

RE NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN 2023

IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

ALL SAINTS

(Wednesday 1st November)

We celebrate the lives of special and ordinary people who have responded to God's invitation to love.

THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)

(Thursday 2 November)

Today and throughout the rest of November we pray for those who have died. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

ADVENT

(Sunday 3rd December)

Advent means 'coming'. We think of the coming of Jesus when he was born but we also think of his promise that he would come again at the end of time. It is a time of waiting and preparing. It is only in the last week of Advent that we focus upon the events to be celebrated at Christmas.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

(8 December)

This feast marks the first stage of the existence of Mary, the mother of Jesus. She was 'full of grace' from the very beginning and co-operated with God throughout her life.

CHRISTMAS DAY, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

(25 December)

On this day we begin our celebration of the birth of Christ.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

(26 December)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

AUTUMN TERM 2023

COME AND SEE AT HOME

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term we will be studying the three themes of Domestic Church (Family), Baptism and Confirmation (Belonging) and Advent and Christmas (Loving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics. The children will also spend two weeks studying Judaism.

DOMESTIC CHURCH - FAMILY

Monday 4th September – Friday 29th September

- Class 1** MYSELF - God knows and loves each one
- Class 2** BEGINNINGS - God is present in every beginning
- Class 3** PEOPLE - The family of God in Scripture
- Class 4** OURSELVES - Created in the image and likeness of God
- Class 5** LOVING - God who never stops loving

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Make a collage using family photographs of all the significant family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. who show God's love.

Write underneath it
"We show God's love to one another."

Include those who have died.

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - BELONGING

MONDAY 2ND OCTOBER – FRIDAY 3RD NOVEMBER

- Class 1** WELCOME - Baptism: a welcome to God's family
- Class 2** SIGNS AND SYMBOLS - Signs and symbols in Baptism
- Class 3** CALLED - Confirmation: a call to witness
- Class 4** LIFE CHOICES - Marriage, commitment and service
- Class 5** VOCATION AND COMMITMENT - The vocation of priesthood and religious life

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism and/or Confirmation about their memories of this celebration.

JUDAISM

Monday 6th November – Friday 17th November

Pupils will study various aspects of Judaism for two weeks. Ask them what they have been learning about.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - LOVING

Monday 20th November – Thursday 21st December

- Class 1** BIRTHDAY - Looking forward to Jesus' birthday
- Class 2** PREPARATIONS - Advent: preparing to celebrate Christmas
- Class 3** GIFT - God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus
- Class 4** HOPE - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus, the promised one
- Class 5** EXPECTATIONS - Jesus born to show God to the world

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Discuss with the children how your family welcomes visitors to your home.

Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree. Use the CAFOD or Missio websites to get a religious Advent calendar.