

- read and reflect on the Gospel stories of forgiveness
- help your child compose a prayer of sorrow that you could pray as a family
- draw your child's attention to the asking for forgiveness at the beginning of Mass and the sign of peace.
- help your child to think of ways to be more like Jesus during Lent.
- walk round the Stations of the Cross at Church with your child and stop and pray at some of them.



This term, the focus virtues are  
 “Compassionate and Loving” and  
 “Faith-filled and Hopeful.”

*The God who Speaks – The Year of the Word*

**Spring 1:** “Here is the light you will reveal to the nations.” Luke 2: 32

**Spring 2:** “I am the handmaid of the Lord,  
 let it be done to me as you have said.” Luke 1:38

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Spring Term

Year 3

*“Let us protect with love all that God has given us.”*

## **We will be helping the children to:**

- learn about the structure of the Liturgy of the Word at Mass, and to know and understand the importance of listening.
- discuss and write about why it is important that Christians listen to the Word of God.
- find out about the reverence and respect shown in other world religions to holy writings.
- discover a loving, trusting, forgiving God.
- recognise the presence and action of God in the happiness and friendship shared between friends.
- become aware that sin affects them and their relationships with others and with God.
- understand that God forgives them and everyone else.
- become familiar with some of the ways including the Sacrament of Reconciliation through which the Church helps us to forgive and be forgiven.
- appreciate that prayer enables them to forgive others and to ask forgiveness for personal sin.
- be aware that we need to pray in order to live a life like that of Jesus.
- listen to and respond to the parables of Jesus about his forgiving Father.
- learn about how Jesus showed forgiveness and how we should follow his example.
- take part in a school celebration of God's forgiveness.
- deepen their knowledge of some of the events of Holy Week, the circumstances and reasons for the death of Jesus and their understanding of the foundation of the Church's celebration of the Mass.
- understand the Jewish Seder Meal

## **You could:**

- *discuss the readings with your child before or after Mass.*
- *share memories and photos of your child's baptism, light their baptismal or another candle and then recite the **Apostles Creed**, which repeats the basic beliefs of our faith:*

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

- *you could look at special books you treasure or which are special to you or your family. Make a special place for the Bible in your home and read a passage from it daily with your child or as a family.*
- *discuss ways in which we forgive or show forgiveness e.g. saying sorry, a hug, a card*
- *after thinking about the events of the day, say a 'sorry prayer' with your child e.g.*

*God my Father, I love you and because you love me so much, I am very sorry for what I have done wrong and, with your help, I promise I'll try to do better'.*