



This term, the focus virtues are:  
“Curious & Active” and  
“Intentional & Prophetic.”

**2020-2021 The God Who Speaks:  
The Year of the Word.**

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

September, October,  
November and December

Year 1



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

The RE topics are:

- **Creation and Autumn**

These topics will help to develop the children's appreciation of themselves and the world around them as part of God's creation. It also helps the children to reflect on the need to thank and praise God for his many gifts. The story of creation will be used and the children will write prayers for use in class.

They will be introduced to St. Francis and his love for God's creation.

They will be encouraged to identify the beauty of God's Creation and the need to care and look after it.

Work in this unit will introduce children to the idea of religious festivals. Children will learn about harvest festivals using the Christian harvest festival and the Jewish festival of Sukkot for example.

*Your family could remember CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day and go without one part of your meal or a snack and give the money to CAFOD*

- **Families and Celebrations**

Through this topic the children's knowledge and understanding of what it means to belong to, and celebrate as, a family will be developed. It will focus on the Mass, the stories of the Presentation and Finding of Jesus in the Temple and the Wedding Feast at Cana as important celebrations in the life of the Church and Jesus. They will be taught that the Mass is an important celebration for God's family and will think about the different words, actions and gestures that take place. They will understand that in Jesus' life, his family and friends celebrated together and know the stories that tell of this.

The children will be helped to understand the importance of celebrations in other faiths through becoming familiar with the way Diwali is celebrated.

*You could help your child by talking to them or looking at photos of celebrations your child has been involved in especially if linked with the Church e.g. a baptism, a wedding.*

- **Prayer**

This topic will develop the children's understanding of prayer as a special way of spending time with God. They will also explore the vocabulary, actions, places and aids associated with prayer, with particular reference to the prayer of praise and intercession and prayers like the "Glory Be To The Father" and the "Our Father".

*You could pray the "Our Father", "Glory Be To The Father" and the "Hail Mary" with your child and talk to them about the meaning of the words.*

- **Advent**

We will be developing the children's awareness of the joyful liturgical season of Advent as a time of waiting and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus and his coming again. They will be helped to prepare for the birth of Jesus.

*You could make an Advent Wreath at home.*

- **Christmas**

The children's knowledge and understanding of Christmas as a celebration of the birth of Jesus will be developed through the stories of the Annunciation, Joseph's dream, the journey to Bethlehem, Jesus' birth in the stable and the visit of the wise Men. They will be taught that the birth of Jesus was a very important event in the lives of the characters in the story and continues to be important today for Christians.

*You could prepare a crib as the focal point in your house ready for your child to put Jesus into the manger on Christmas Eve or Day.*