



St Francis

Catholic Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

2020

Review Date: January 2022

Pope Francis on Prayer: 'Let us keep the flame of faith alive through prayer and the sacraments: let us make sure we do not forget God. Prayer, humility and charity towards all are essential in the Christian life: they are the way to holiness'.

Collective Worship and Prayer

Collective worship and prayer are central to the life of our school and a central part of our distinctive ethos as a Catholic school. It forms the heart of every school celebration. The children, staff and wider community all participate in the various liturgies, masses, adoration and the sacraments which take place in school. There are a variety of opportunities provided to support our pupils to have an active part in daily liturgy and prayer, regardless of age or background, to develop morally and spiritually through a wide variety of worship opportunities.

Aims of Collective Worship

- To encourage the development of a personal encounter with Christ
- To give glory, honour and praise to God
- To provide opportunities for spiritual growth and personal development through prayer
- To experience the joy of being part of a prayerful community
- To develop and reflect on the core values of the school community and Catholic faith
- To provide an experience of sharing values and celebrating significant events in the lives of individuals
- To develop knowledge and experience of the Church's seasons

The place of Collective worship in our school.

Collective worship in our school is fully inclusive and all members of the school community are able to take part in worship, regardless of belief or faith background. Collective worship in our school takes account of the religious and educational needs of all who share in in. This includes:

- Those who form part of the worshipping community in church
- Those for whom school may be their first and only experience of church

- Those from other Christian traditions
- Those from other faith backgrounds.

Provision for Collective Worship

Mass

Mass takes place in school at least once every half term and parents, families and parishioners are welcome to attend. Mass is prepared by a class who choose readings and prayers as well as fulfilling practical roles within the liturgy, from welcoming visitors to preparing a focal point for worship.

Pupils from Year 2 to Year 6 also attend Mass in the parish on a rota each Friday. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to be a part of the parish life and to attend Mass in one of the parish churches. Parents are also invited to share in this weekly celebration of Mass in the parish.

Adoration

Parents and parishioners are welcomed to join the school for Eucharistic adoration. Eucharistic adoration provides children and adults with an intimate encounter with Christ.

Weekly Whole School Liturgy

On a Monday there is a whole school liturgy which links to one of our virtues or links to the Gospel reading and theme for the week. Children then have the opportunity to follow up on this in class as class liturgy is linked to the theme. Visitors from other faiths and from local charitable organisations are invited in to lead assemblies.

Hymn practice takes place weekly and includes a variety of hymns and songs from both the Christian tradition and from other cultures.

Key Stage Liturgies

Key Stage liturgies take place every other week and we welcome parents to join us. Each class has a turn to prepare at least two key stage liturgies during the year. These liturgies are planned as a class. During this liturgy children are presented with certificates which show how they have lived out the Mission statement of the school. The lunchtime supervisors also present children with certificates to celebrate how they have lived out the Catholic virtues.

Worship in Class

Acts of worship take place in class daily and a variety of experiences of worship are provided for the children. Daily prayers can be led by adults or children and there are prayers for the beginning and end of each day, as well as a lunchtime prayer. Class teachers or children may also lead Christian meditation or choose from resources such as Ten Ten to lead daily prayers

or reflections. Once a week, a group of children plan and lead a worship in class and classes also pair up to share child-led worship. The class prayer focus area also provides opportunities for the children to engage in spontaneous prayer. (See Culture of Prayer- Appendix 1)

Lunchtime Opportunities

At lunchtimes our active Chaplaincy Team runs a daily prayer group and they invite children to attend this. This is a chance for children to have a quiet moment of prayer during the school day. The children have access to a variety of resources to ensure they can prepare a meaningful and relevant prayer experience for others. There is also a quiet reflective space in the school foyer where children can reflect and take time for spontaneous prayer or silence.

May Procession

To honour Mary, our mother and the mother of Christ, all children take part in a Mary procession. This is a beautiful liturgy which always finishes at the Grotto outside the Convent House.

Home/school prayer links

During Advent we send home the travelling cribs for families to pray with. We send home regular homework which links to the Catholic life of our school. This summer, children were invited to send in pictures of a reflective space they had found/created during the holidays. This encouraged many of our children to spend time in prayer over the summer break.

Planning of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is planned following a structure with reference to the Church's liturgical seasons, the 'Come and See' RE programme, significant dates and the curriculum. Scripture will be the focus in most acts of worship. The planning of Collective Worship is flexible in order to be responsive to changing situations within the school and wider community.

Child led worship is developed through appropriate and graduated levels of support given to children in different age groups. This is detailed in Appendix 2- Progression in Collective Worship.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Children and adults evaluate class and whole school worship using the NDCYS evaluation forms. These evaluations are then used to inform future planning. Parents views are sought through parent questionnaires and using reflection slips. The designated Governor for Religious Education and Collective Worship is to monitor the policy and practice of Collective Worship within the school, and to liaise with the Head Teacher and Collective Worship Leader.



Appendix 1

Culture of Prayer

St Francis Melton Mowbray	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Whole School	Led by HT- linked to Gospel. Celebration of Birthdays.				
Key Stage/Year group		Hymn Practice.		Key Stage Worship- prepared by classes. Presentation of lunchtime awards and teacher mission statement certificates.	Mass at the convent chapel on a rota for Y2-Y6 Liturgy prepared and led by classes on rota or Class AoW led by children.
Class/Tutor group	Daily prayer led by teacher- introduce theme for the week using ndcys	Daily prayers led by the children.	Class teacher to lead class AOW.	Meditation to be led by the children.	Daily prayers led by children.
Small groups	Prayer group at lunchtime led on a rota by children in Y3 – Y6.	Prayer group at lunchtime led on a rota by children in Y3 – Y6.	Prayer group at lunchtime led on a rota by children in Y3 – Y6.	Prayer group at lunchtime led on a rota by children in Y3 – Y6.	Prayer group at lunchtime led on a rota by children in Y3 – Y6.

Individual	Prayer area in foyer available and prayer garden available.	Prayer area in foyer available and prayer garden available.	Prayer area in foyer available and prayer garden available.	Prayer area in foyer available and prayer garden available.	Prayer area in foyer available and prayer garden available.
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Progression in Collective Worship

Class Collective Worship			Other forms of prayer
Year Group	Expectations	Resources	
EYFS	<p>Children to use proforma of Gather, Word, Response and Mission to plan and lead liturgies, facilitated and supported by an adult. All children to have opportunity to plan and lead a liturgy by the summer term.</p> <p>Whole class to evaluate liturgy, recorded on proforma.</p> <p>Teacher to explicitly model liturgy to children a least once a term.</p> <p>Advent/Lent Term – whole class planning</p> <p>Pentecost Term – group planning</p>	<p>Let us pray cards</p> <p>Classroom resources</p> <p>Children’s Bible</p>	<p>1 minute meditation facilitated by adult- children could start to lead the meditation by ringing a bell at the beginning.</p> <p>Children to begin to lead daily prayers- 2 x prayer leaders who can begin the sign of the cross.</p> <p>Encourage opportunities for spontaneous prayer</p>
Early Phase (KS1)	<p>Children to use Let Us Pray proforma and resources to plan and lead liturgies, facilitated by adult.</p> <p>Children to plan and prepare focal point for worship according to liturgical season/Come and See topic.</p> <p>Beginning of Yr1 onwards, all children to plan liturgies in groups, facilitated by an adult.</p>	<p>Let us Pray cards and liturgy box</p> <p>Classroom resources</p> <p>KS1 Bible</p> <p>Blank cards</p> <p>Access to music folder in public (from hymn practice)</p>	<p>2 minutes meditation facilitated by adult</p> <p>Lectio Divina introduced from Year 2, scripture sourced by adult, linked to liturgical year or Come and See topic, facilitated by adult</p> <p>Encourage opportunities for spontaneous prayer</p> <p>Children to lead daily prayers x 2</p> <p>Ten ten daily prayers</p>

	<p>Yr2 to generate their own way of gathering to begin the liturgy. Whole class to evaluate liturgy, recorded on proforma.</p>		
<p>Middle Phase (lower KS2)</p>	<p>Yr3 to generate their own way of gathering to begin the liturgy, and plan their own mission for children to complete the liturgy. Whole class to evaluate liturgy, recorded on proforma.</p> <p>Yr4 – Children to generate their own way of gathering to begin the liturgy, a response to the word, and plan their own mission for children to complete the liturgy. Children to use Extra-Ordo-Nary Liturgical Calendar and Open Bible to support planning of class liturgies from Pentecost Term (if suitable). Whole class to evaluate liturgy, recorded on proforma.</p>	<p>Let us Pray cards and liturgy box (move away from cards) NDCYS planning document – NDCYS evaluation document Classroom resources KS2 Bible Blank cards Access to music folder in public (from hymn practice) Extra-Ordo-Nary Liturgical Calendar (yr4) Open Bible access (yr4)</p>	<p>3 minutes meditation led by school chaplain Yr3 - Lectio Divina scripture sourced by adult, linked to liturgical year or Come and See topic, facilitated by adult Yr4 – pupils select scripture linked to liturgical year or Come and See topic for Lectio Divina, led by children, supported by adult Encourage opportunities for spontaneous prayer Children to lead daily prayers x 2 Ten ten daily prayers</p>
<p>Upper Phase (upper KS2)</p>	<p>Children to use Extra-Ordo-Nary Liturgical Calendar to support planning of class liturgies. Children to use Open Bible online resource to select a reading linked to the theme provided on liturgical calendar. Pupils to then find the passage in Bible to add to their prayer focus. Children to generate their own gather, response, word and mission according to the theme. They may use songs, actions, prayers, classroom resources within the liturgy. We encourage active participants throughout.</p>	<p>Open Bible link on home screen KS2 Bible Liturgy box Extra-Ordo-Nary Liturgical Calendar Prayer area resources Access to YouTube/music folder on staff works NDCYS planning document – NDCYS evaluation document</p>	<p>4-5 minutes meditation led by anyone in class Lectio Divina scripture sourced by pupils using Open Bible resource, linked to liturgical year or Come and See topic, completely child led Encourage opportunities for spontaneous prayer Children to lead daily prayers. Children could lead prayers from Ten Ten</p>

	<p>This is overseen by an adult, and guided only when necessary. Evaluation is recorded on NDCYS proforma following whole class discussion. Children are encouraged to give reasons for their responses and recommendations.</p>		
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