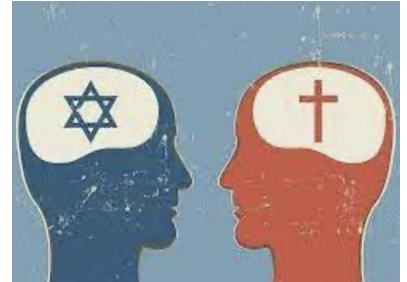


RE NEWSLETTER –Summer 2 2026

RE CURRICULUM TOPIC THIS HALF TERM:

Dialogue and Encounter



Summer 2 – Branch 6: Dialogue and Encounter

In this branch, pupils learn how Christians work with people from different religions and beliefs to help others and make the world better. They explore the importance of respect and recognising the value of every person.

Pupils develop an understanding of how the Church relates to other faiths and worldviews. They study a range of traditions, including other Christian denominations, Judaism, Islam, and Dharmic religions (Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism). This helps them understand what loving your neighbour means in real life and how to live peacefully with others.

Early Years – Nursery and Reception

Children reflect on their own experiences while developing respect for others and a growing understanding of their Catholic faith.

They learn about St Peter and St Paul as friends of Jesus and meet members of the school and parish community to understand how faith is lived out. They explore how Jesus lived in the past and how He is shown in different cultures.

Children are introduced to Judaism and begin to understand that Jesus was part of the Jewish community. Through stories, visitors, and sensory experiences, they learn to respect different faith traditions.

At home you could:

- Talk about being a good friend and a friend of Jesus
- Look at images of Jesus from different cultures
- Explore another culture through food or music

Year One

Pupils learn that Catholics belong to a global Christian family. They explore how Christians live their faith today and understand the meaning of the cross and the Sign of the Cross.

They meet parishioners, explore creative expressions of faith, and begin learning about Judaism, helping them develop respect for other beliefs.

At home you could:

- Notice faith in everyday life
- Create art or music inspired by faith

Year Two

Pupils study the Good Samaritan and what it teaches about kindness and being a good neighbour. They explore how Christians serve others locally and globally.

They also learn about Judaism, including beliefs, worship, and daily life, and reflect on questions like “Who is my neighbour?”

At home you could:

- Complete acts of kindness
- Decorate simple Hebrew letters

Year Three

Pupils link the Exodus story with the Last Supper and learn about Passover. They also explore Islam, including beliefs and practices, and hear from people of different faiths.

They reflect on their own beliefs and how these influence their actions.

At home you could:

- Draw a Passover Seder plate
- Create a Last Supper comic

Year Four

Pupils learn about St Paul and his importance for Christians. They explore scripture, the theological virtues, and different liturgical traditions.

They also study the Five Pillars of Islam and how people of faith work for the common good.

At home you could:

- Create a timeline of St Paul’s life
- Find out about a local charity

Year Five

Pupils explore how the Bible developed and understand it as the Word of God. They study both the Old and New Testaments and reflect on their meaning.

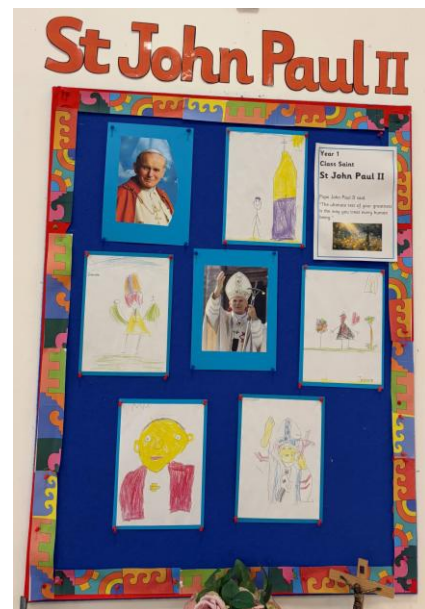
They also learn about Judaism, including key prayers and beliefs, and the importance of scripture.

At home you could:

- Design a decorated Bible verse

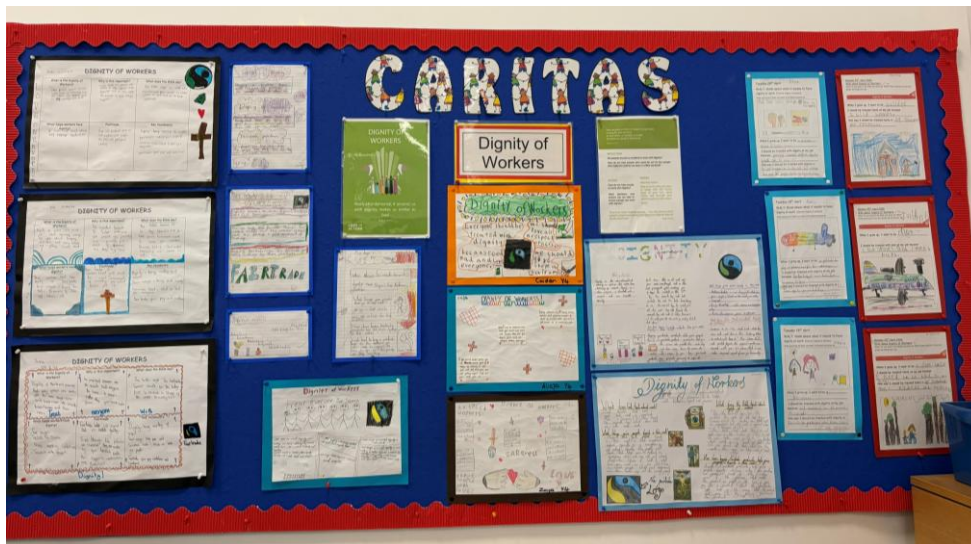
OUR CLASS SAINTS

Reception – St George
 Year 1 – St John Paul II
 Year 2- St Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)
 Year 3 – St Josephine Bakhita
 Year 4 – St Oscar Romero
 Year 5 – St Thérèse of Lisieux
 Year 6 – St Martin de Porres



CARITAS IN ACTION

This year we will continue to use the “Rooted in Love” programme created by Caritas Westminster. This is a project to support schools with their journey in Catholic Social Teaching.



Half Term	CST Theme
Autumn A	Care of Creation
Autumn B	Preferential Option for the Poor
Spring A	Solidarity and Peace
Spring B	Community and Participation
Summer A	Dignity of Workers
Summer B	Human Dignity



Our next topic is: **Dignity**

The dignity of every human person, whoever they are, is the starting point for the Church's teaching around social justice. The Church clearly states that we are all made lovingly in God's image and likeness. We are all sisters and brothers of one another. If we truly believe this principle, then we are challenged to firstly realise that we ourselves are made in God's image and likeness. We are lovingly created by God. We are beautiful. This can be difficult for many of us to accept. What flows from this is that every person we meet - family, friends, neighbours, strangers, people on the other side of the world - are also made in God's image and likeness. They deserve our respect. They must be treated fairly.

PRAYER CYCLE

During Ordinary Time (Summer), i.e. up to September, we are asked to pray for these intentions:

A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those Who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Human Life; Seafarers.

Half Termly Prayer Focus

This half term our Prayer Focus is "Visio Divina".

Visio Divina, which means "divine seeing," is a form of prayer that invites individuals to reflect on and pray through visual art or images. Much like the well-known practice of *Lectio Divina* (prayerful reading of scripture), *Visio Divina* encourages a slow, meditative approach to encountering the divine through imagery.

In a school setting, *Visio Divina* can be practiced by using religious images, such as murals, icons, or other sacred artwork, as a focal point for prayer and contemplation. Students and staff are invited to observe the image, reflect on what it communicates spiritually, and listen for God's message through the visual. This process helps deepen understanding, fosters spiritual growth, and encourages personal reflection on faith.

Steps for Visio Divina:

1. **Prepare** – Begin in silence, asking God to guide your thoughts and reflections.
2. **Look at the Image** – Observe the art carefully. Pay attention to the details, colors, and emotions it stirs.
3. **Meditate** – Reflect on how the image speaks to you. What does it reveal about God or your own faith journey?
4. **Pray** – Offer a personal prayer based on your reflections, asking for guidance or expressing gratitude.

5. **Contemplate** – Sit in silence, allowing God’s presence to fill you through the experience.

Visio Divina is a meaningful way for pupils, families, and staff to engage visually and spiritually, using art to deepen their connection with God.

Gospel Themes

Week 39: John 20:19–23 – *The Coming of the Holy Spirit*
1–5 June 2026 (Pentecost)

Week 40: John 6:51–58 – *Jesus is the Living Bread*
8–12 June 2026 (The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ – Corpus Christi; The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus)

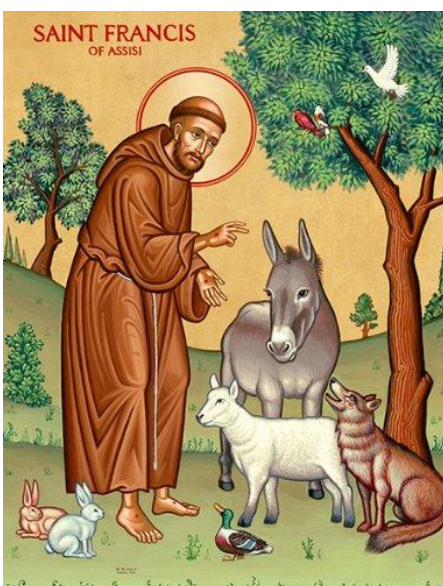
Week 41: Matthew 9:36–10:8 – *Proclaim the Good News*
15–19 June 2026 (11th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Week 42: Matthew 10:26–33 – *Do not be afraid*
22–26 June 2026 (12th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Feast of St John Fisher and St Thomas More; Nativity of St John the Baptist)

Week 43: Matthew 16:13–19 – *“You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church.”*
29 June – 3 July 2026 (St Peter and St Paul – solemnity)

Week 44: Matthew 11:25–30 – *“Come to me and find rest.”*
6–10 July 2026 (14th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Week 45: Matthew 13:1–23 – *Parable of the Sower*
13–17 July 2026 (15th Sunday in Ordinary Time)



The Year of St Francis

This year, the Church is celebrating the Year of St Francis, inspired by the life of St Francis of Assisi. St Francis is remembered for his love of God, care for the poor, respect for all people, and deep appreciation of creation.

Pope Leo XIV has invited us to reflect on St Francis’ example and consider how we can care for our world and one another. Throughout the year, pupils will be encouraged to live out these values through prayer, acts of kindness, environmental projects, and charitable outreach.

The Year of St Francis reminds us that even small actions can make a big difference and helps us to grow as responsible stewards of God's creation.

Our successful swap shop as part of our "Live Simply" award actions.



Celebrating the month of May in our Prayer Garden with all the beautiful flowers from our May procession.



Our Earth Day Prayers