Holy Cross Catholic Primary

"Building relationships with God and each other, working hard in faith and hope to give our best in all things."

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

Prayer and Liturgy Policy

Ms M. Ellis – Religious Education Leader

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Autumn 2026

To be reviewed: Autumn 2027

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Mission Statement

Building relationships with God and each other, working hard in faith and hope to give our best in all things.

Alongside this, we encourage our core values of our school:

Respect
Honesty
Tolerance
Justice
Forgiveness

1. The context of this prayer and liturgy policy

> 'The celebration of Catholic liturgies and prayers as an integral part of the learning and teaching should enable the school community to become reflective, experience the presence of God and should develop a mature spiritual life.' (Marcus Stock (2012), Christ at the Centre, Catholic Truth Society, 23.)

Prayer and liturgy in a Catholic school name 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. At Holy Cross, school prayer, worship and liturgical celebrations are central to the life of our school and our Catholic nature. These allow our pupils and staff to come together to worship God. Whilst we respect the diversity of belief in the world and are committed to the teaching of other faiths; we are dedicated to creating a school which is Christ is the Golden Thread running through all that we do. We encourage the children to experience worship and liturgical celebrations in a relevant, meaningful, and reverent manner. Our Prayer and liturgy takes account of the religious and educational needs of all who share it and is fully inclusive and accessible. All members of our school community ensure that children are provided with opportunities to develop their spirituality and a close relationship

with God through acts of worship. In developing a deep sense of spirituality, our children are prepared to live out their lives in accordance with their vocation. As an La Sainte Union (LSU) school we also strive to incorporate their mission into everything we do (See appendix 1). We recognise our founder Jean Baptiste Debrabant's vision that:

"A Christian based education is a sure hope for the future of religion and society."

2. Statement of requirement

- The law requires all maintained Catholic schools to provide an act of daily collective worship (prayer and liturgy) for all pupils, including those in the sixth form (Section 70, 1988 Education Act) that is in accordance with the rites, practices, disciplines, and liturgical norms of the Catholic Church (School Standards and Framework Act 1998, schedule 20; Instrument of Government, clause 2). Academies in England are required by their funding agreement and Articles of Association to comply with similar requirements (The Mainstream Academy and Free School: Supplemental Funding Agreement, December 2020; Model Articles for Catholic Academies, February 2019).
  The law requires all maintained schools to recognise and respect that parents have the legal right to withdraw their children up to the age of 16 from prayer and liturgy (School Standards and Framework Act 1998, s.71(1A)). Sixth-form pupils can choose to withdraw themselves from prayer and liturgy (School Standards and Framework Act 1998, s.71(1B)).

- The school's provision for prayer and liturgy will fulfil pupils' entitlement to experience the range of liturgical treasures of the Church, including a shared repertoire of prayers and liturgical music with which pupils in the school will be familiar.
  Prayer and liturgy are not designated curriculum time. In the context of the Catholic school, this means that times of prayer and liturgy are not considered to be part of the allocation of curriculum time for Religious Education.

Legal requirements (4.1)

Within maintained schools and academies, there is a legal requirement for an act of collective worship to take place daily. Those responsible for the governance of schools with a religious character are legally required to ensure that collective worship is provided and is in accordance with the trust deed or religious designation of the school. In Catholic maintained schools and academies, this daily requirement will be fulfilled variedly as described in this Directory. In schools where this legal requirement holds, parents can choose to withdraw their children up to Year 11. In all Catholic schools (maintained,

academies, independent, non-maintained special, sixth-form colleges), prayer and liturgy are integral to the spiritual life of the school and to pupils' moral and spiritual development. Taking part in daily prayer and liturgy helps build community cohesion by creating a consistent structure around the core values and symbols of Christianity. Prayer and liturgy are, therefore, an important part of a Catholic school's distinctive character. They are integral to the Catholic identity and life of the school, and they would take place in all Catholic schools, whether schools were required by statute to provide collective worship. Notably, too, pupil participation and engagement in prayer and liturgy are crucially important criteria in the diocesan inspection of Catholic education. Therefore, we have replaced the term 'collective worship' with the phrase 'prayer and liturgy', which more fittingly describes its role in a Catholic school. The bishop entrusts his responsibility for prayer and liturgy to the governors and headteachers. It is their responsibility to ensure that it is in accordance with the rites, practices, discipline, and liturgical norms of the Catholic Church.

3. Responsibility

(a) Governance

The governors, as guardians of the Catholic school's life and mission, have a responsibility to ensure that:

• prayer and liturgy are central to the Catholic life of the school and therefore are in line with the guidance set out by the Prayer and Liturgy Directory
• there is a named person(s) who is responsible for prayer and liturgy in the school (the Prayer and Liturgy Coordinator)
• the prayer and liturgy policy is updated regularly and shared with all stakeholders
• there is a budget for prayer and liturgy that reflects its centrality to the life of a Catholic school.

(b) Headteacher

The headteacher, as the spiritual leader of the school as a Catholic community, ensures that:

• prayer and liturgy are central to the Catholic life of the school and therefore are in line with the guidance set out by the Prayer and Liturgy Directory
• they work in partnership with the leader(s) for prayer and liturgy
• those responsible for prayer and liturgy in the school have been given appropriate training and formation to ensure that all guidance is followed and adhered to
• there are suitable resources for prayer and liturgy in the school.

(c) Prayer and Liturgy Leader

Those responsible for prayer and liturgy ensure that:

• prayer and liturgy are central to the Catholic life of the school and therefore are in line with the guidance set out by the Prayer and Liturgy Directory
• there is an ***Annual Plan of Provision (appendix 2)*** for prayer and liturgy across the school year which identifies liturgical seasons and key celebrations, as well as opportunities for the celebration of the Sacraments
• there is daily planned prayer for all pupils, appropriate to age and ability, as outlined in the Prayer progression Directory
• pupils are supported in their liturgical formation to take an active role in the planning, preparation, and delivery of prayer and liturgy according to their age and capacity, and in a manner which facilitates their progressive participation
• resources to support the planning of prayer and liturgy are appropriate and readily available to staff and pupils
• induction on prayer and liturgy takes place for new members of staff as required
• staff have access to effective training and formation opportunities
• monitoring and evaluation of prayer and liturgy take place regularly and feed back into planning for future liturgies
• monitoring of prayer and liturgy is reported to the headteacher and governing body to support whole-school development and the Catholic life of the school
• there is collaboration with local clergy and parishes
• liaison with the Diocesan Advisory Service and others is maintained to ensure they keep updated with best practice.

(d) All staff
Teaching staff are responsible for:
• prayer and liturgy being central to the Catholic life of the school and therefore are in line with the guidance set out by the Prayer and Liturgy Directory
• following the ***Annual Plan of Provision*** for prayer and liturgy across the school year
• ensuring there is daily planned prayer for all pupils in their care, appropriate to age and ability, as outlined in the **Prayer progression Directory**
• that pupils are supported in their liturgical formation to take an active role in the planning, preparation, and delivery of prayer and liturgy according to their age and capacity, and in a manner which facilitates their progressive participation
• ensuring they have resources to support the planning of prayer and liturgy and in class Spiritual areas follow the guidance (see appendix 3).

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4. Overview of prayer and liturgy provision

In this section of the policy, an overview of the provision is given. It will outline when prayer and liturgy take place, and the daily and weekly pattern of prayer and liturgy offered in the school. It will also include when Mass is celebrated across the year, when there are opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and when there are special liturgies. This section of the policy is similar to but less detailed than the Annual Plan of Provision. The Annual Plan of Provision (appendix 2) will include, for example, dates, who is responsible, and much more detail.

Overview of Provision

Overview of Prayer and Liturgy provision				
Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**
Morning Prayer in class N – Y6	Morning Prayer in class N – Y6	Morning Prayer in class N – Y6	Morning Prayer in class N – Y6	Morning Prayer in class N – Y6
Celebration of the Word: Whole school Led by HT/DHT Focus: Sunday's Gospel / cultural event	Celebration of the Word: EYFS / KS1 / KS2 CT led Focus: Liturgical year / CST / Cultural events	Catholic Social teaching and singing Celebration of the Word	EYFS, KS1, KS2 Celebration of the Word: Pupil led Focus: Liturgical year / CST / Cultural events	
Grace before meals in class N – Y6	Grace before meals in class N – Y6	Grace before meals in class N – Y6	Grace before meals in class N – Y6	Grace before meals in class N – Y6
Grace after meals in class N – Y6	Grace after meals in class N – Y6	Grace after meals in class N – Y6	Grace after meals in class N – Y6	Grace after meals in class N – Y6 Catholic Mediation N-Y6
Evening prayer in class N – Y6	Evening prayer in class N – Y6	Evening prayer in class N – Y6	Evening prayer in class N – Y6	Evening prayer in class N – Y6

Whole School Mass and Reconciliation									
	N	**R**	**Y1**	**Y2**	**Y3**	**Y4**	**Y5**	**Y6**	**Parents**
Holy Cross Feast Day / Beginning of year mass									
Advent Reconciliation									
Advent Mass									
Lent Mass									
Lent Reconciliation									
Beginning of Summer term mass									
End of year mass									

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Special events									
	N	**Rec**	**Y1**	**Y2**	**Y3**	**Y4**	**Y5**	**Y6**	**Parents**
EYFS Nativity									N & R
KS1 Nativity									Y1&Y2
Lower KS2 Nativity									Lower KS2
Upper KS2 Christmas COTW									Upper KS2
EYFS & Year 5 readers Easter Story – Palm Sunday			**Active audience**						EYFS
KS1 & Yr 5 readers Easter Story – Good Friday		**Active audience**			**Active Audience**				KS1
Year 3 & Year 5 readers Easter Story - The Passion of Christ		**Active audience**					**Active Audience**		Year 3
Year 4 & Year5 readers Easter Story – The Resurrection of Christ		**Active audience**					**Active audience**		Yr 4
Whole school May Procession									All

4a. Pupils are supported in their liturgical formation enabling them to take an active role in the planning, preparation, and delivery of prayer and liturgy according to their age and capacity. Teachers make use of Holy Cross Planning document for pupil led Celebrations of The Word (appendix 4) to guide planning and give children time to prepare prayer and liturgy each week. Faith Council take an active role in whole school prayer and liturgy as well as monitoring class-based pupil led prayer and liturgy offering support and guidance.

5. Resourcing

Prayer and liturgy are central to the school's understanding of itself as a Catholic school, and this is reflected in the annual budget allocation and available resources, including staff time, chaplaincy provision, and dedicated spaces for prayer and liturgy. The Catholic character of the school is reflected in religious artefacts and images on display throughout the building. Dedicated spaces for prayer and

liturgy will be furnished and maintained as such and updated to reflect the Church's liturgical season. Staff training and formation costs will be funded separately to ensure that all staff are able to fulfil their responsibility to contribute to the prayer and liturgical life of the school. All classes have Spiritual Areas for which the teachers are given guidance (see appendix 4)

6. Training and formation

All new staff will be supported during induction and beyond, so that they fully understand the responsibility they carry within their individual role for leading prayer and liturgy in the school. Any individual training needs will be identified and addressed through training and formation. There will also be the opportunity for whole-staff professional development at least once a year, so that all staff understand the importance of prayer and liturgy and relevant staff are well supported to lead as required

7. Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of the quality and impact of prayer and liturgy will take place regularly, and at least annually, and involve all key stakeholders: pupils, parents, staff, clergy, and governors. Areas for development will be identified and issues raised will be actioned and evidenced as appropriate.

8. Review

The policy will be reviewed as part of the regular cycle of policy review conducted by the governors.

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Appendix 1

LSU SCHOOLS' VISION STATEMENT

"I have come that they may have life and have it to the full" (Jnl0:10)

As schools founded by the Sisters of La Sainte Union (Holy Union), challenged by the needs of our time, we aspire to provide an education for our young people which reflects the vision of Fr Debrabant, and the call of La Sainte Union to be at the heart of our rapidly changing world revealing God's love.

We are committed to live the special gift of Union passed on to us by the sisters and the wider LSU community so that we may with joy

Grow each day in holiness and prayer, witnessing to the life-giving presence and compassion of God; reverencing the dignity, diversity, and vulnerability of all.

Be a family community living the gospel and committed to reconciliation, integrity, and justice. Empower each other to live life to the full, embodying God's love in the world.

Embrace all that God has entrusted to us by caring for the planet, our common home and recognising the inter-connectedness of all life.

Be true to our LSU identity characterised by simplicity, hospitality, openness, and warm relationships throughout our lives.

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Appendix 2

	September		October
3rd	Beginning of the Year Head Teacher COTW	1st	Year 6 Class Mass with Fr Francis
7th	Head Teacher COTW Learner of the Week led by Year 6	2nd	Learner of the week lead by Year 3 Year 5 Parish Mass
14th	Holy Cross Feast Day Mass with Fr Francis at Holy cross Church & Picnic	5th	Head Teacher Gospel COTW
TBC	CCT Mass Brentwood Cathedral 4:30pm	8th	Year 5 Class Mass with Fr Francis Learner of the week lead by Year 2
18th	Learner of the week lead by Year 5	9th	Year 4 Parish Mass
21st	Head Teacher COTW– International Day of Peace	13th	Fr Debrabant Day Head teacher COTW
24th	Buddy Assembly – Reception & Year 6	15th	Year 4 Class Mass with Fr Francis Learner of the week lead by Year 6
25th	Learner of the week lead by Year 4 Year 6 Parish Mass	16th	Year 3 Parish Mass
28th	Head Teacher COTW	19th	Head Teacher COTW
		22nd	Year 3 Class Mass with Fr Francis
		23rd	Year 5 Parish Mass Learner of the week lead by Year 5

	November		December
2nd	Head Teacher COTW	TBC	EYFS Nativity (TBC) KS1 Christmas COTW (TBC) LKS2 Christmas COTW (TBC) UKS2 Christmas COTW (TBC)
6th	Year 6 Parish Mass Learner of the week Lead by Year 4	3rd	Reconciliation Service Year 4,5 and 6 with Fr Francis
9th	Head Teacher COTW	4th	Advent Mass Years 3,4, and 5 Learner of the week lead by Year 5
11th	Remembrance Day	7th	Head Teacher COTW Advent
12th	Year 6 Class COTW	11th	Advent Mass Years 6 & 2
13th	Year 5 Parish Mass Learner of the week Assembly lead by Year 3		
16th	Head Teacher COTW		

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19th	Year 5 Class COTW	14th	Learner of the week Assembly Lead by Year 4
20th	Year 4 Parish Mass Learner of the week Assembly lead by Year 2	18th	Head Teacher COTW
23rd	Head Teacher COTW		End of term & Advent Mass – All Year groups
26th	Year 4 Class COTW		Learner of the week Assembly Lead by Year 3
27th	Year 3 Parish Mass Learner of the week Assembly lead by Year 6		
30th	Head Teacher COTW		
	January		February
6th	Head Teacher COTW - Epiphany Holy Day of Obligation	1st	Head Teacher COTW
8th	Learner of the week Assembly Lead by Year 6	4th	Year 3 Class COTW
11th	Head Teacher COTW	5th	Learner of the week Assembly Lead by Year 1
15th	Learner of the week Assembly Lead by Year 5	8th	Year 6 & 2 Parish Mass
18th	Head Teacher COTW	10th	Head Teacher COTW
22nd	Learner of the week lead by Year 4	12th	Ash Wednesday COTW with Fr Francis
25th	Head Teacher COTW	22nd	Lent Mass Year 5, 4 and 3
29th	Learner of the week lead by Year 3	26th	Head Teacher COTW
			Lent Mass Year 6 & 1 Learner of the week Lead by Year 2
	March		April
1st	Head Teacher COTW	12th	Head Teacher COTW
4th	Reconciliation Service with Fr Francis	15th	Beginning of term mass with Fr Francis– ALL YEAR GROUPS
5th	Learner of the week lead by Year 6 Lent Parish Mass Year 3	16th	Learner of the Week Lead by Year 3
8th	Head Teacher COTW	19th	Head Teacher COTW
		22nd	Year 2 Class Liturgy with Fr Francis

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12th	Learner of the week Lead by Year 5 Lent Parish Mass Year 4 & 2	23rd	Learner of the week Lead by Year 2 Year 5 Parish Mass
15th	Head Teacher COTW	26th	Head Teacher COTW
19th	Lent Parish Mass Year 5 Learner of the week Lead by Year 4	29th	Year 1 Class Liturgy with Fr Francis
22nd	Easter Assembly EYFS & Year 5 – Palm Sunday	30th	Year 4 Parish Mass
23rd	Easter Assembly – Year 1 & 2 -Maundy Thursday		
24th	Easter Assembly – Year 3 & 5– Good Friday		
25th	Easter Assembly – Year 4 &5 – Easter Sunday		
	May		June
4th	Head teacher COTW	7th	Head Teacher COTW
6th	Ascension of the Lord Holy Day of Obligation Mass - TBC	11th	Year 5 Parish Mass Learner of the week Lead by Year 3
7th 11th	Learner of the Week Led by Year 1 Our Lady, Mother of God May procession and COTW with Fr Francis	14th	Head Teacher Gospel COTW
13th	Reception Class Liturgy with Fr Francis	17th	Year 2 Class COTW
14th	Learner of the week Lead by Year 6	18th	Year 4 Parish Mass Learner of the week Lead by Year 2
17th	Head Teacher COTW	21st	Head Teacher COTW
21st	Year 3 Parish Mass Learner of the week Lead by Year 5	24th	Year 1 Class COTW
24th	Head Teacher COTW	25th	Year 3 at Parish Mass Learner of the week Lead by Year 1
28th	Year 6 & 2 Parish Mass Learner of the week Lead by Year 4	28th	Head Teacher COTW
		29th	St Peter & St Paul Holy Day of Obligation Mass TBC

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	July		Continuous provision for prayer
1st 2nd 5th 9th 12th 16th 19th	Reception Class COTW Year 6 & 2 Parish Mass Learner of the Week Lead by Year 5 Head Teacher COTW Learner of the Week Lead by Year 4 Head Teacher COTW Learner of the Week Lead by Year 6 End of year and Year 6 Leavers Mass with Fr Francis– ALL YEAR GROUPS		Daily Classroom prayer (morning, before and after lunch and end of day); Weekly Phase Group COTW; Weekly Catholic Social Teaching & Singing COTW; Weekly Child led COTW; Weekly class Catholic meditation; Chapel – termly rotation , Regular Stay and Pray; Staff Meeting prayers, Rosary challenge during October and May, Pop up spontaneous prayer spaces during Advent and Lent. Other events will be added throughout the year.

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Prayer Progression directory

In Catechesi Tradendi St Paul VI wrote: "The blossoms, if we may call them that, of faith and piety do not grow in the desert places of a memory-less catechesis. What is essential is that the texts that are memorised must at the same time be taken in and gradually understood in depth, in order to become a source of Christian life on the personal level and the community level."

This suggests that Catholic pupils not only learn common prayers but are helped to appreciate how each text draws them into a relationship with Jesus, so that these texts become a foundation for their ongoing prayer life. It is important that pupils encounter during their time at school a wide range of prayers. They should have a familiarity with the common texts of the Catholic tradition, but also appreciate that there are many ways of praying and languages of prayer. As the pupils mature and developed so should their prayers and as such Holy Cross have a Progression of Prayers starting from Nursery.

Holy Cross provides each of our families with a prayer book containing the prayers listed below, alongside other prayers such as our class saints' prayers and prayers from our founding sisters of LSU. This prayer book is given to pupils as a gift to be valued and to be used. It is important to know some prayers by heart as well as to know where to turn to express in prayer with the hopes and fears of growing in life and faith.

With sensitivity to their age, personal development, and capacity, pupils should know the following prayers:

- The Sign of the Cross
- The Lord's Prayer
- Hail Mary
- Glory be
- The Apostles' Creed
- An Act of Contrition
- Angel of God
- Eternal Rest
- Morning Offering
- Grace before meals
- Grace after meals
- Come, Holy Spirit
- The Angelus
- The Rosary
- Hail Holy Queen
- The Magnificat
- The Memorare
- The Prayer of St Richard of Chichester
- Act of Faith
- Act of Hope
- Act of Love
- Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I give you

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Holy Cross Prayer Progression					
Age phase	**Nursery**	**Reception**	**5-7 (KS1)**	**7 -9 (Lower KS2)**	**9 – 11 (Upper KS2)**
Prayers	Begin to recognise • The Sign of the Cross • Morning Prayer • Grace before meals • Grace after meals • Evening Prayer	• The Sign of the Cross • Morning Prayer • Grace before meals • Grace after meals • Evening Prayer	As Reception & • The Lord's Prayer • Hail Mary • Glory be	As KS1 & •Morning Offering •Grace before meals •Grace after meals •Evening Prayer - The Prayer of St Richard of Chichester •The Apostles' Creed •An Act of Contrition •Angel of God •Come, Holy Spirit •Jesus, Mary and Joseph •Eternal Rest	As Lower KS2 & • The Rosary • The Magnificat • Act of Faith • Act of Hope • Act of Love • Benedictus • Angelus • Hail Holy Queen • The Memorare

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The Sign of the Cross

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

The sign of the cross is both an action and a statement of faith. A physical reminder of our redemption in the cross and an expression of faith in the Trinity.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The Lord's Prayer 'is truly the summary of the whole of the Gospel'. (CCC 2761.)

The 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.

The first part of the Hail Mary is biblical, drawn from Gabriel's greeting to Mary at the Annunciation and Elizabeth's greeting at the Visitation. The second part of the prayer has its origins in 15th-century Italy.

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Glory be to the Father

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.

The doxology is a short expression of praise of the Trinity dating back to the early Church. It is used extensively in the Liturgy of the Hours and in devotions such as the Rosary.

Daily Class Prayers EYFS / KS1

Morning Prayer - sung

Good morning, Lord we praise your Holy name,
and thank you for giving us this lovely new day.
Good morning, Lord we praise your Holy name,
and thank you for giving us this lovely new day

Grace before meals

Bless us our Lord as we sit together
Bless the food we eat today
Bless the hands that made the food
Bless us oh 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.

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Evening Prayer - Sung

Now the day is over
We lift our hands and say
Thank you Heavenly Father for today
We are sorry for the wrong things
But glad about the right
Keep us Heavenly Father
In your love tonight

Daily Class Prayers KS2

Morning Offering

O Jesus,
through the most pure heart of Mary,
I offer you all my prayers,
thoughts, works and sufferings of this day
for all the intentions of your most Sacred heart.
Amen

Grace before meals

Bless us, O Lord, and these your gifts
which we are about to receive from your bounty.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Grace after meals

We give you thanks, Almighty God,
for all your benefits,
who live and reign, world without end.
Amen.

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Evening Prayer - Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

Thanks be to you, my Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits which you have given me,
for all the pains and insults which you have borne for me.
O most merciful Redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly,
day by day.
Amen.

Other KS2 Prayers

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
the Father almighty
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

Based on baptismal documents of the 8th century but related to texts of an earlier origin.

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Act of Contrition

O my God,
because you are so good,
I am very sorry that I have sinned against you,
and with the help of your grace
I will not sin again.

One of the forms of the Penitent's Prayer of Sorrow found in the Rite of Penance.

Angel of God

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

The prayer is based on one by Reginald of Canterbury in the early 12th century.

Come, Holy Spirit

V. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
R. And kindle in them the fire of your love.
V. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
R. And you will renew the face of the earth.
Let us pray
O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit,
did instruct the hearts of your faithful,
grant that by that same Holy Spirit,
we may be truly wise, and ever rejoice in your consolation,
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

This prayer is a compilation of a number of liturgical texts drawn from the Mass and Office of Pentecost and the Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit.

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The Rosary

For each mystery or decade, one Our Father, ten Hail Marys and the Glory be is recited.

The Joyful Mysteries

(Recited Monday and Saturday)

The Annunciation (Luke 1:26–38)
The Visitation (Luke 1:39–45)
The Nativity (Luke 2:1–7)
The Presentation in the Temple (Luke 2:22–35)
The Finding in the Temple (Luke 2:41–52)

The Mysteries of Light

(Recited Thursday)

The Baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:13–17)
The Wedding Feast of Cana (John 2:1–12)
The Proclamation of the Kingdom, with the call to Conversion (Mark 1:14–15; 2:3–12)
The Transfiguration (Luke 9:28–36)
The Institution of the Eucharist (Matthew 26:26–29)

The Sorrowful Mysteries

(Recited Tuesday and Friday)

The Agony in the Garden (Mark 14:32–42)
The Scourging at the Pillar (Matthew 27:15–26)
The Crowning with Thorns (Matthew 27:27–31)
The Carrying of the Cross (John 19:15–17; Luke 23:27–32)
The Crucifixion (Luke 23:33–38, 44–46)

The Glorious Mysteries

(Recited Wednesday and Sunday)

The Resurrection (Matthew 28:1–8)
The Ascension (Acts 1:6–11)

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The Descent of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1–12)
The Assumption (1 Thessalonians 4:13–19)
The Coronation of Mary Queen of Heaven and Earth (Revelation 12:1; 14:1–5; Isaiah 6:1–3)

Prayer concluding the Rosary

[Hail, Holy Queen, etc. as above]

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.
Let us pray.
O God, whose only-begotten Son,
by his life, death and resurrection,
has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life,
grant, we beseech thee,
that meditating on these mysteries
of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
we may imitate what they contain
and obtain what they promise,
through the same Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has looked upon his handmaid in her lowliness;
for behold, from this day forward,
all generations will call me blessed.
For the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
His mercy is from age to age
for those who fear him.
He has made known the strength of his arm,
and has scattered the proud in their conceit of heart.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones
and has exalted those who are lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things,
and has sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,

mindful of his mercy,
even as he promised to our fathers,
to Abraham and his descendants for ever.
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.

Mary's song of praise was first sung to her cousin Elizabeth (Luke 1:46–55). It is sung daily at Evening Prayer.

Act of Faith

My God, I believe in you
and all that your Church teaches,
because you have said it,
and your word is true.

Act of Hope

My God, I hope in you,
for grace and for glory,
because of your promises,
your mercy and your power.

Act of Love

My God, because you are so good,
I love you with all my heart,
and for your sake,
I love your neighbour as myself.

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The Benedictus

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel:
for he has visited his people and redeemed them;
he has raised up for us a horn of salvation
in the House of David his servant,
as he spoke through the mouth of his holy ones,
his prophets from ages past:
To grant salvation from our foes,
and from the hand of all who hate us,
showing mercy to our fathers,
remembering his holy covenant;
the oath he swore to Abraham our father,
To grant that freed from the hand of our foes,
we may serve him without fear
in holiness and righteousness
all the days of our life.
And you, little child, will be called
the Prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord
to make ready his ways:
to grant knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins;
Through the tender mercy of our God,
the Dawn from on high will visit us,
to shine on those who sit in darkness,
and those in the shadow of death;
to guide our feet into the way of peace.
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.

The Canticle of Zechariah, father of John the Baptist, is taken from Luke's Gospel (Luke 1:68–79). It is sung daily at Morning Prayer.

The Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
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.
V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it done unto me according to thy word.
Hail Mary.
V. And the Word was made flesh.
R. And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary.
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.
Let us pray;
Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord,
thy grace into our hearts;
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ, thy Son,
was made known by the message of an angel,
may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.
Through the same Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

The Angelus is traditionally said three times a day: at 6am, 12 noon, and 6pm.

Hail, Holy Queen (Salve Regina)

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,
Hail our life, our sweetness and our hope!
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.
To thee do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this valley of tears!
Turn, then, most gracious Advocate,
thine eyes of mercy toward us,
and after this, our exile,
show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving,
O sweet Virgin Mary.

The Salve Regina is one of the Marian Anthems sung at Night Prayer.

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The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection,
implored thy help, or sought thy intercession, was left unaided.
Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee,
O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.
To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions,
but in thy mercy hear and answer me.
Amen.

A 16th-century version of a longer 15th-century prayer.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I give you my heart and my soul.
Jesus, Mary and Joseph, assist me in my last agony.
Jesus, Mary and Joseph, may I breathe forth my soul in peace with you.

Eternal Rest

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.
Amen.

Based on the Entrance Antiphon of the Mass for the Dead.

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Appendix 3

Religious Environment Expectations

Table Area

Cloth - colour corresponding to Liturgical year

Bible – which should be raised

Class Saint picture & prayer

Our Lady statue

Rosary

Class candle with photo of class & teachers

1 or 2 Artefacts (Chosen by children from box or draw nearby. Could be related to the times of year, specific learning or nature based.)

Cross

R.E. book basket

Board Area

Board at front of class

Board should be of similar size to Core Subjects

Board should be backed in green. Display of children's creative work.

Crucifix

School prayers & School Prayer Booklet

Our Father Hail Mary Glory Be

Prayers that are being taught during the term

Display of children work

Key vocabulary

Skills Words

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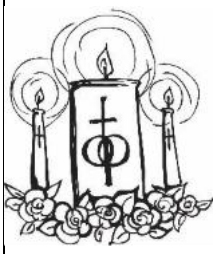
Appendix 4

Example of Child -led Prayer and Liturgy Planning Sheet

NURSERY - CLASS BASED

Date : **1x per week**		**Focus:**

Focal Point 	**Discuss children:** **What will your focal point look like (e.g. a Bible / religious artefacts e.g. cross / artwork / candles/ flowers / season artefact / tablecloth / lighting)?** **Consider the liturgical colours.**
Creating the mood	**Discuss with children:** **What music shall we have ? (x1)** **(Play 2 hymns and they can choose or two types of calm music and they could choose)** **How shall we sit? Shall we sit in a circle ? Shall we sit in rows?**
THE ACT OF WORSHIP	
GATHER We **gather** as God's family	**Child can light the candle and hold the cross. CT model making the Sign of the Cross and introduce the theme. Calm music**
WORD We **listen** to the Word of God 	**CT choose a sentence or two from Bible to match the theme** **OR** **CT choose a piece of art work that relates to the theme for the children to look at**

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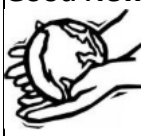
	CT ask children what they think about when they hear the Bible sentence / word **How does it make them feel. CT may need to model this** **OR** **CT ask children what they can see in the picture** **How does it make them feel. CT may need to model this**
RESPOND We **respond** to the Word of God	**CT model a prayer in response to the Gospel/ art work**
REFLECT **We have a moment of silent reflection**	**Calm music :** **Have a very brief moment when children are silent and can pass around the Holding Cross (or other artefact)**
MISSION	
MISSION We want to **share the Good News** 	**CT model how we can share the message from the Gospel / art work** **Invite children to say what they could do** **End with CT modelling the sign of the cross and child turning of the candle.**
EVALUATION (DISCUSS WITH CHILDREN) **How did the prayer make you feel?** **What did the prayer make you think about?** **What did you enjoy during the prayer?** **What will you remember about the prayer?**	

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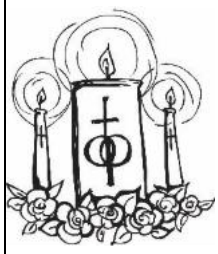
What Went Well:	Even Better If:

RECEPTION

Date :	Focus:
Focal Point 	**Discuss with children:** **What will your focal point look like (e.g. a Bible / religious artefacts e.g. cross / artwork / candles/ flowers / season artefact / tablecloth / lighting)?** **Consider the liturgical colours.**
Creating the mood	**Discuss with children:** **Will we use computer?** **How will we sit:** **Hymn x1 (if you wish)**

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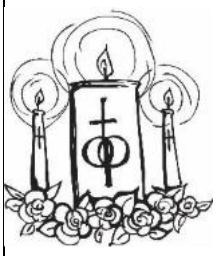
THE ACT OF WORSHIP	
GATHER We **gather** as God's family	**Children light the candle and make the Sign of the Cross and introduce the theme. Calm music**
WORD We **listen** to the Word of God 	**Children choose an appropriate short Scripture or religious image (from choice of 2)**
RESPOND We **respond** to the Word of God	**Children spontaneously think of prayer in response to the Gospel.** **Children choose type of prayer ;** **Thank you** **Please help me** **Praise (You are amazing God....)** **Sorry for** **Teacher model a prayer**

KS1 / KS2

Date of Prayer/Liturgy:	**Class/Year:**	**Focus:**
Focal Point 	**Discuss with children:** **What will your focal point look like (e.g. a Bible / religious artefacts e.g. cross / artwork / candles/ flowers / season artefact / tablecloth / lighting)? Consider the liturgical colours.**	

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Creating the mood	**Discuss with children:** **Entrance/ Exit Music:** **ICT:** **Seating:** **Chosen Hymns (x2):**
THE ACT OF WORSHIP	
Gather We **gather** as God's family	**Light the candle and make the Sign of the Cross and introduce the theme. Procession with Bible. Calm music.** **Relate the theme to real life experiences (children to share their own ideas)**
WORD We **listen** to the Word of God 	**Discuss with the children an appropriate Gospel reading.** **Children read the Gospel / act it out** **Hymn:**

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Respond	**Children to write their own prayers and share them in response to the Gospel.** (TAPS) Thanks Adoration Praise Sorrow
REFLECT **We have a moment of silent reflection**	
Mission We want to **share the Good News** 	**Children then share the message from the Gospel, what do we need to now:** **End the Liturgy with a final prayer, the mission statement and the sign of the cross.** **Final hymn:**
EVALUATION (DISCUSS WITH CHILDREN)	
What Went Well:	**Even Better If:**

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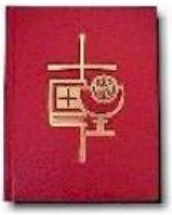
Items used at Mass & Liturgies

Books



Sacramentary
Contains the opening prayer, prayer over the gifts, prayer after communion, and solemn blessings. Eucharistic prayers and prefaces for all of the masses including most special occasions.

Book of the Gospels
Contains only the Gospel readings. It is used on more solemn occasions and is carried by the deacon if it is used.

Lectionary
Contains the scripture readings for Mass. It is carried in the procession by the lector and placed on the ambo.

Hymnal/Missalette
Contains all the parts of the mass for a specific season in the liturgical year including instructions on when to stand, sit, or kneel.

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Objects

Chalice The large cup used at Mass used to hold the wine which becomes the Blood of Christ.

Paten
A saucer-like disk which holds the bread which becomes the Body of Christ.

Ciborium
A vessel used to hold the Hosts which will be used for communion. They are also used to reserve the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle.

Decanter or Flagon
The bottle or pitcher like vessel used to hold the wine which will be consecrated at mass for the communion of the people. It is brought forth with the gifts.

Communion Cups
Chalice like vessels used at communion when the people receive from the cup. They are kept on the Credence Table and brought to the Altar at communion time.

Corporal A white linen cloth on which are placed the vessels containing the bread and wine during Mass which will become the Body and Blood of Christ.

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Purificator
A white cloth use to cleanse the chalice. It resembles a napkin.

Pall
The stiff, square, white cover that is placed over the paten when it is on the chalice.

Tabernacle
The shrine or receptacle either round or rectangular that serves as a place for the exclusive reservation of the Blessed Sacrament. It should be of solid material, opaque, secure and inviolable, fitting the architecture of the church in a prominent place.

Censor & Boat
The Censor, also known as the Thurible, is used at solemn occasion to incense the bread and wine after the offertory, the priest, and congregation. The Boat holds the incense until it is place in the censor by the celebrant.

Monstrance
A sacred vessel designed to expose the consecrated Host to the congregation either for adoration in church of carrying in procession, particularly on the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ.

Sanctuary Lamp
An oil lamp or wax candle that burns near the tabernacle. It is always lit whenever the Blessed Sacrament is reserved in churches or chaples as a sign of honour shown to the Lord.

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Vestments

Alb
A long white garment which can be used by all liturgical ministers. It is a reminder of the baptismal garment worn when the new Christian "Put on Christ."

Cincture
A long cord used for fastening albs at the waist. It holds the loose-fitting type of alb in place and is used to adjust it to proper length. It is usually white, although the liturgical colour of the day may be used.

Liturgical Colours for Chasuable, Dalmatic and Stoles

Green - Worn during "Ordinary Time." Ordinary does not mean ordinary in the sense of common or normal. Ordinary means counting, as in the 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Red - Worn on Passion (Palm) Sunday, Good Friday, Pentecost Sunday, and on the Feast Days of Martyrs including the Apostles and Evangelists.

Violet - Worn during Advent and Lent or at Masses for the dead.

White - Worn during the Christmas, Easter seasons and celebrations of Mary, the Angels, Saints who were not martyrs, All Saints, Birth of John the Baptist, Chair of Peter, Conversion of Paul, St. John the Evangelist and is the preferred colour for Masses for the dead..

Rose - Worn on the 3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) and the 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday/ Mothering Sunday).

Black - Was traditionally worn at Masses for the dead. Now the preferred colour is White or Violet.

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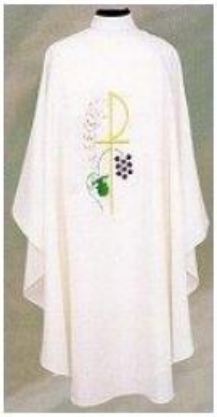

Chasuble
The sleeveless outer garment, slipped over the head, hanging down from the shoulders covering the alb and stole of the priest. It is the proper Mass vestment for the main celebrant and its colour varies according to the feast.

Dalmatic
A loose-fitting robe with open sides and wide sleeves worn by a deacon on more solemn feasts. It takes its colour from the liturgical feast as listed above.

Priest Stole
A long cloth "scarf." According to the manner in which it worn it is the mark of the Office of the priest or deacon. A priest wears it around the neck, letting it hang down in front.

Deacon Stole
A long cloth "scarf." According to the manner in which it worn it is the mark of the Office of the priest or deacon. A deacon wears it over his left shoulder, fastening it at his right side.

Cassock
A long black garment worn by Altar Servers under the Surplice. Also worn by Diocesan Priests (Black), Monsignors (Rose), Bishops (Violet), Cardinals (Red), and the Pope (White).

Surplice
This is a wide-sleeved garment, slipped over the head, covering the shoulders, and coming down below the hips. It is worn over the cassock.