



# St. Josephs Roman Catholic Primary School



## RE Newsletter autumn 2

Dear Parents, please find below the important up and coming dates in our Christian calendar. I have also included a short synopsis of the themes we will be covering this half-term and some of the questions that the children will be pondering and answering. To support your child's learning you could ask them some of the questions and discuss them as a family.

As a consequence of the lockdown we are unable to join our parish family for Mass on Thursday mornings in person but we will be joining Father Brett's virtual Mass at 10.00am, until we are able to go back to church. If you would like to join in please visit the parish website where you will find the live stream link.

### **Important Dates**

21 <sup>st</sup> November Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Day
22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov. Christ the King- Youth Sunday	Dec. 26 <sup>th</sup> St. Stephen's Day
29 <sup>th</sup> Nov. Advent begins	Dec 27 <sup>th</sup> The Holy Family
30 <sup>th</sup> Nov. St. Andrews Day	
December 8 <sup>th</sup> - Immaculate Conception	

### **Themes for this term**

### **Content and Key questions**

<b>Reception - God's family - Advent</b>	<p><b>To know that the angel Gabriel asked Mary to be the mother of God's son. To know the story of the birth of Jesus. To know that shepherds were the first to hear about the birth of Jesus.</b></p> <p>Some key questions? Where did Mary live? Who came to see her? Where did Mary and Joseph go? Why did they have to make a long journey? How did they feel on the journey? What do we do in Advent? How can we prepare? Why do we need to prepare for Jesus' birthday? What happened when the baby was born? How did the shepherds feel?</p>
<b>Year 1 - Families and Mary Mother of God</b>	<p><b>To know that God sent the Angel Gabriel to ask Mary to be the Mother of God His Son. To be able to talk about Mary's response to God.</b></p> <p>Some key questions- Why did God choose Mary? What do you think Mary thought when the angel asked her to be the Mother of His Son? How did Mary prepare? How do we prepare? How can we help others? Why is it important to think of other people at Christmas?</p>
<b>Year 2 - Sign and Symbols used in Baptism</b>	<p><b>Christians believe that everyone is invited to share in the life and work of God through Baptism. The Bible recounts God's invitation to people to share in his life and work; among them Moses, Samuel, the prophets, Mary and the apostles.</b></p> <p>Some key questions- What symbols have you noticed?          What do you think those symbols mean?          What have we learnt about water in science?          What do you think the water symbolises in Baptism?          What are the words used by the priest as he pours the water over the baby's head?          What is the meaning of these words for the baby?          What does the candle symbolise?          How do the parents help their children follow Jesus?          What are the signs that someone has the light of Christ within them?</p>

	Why does everyone pray the Our Father at Baptism?
<b>Year 3 - Mary our Mother and Advent</b>	<p><b>Mary the Mother of God was the first disciple. Her role in the church flows directly from her union with Christ. Mary is the Church's model of faith and charity.</b></p> <p>Some key questions- How did God call Mary to be the Mother of Jesus?  How did Mary respond to God's call?  How was the Hail Mary composed?  What does Advent mean?  What is Christmas?  How is Mary our Mother?  How does she show love for us and how do we show love to her?</p>
<b>Year 4 - Trust in God</b>	<p><b>God gradually revealed his purpose for us in the Old Testament. The people of God in the Old Testament were taught to trust that God would send them a saviour of the house of David, a Messiah filled with the Holy Spirit. God fulfilled the promise, first made to Abraham when Jesus was born at Bethlehem.</b></p> <p>Some key questions- What does Jesus teach us about trust in Him and trust in God?  Is it always easy to trust God?  To know that it is not always easy to trust God- Zechariah  How did Mary and Joseph put their trust in God?  What was Mary's song of praise?  To make some advent promises.</p>
<b>Year 5 - God's Covenant and Inspirational people</b>	<p><b>The Old Covenant made with Moses on Mount Sinai prepared the way for the revelation of the New Covenant. The New Covenant is a gift of God by which He chooses us to be His People and live lives which are a share in the divine life. By the power of the Holy Spirit we are enabled to live in Jesus according to his word.</b></p> <p>Some key questions- What is a covenant? What was the Covenant made with Moses and the Israelites? What is the new Covenant? How can we grow in faith?</p>
<b>Year 6 - Justice and Advent</b>	<p><b>God's message is to Love our neighbours and this involves working for a just society, both locally and internationally, so that all people are assured of fair access to the means of life and work. We are minded to love the poor which should result in the practical aid of our neighbours, for their spiritual and bodily needs.</b></p> <p>Some key questions- What is Justice? What is our Christian duty towards the poor and vulnerable? Why are we called as Christians to speak out against injustice? Where in the Bible does it ask us to speak out for the poor and vulnerable? What can we do to help the poor and vulnerable? How can we use Advent to prepare for the coming of Jesus?</p>

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours in faith, Mrs Price