
Year 1	Whole School (see above)	<p>Visio/Lectio Divina Led by the class teacher or TA.</p>	Christian Meditation and Personal Prayer	<p>Class Celebration of the Word This is based on the Weekly Word or Catholic Social Teaching Principle.</p> <p>Mark 10 Mission Every other week, children will have the opportunity to worship the 'Little Liturgy' or Mark 10 Mission</p>	Whole School (see above)
Year 2	Whole School (see above)	<p>Visio/Lectio Divina Led by the class teacher or TA.</p>	Christian Meditation and Personal Prayer	<p>Class Celebration of the Word This is based on the Weekly Word or Catholic Social Teaching Principle.</p> <p>Mark 10 Mission Every other week, children will have the opportunity to worship the 'Little Liturgy' or Mark 10 Mission</p>	Whole School (see above)

Year 3	Whole School (see above)	Visio/Lectio Divina Led by the class teacher, TA or child led.	Christian Meditation and Personal Prayer	Class Celebration of the Word This is based on the Weekly Word or Catholic Social Teaching Principle. Mark 10 Mission Every other week, children will have the opportunity to worship the 'Little Liturgy' or Mark 10 Mission	Whole School (see above)
Year 4	Whole School (see above)	Visio/Lectio Divina Led by the class teacher, TA or child led.	Christian Meditation and Personal Prayer	Class Celebration of the Word This is based on the Weekly Word or Catholic Social Teaching Principle. Mark 10 Mission Every other week, children will have the opportunity to worship the 'Little Liturgy' or Mark 10 Mission	Whole School (see above)
Year 5	Whole School (see above)	Visio/Lectio Divina Led by the class teacher, TA or child led.	Christian Meditation and Personal Prayer	Class Celebration of the Word This is based on the Weekly Word or Catholic Social Teaching Principle. Mark 10 Mission Every other week, children will have the opportunity to worship the 'Little Liturgy' or Mark 10 Mission	Whole School (see above)
Year 6	Whole School (see above)	Visio/Lectio Divina Led by the class teacher, TA or child led.	Christian Meditation and Personal Prayer	Class Celebration of the Word This is based on the Weekly Word or Catholic Social Teaching Principle. Mark 10 Mission Every other week, children will have the opportunity to worship the 'Little Liturgy' or Mark 10 Mission	Whole School (see above)
Infants			Prayer and Meditation Based on the Liturgical year, Chaplains and RE Lead led on prayer and guided meditation.		Bible Time Scripture and prayer time shared with children, led by Infant Chaplains and RE Lead
Juniors	Prayer and Care Group Lunch time club			Rosary Club Led by children in Years 3-6, supported by Mrs Sparkes.	

	<p>Variety of different prayers, activities and active worship based on the liturgical year.</p>				
<p>Other formats of P&L throughout the Liturgical Year without specific days</p>	<p>Mass: Attending at Mother of God. Children lead reading of Scripture, Bidding Prayers and hymns. This is attended, where possible, on Holy Days of Obligation too.</p> <p>Joint Masses: Masses of togetherness of Infants and Juniors in Junior Hall</p> <p>Sacrament of Reconciliation: Offered at liturgical points of the year with a range of visiting Priests</p> <p>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Led by the two Parish Priests throughout the year.</p> <p>Charities: Speakers celebrating the work of charities local, national and international</p> <p>Whole School Celebration of the Word: This is led by variety of people including - visitors, Chaplaincy, Year groups, classes (Please see Whole School CotW plan of provision)</p> <p>Year Group RED Celebration of the Word: At the end of each Branch, year groups join together to worship. Throughout the six branches, each class will have the opportunity to lead two and evaluate two. These are shared and documented in the 'Site Prayer Journal'.</p> <p>Prayer Stations: Planned and delivered by Infant and Junior Chaplains across both sites.</p> <p>Retreat Days: SLT/Lay Chaplain/Chaplaincy team - planning of Retreat Days/Mission Days. These include the first two days back of term where there is a focus on Gospel Values and Virtues, Catholic Social Teaching Principles Week.</p> <p>Mini Retreats: Opportunity to share a mini-retreat with the Lay Chaplain.</p> <p>Others (but not limited to): Feast Day celebrations, St Thomas Aquinas Feast Day build up ad feast day, Rosary Month</p> <p>Inspire Workshop: Each year group has a focused workshop based on the Catholic Catechism, religious art and Scripture. This is alongside family and friends who attend this event too.</p> <p>Acts of Worship: Spontaneous Prayer opportunities in our communal prayer spaces on both sites. November Dead List Our Lady of Walsingham - each year we are blessed with an opportunity to have the statue of Our Lady od Walsingham at CTK Juniors. This varies in time of year. Lent Stations of the Cross - children reflect on these during Lent, with a focus on religious art and prayer.</p>				

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This is an example, but not limited to, the weekly diet of prayer and liturgy at Christ the King.

Prayers and Opportunities throughout the day

It is required by law to provide daily worship in the classroom. Teachers and pupils pray at each of these periods of the day including an Act of Collective Worship:

- At the beginning of the school day (Morning prayers)
- At Lunchtime before and after (Grace)
- At Home time (End of day prayer KS1 and Guardian Angel Prayer KS2)

We encourage spontaneous and open prayer in the classroom and around school.

Traditional Prayers

During each month, there are dedicated prayer to say during assemblies and in the classroom. This supports children in starting to know the Church’s traditional prayers off by heart and know that there are many prayers that we can say at different times of the year.

Month	Infants	Juniors
September	Act of Hope and Faith School Prayer	School Prayer The Apostles Creed
October (Month of the Rosary)	Hail Mary	The Angelus
November (Holy Saints and souls)	Eternal Rest Litany to Year Group Saints	Eternal Rest Litany to Year Group Saints
December (Advent)	Our Father Hail Mary Glory Be	Benedictus
January (Christmas)	Holy, Holy, Holy	Gloria
February	Our Father	The Angelus
March (Lent)	Act of Sorrow	The Confiteor Nunc Dimittis

April (Lent)	Act of Sorrow	The Confiteor Nunc Dimittis
May (Easter) (Month of Mary)	The Angelus	Hail Holy Queen
June (Sacred Heart of Jesus)	Prayer to the Sacred Heart	Prayer to the Sacred Heart The Memorare
July	Prayer to Guardian Angel	Prayer to the Holy Spirit

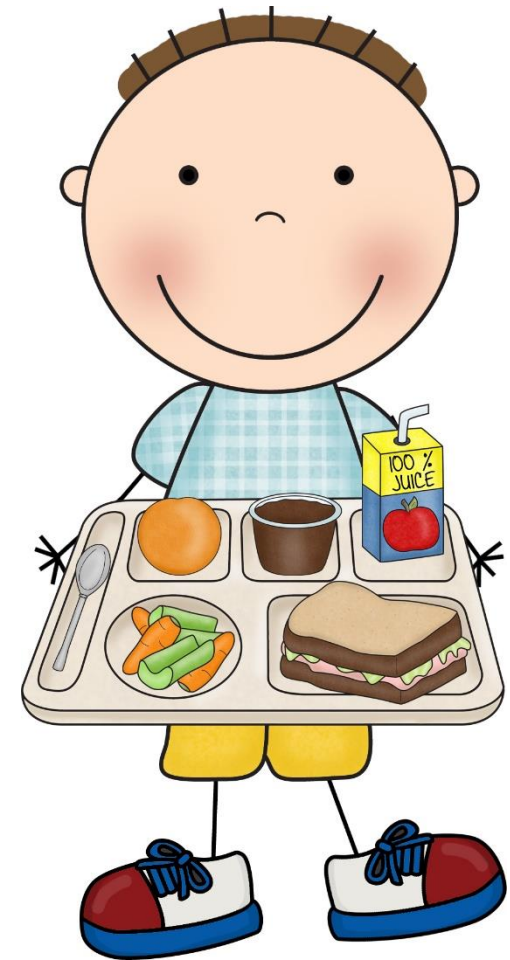
Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.



Grace Before Meals

Bless us, O God, as we sit together.
Bless the food we eat today.
Bless the hands that made the food.
Bless us, O God.
Amen.



Grace after meals

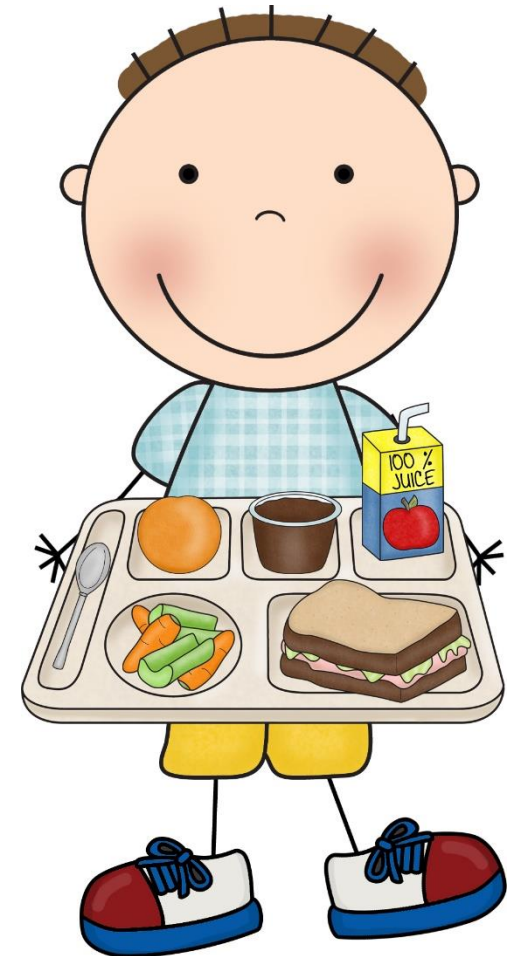
Thank you, God, for the food we have eaten.

Thank you, God, for all our friends.

Thank you, God, for everything,

Thank you God.

Amen.



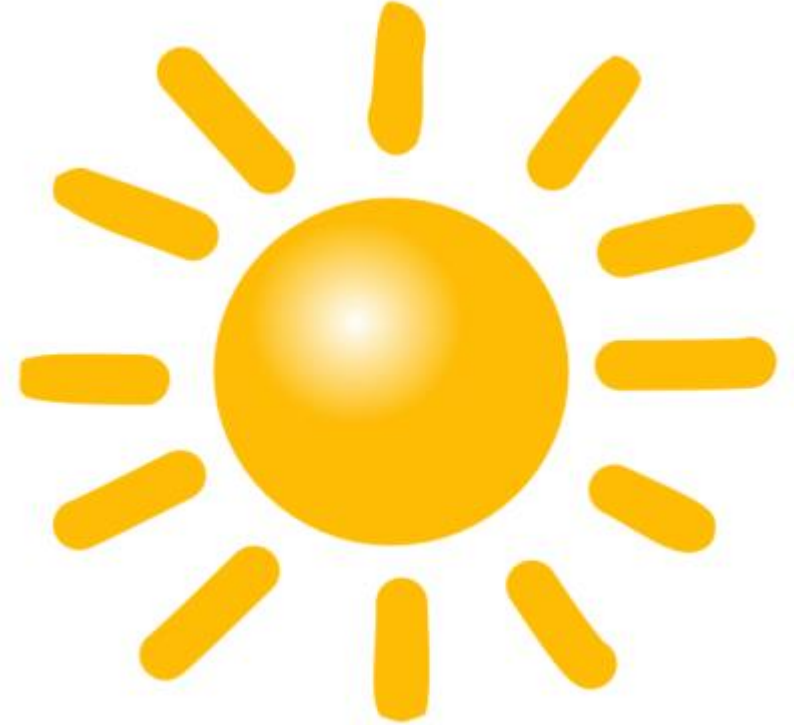
Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee:
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.



Morning Prayer

Father in heaven, you love me,
you are with me night and day.
I want to love you always
in all I do and say.
I'll try to please you, Father,
bless me through the day.
Amen.



Prayer at the end of the day

God our Father, I come to say
thank you for your love today.
Thank you for my family
and all the friends you give to me.
Guard me in the dark of night
and in the morning send your light.
Amen.



Our Father

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Amen.



Glory Be

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen.



Prayer to the Guardian Angel

Angel of God, my guardian dear,
to whom God's love commits me here,
ever this day/night be at my side,
to light and guard, to rule and guide.
Amen.





Whole School Celebrations of the Word - Provision 2025-26

Month	Liturgical Opportunity	CST charity focus Charities chosen by Chaplaincy team	Led By
September	Creation		Eco Team
October	Harvest	Braunstone Foodshare	Chaplaincy Team (Infants and Juniors)
November	Remembrance		Chaplaincy Team (Infants and Juniors)
December	Advent	Toys on the Table	Chaplaincy Team (Infants and Juniors)
December	Nativity		Year 1
December	Carol Concert		EYFS Year 3, 4, 5, and 6
December	Christingle		Year 2 Chaplaincy Team (Juniors)
February/March	Ash Wednesday/Beginning Lent	Mary's Meals	Chaplaincy Team (Infants and Juniors)
March/April	Holy Week		Year 1/Year 4 Chaplaincy Team
April	Resurrection		Chaplaincy Team (Infants and Juniors)
May	New Beginnings		Eco Team
May/June	Pentecost		Chaplaincy Team (Infants and Juniors)
Throughout the Year		A range of charities from children's independent fundraising events in school: CAFOD Mary's Meals Mission Together LOROS	

The children planning the Celebration of the Word are supported using the Let Us Pray 2gether resource alongside the RE Lead, SLT or School Chaplain.



Liturgy of the Mass 2025-26

Due to the nature of the school's split across two sites and the capacity of the Mother of God's Parish Church, we have ensured that all children are able to attend mass at least once a term. Where possible, Mass is available for Holy Days of Obligation. If this is not an option, children receive catechesis and Celebration of the Word in school.

Date	Year Group	Mass
27 th October 2025	Year 2 Year 6	Junior Hall Joint Mass Y2/6 Fr John CTK leading
3 rd November 2025	Year 1	Mother of God Fr Hans All Saints
3 rd November 2025	Year 3, 4, 5	Mother of God Fr Hans All Saints CTK leading
23 rd November 2025	Family Mass - all	Blessed Sacrament Fr John CTK leading
5 th January 2026	Year 3, 4, 5	Mother of God Fr Hans CTK Leading
6 th January 2026	Year 2	Mother of God Fr Hans
2 nd March 2026	Year 1 Year 5	Junior Hall Joint Mass Y1/5 Fr Hans CTK leading
8 th June 2026	Year 3 Year 4	Junior Hall Joint Mass Y3/4 Fr Hans CTK leading
11 th June 2026	Year 1 and 2	Mother of God Fr Hans
22 nd June 2026	EYFS	Infants Hall Fr Hans CTK leading
25 th June 2026	Year 5	Mother of God Fr Hans
29 th June 2026	KS2 First Holy Communion	Junior Hall Fr John First Holy Communion

7 th July 2026	Whole School	Infants Playground Fr John CTK leading
9 th July 2026	Year 6 Leavers	Mother of God Fr Hans Leavers Mass - CTK



Prayer Areas

Permanent Items – Crucifix, candle, enthroned Bible (relevant scripture linked to lesson or liturgical season), Pope Leo, Bishop Patrick, fabric cloth, liturgical wheel.

Month/ Season	Altar Cloth	Suggested items on display
August/ September	Green	Link to RE Branch - Creation
October	Green	Rosary beads The mysteries Images/statues of Mary
November	Green	Book of intentions (KS2) Pictures of Saints Remembrance
Advent	Purple	Advent wreath Advent calendar Mary and Joseph Wise Men YR4 upwards Jesse Tree
January - up to the Baptism of the Lord (approx. 12 th January)	White	The Holy Family Statues/images of Mary, Joseph, Jesus
January - after baptism of the Lord	Green	The Holy Family Statues/images of Mary, Joseph, Jesus
February	Green	Link to RE Branch
Lent	Purple	Bury the Alleluia Lent Calendar Stones Sand Bowl of ashes Stations of the Cross around the room (if possible).
Holy Week	Purple	(Same as above) Palm crosses
Easter	White/Gold	Easter garden Alleluia on display Images of risen Christ Paschal Candle image/actual (Yr1) Flowers Add images of The Ascension (when applicable)
Our Lady	White or Gold	Mary Statue
June	Green	Link to RE Branch Most Holy Trinity Sacred heart of Jesus St Peter and Paul
July	Green	Same as above

Children have the opportunity to add their own prayers to the prayer area and to help set up and change the prayer areas.

Prayer chaplain/monitor to set up and change the prayer altar.

There should only be holy and relevant items and artefacts on display.

**RED board:**

- Big question (with post-its answering throughout)
- Scripture linked to current branch
- Key vocabulary
- Ways of knowing symbols
- Lenses
- Children's work from current branch if wanted

In your classroom

- Prayer Journal
- Weekly Mission and Word -refer to it whenever possible so children know we follow them.
- Mission statement
- School Motto
- School Prayer
- Year group Gospel Value
- CST principle



Celebration of the Word

Planning

Prayer Focus

Theme:

Date:

Group:

Space:



Gather

ELEMENTS WE SHOULD CONSIDER INCLUDING:

- SIGN OF THE CROSS
- INTRODUCTION
- EXPLANATION OF THEME
- CORRECT SCRIPTURE RESPONSES
- EXPLANATION OF SCRIPTURE
- ASKING PRAYERS
- SORRY PRAYERS
- THANKYOU PRAYERS
- TIME FOR REFLECTION/SILENCE
- COMMUNAL ACTIONS
- INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY
- Q&A
- POWERPOINT
- VIDEO
- MUSIC
- SINGING
- COMMUNAL PRAYER
- OPEN PRAYER
- FOCAL POINT/DISPLAY
- LINKS TO THEME/SCRIPTURE
- USED IN CELEBRATION
- CORRECT LITURGICAL COLOUR



Word



Respond



Mission

ORDINARY TIME

LENT/ ADVENT

GAUDATE/ LAETARE

PENTECOST/PASSIONTIDE

CHRISTMASTIDE & EASTERTIDE



Celebration of the Word

Monitoring and Evaluation

Theme:

Date:

Group:

Space:



Explaining the theme/Scripture...



Engaging and joining in...



Things to celebrate...



Ways to grow...

Tick what you see...

- Sign of the Cross
- Introduction
- Explanation of theme
- Correct Scripture Responses
- Explanation of Scripture
- Asking Prayers
- Sorry Prayers
- Thankyou Prayers
- Time for reflection/silence
- Communal Actions
- Interactive Activity
- Q&A
- PowerPoint
- Video
- Music
- Singing
- Communal Prayer
- Open Prayer
- Focal Point/Display
 - Links to Theme/Scripture
 - Used in Celebration
- Correct liturgical Colour

Next time, to help make it even more reverent...

