



PRAYER AND LITURGY POLICY

Mission Statement

Guided by truth, respect and compassion; we share in building upon every individual's foundation, nurturing a love of learning in preparation for tomorrow's society, with Jesus at the heart of all we do.

Prayer & Liturgy Policy

Rationale

Prayer and Liturgy are central to school life, reflecting the Liturgical Life of the Church. They provide meaningful opportunities for pupils to develop spiritually, morally, and liturgically, helping them to plan, lead, and participate in worship. This policy aligns with *Faith, Hope and Love, Learning in Love*, and the *Prayer and Liturgy Directory 2023*.

Legal Requirements

All maintained Catholic schools must provide daily collective worship for all pupils, including sixth form, in line with Church rites and norms (1988 Education Act; School Standards and Framework Act 1998; Instrument of Government). Parents have the right to withdraw children from prayer and liturgy (School Standards and Framework Act 1998, s.71(1A)). Provision ensures pupils experience the breadth of the Church's liturgical life.

Aims of Prayer and Liturgy at Sacred Heart

- **Spiritual development:** Foster a personal and communal relationship with God.
- **Liturgical formation:** Equip pupils to plan, lead, and participate in prayer and liturgy.
- **Moral and ethical growth:** Encourage compassion, respect, and responsibility through *Faith, Hope and Love*.
- **Community and belonging:** Strengthen school as a Catholic community connected to the parish.
- **Experience of Church liturgy:** Provide exposure to the Church's prayers, rites, and sacramental celebrations.

How We Meet Our Aims

- **Spiritual development:** Daily personal and communal prayer, reflections in Ethos books, prayer stations, Faith Clubs, RE lessons, and invitational prayer.
- **Liturgical formation:** RE lessons, workshops, pupil-led worship, and preparation for Mass and Sacraments.
- **Moral and ethical growth:** Integration of Catholic values and CST through RE, Faith Clubs, workshops, mission weeks, and charity initiatives.
- **Community and belonging:** Whole-school worship, Masses, Sacrament of Reconciliation, prayer stations, and parish events.
- **Experience of Church liturgy:** Masses, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Stations of the Cross, May is the Month of Mary, and parish-based workshops.

Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

Prayer and Liturgy are inclusive for all pupils, respecting faith, culture, gender, and special educational needs. Resources and activities are adapted, where relevant, to enable full participation.

Environment for Prayer

Classrooms feature RE focal areas with liturgical cloths, Bibles, Crosses, and artefacts. Displays showcase pupils' work, key vocabulary, and visual supports. Dedicated indoor and outdoor prayer spaces encourage reflection, personal prayer, and engagement with faith. All children and adults in the school have access to dedicated prayer spaces.

Visitors and Enrichment

Pupils benefit from visits by the Parish Priest, pastoral workers, faith representatives, and charities (SVP,

CAFOD). Parents and carers contribute their experiences. Workshops at Sacred Heart Church, Faith Clubs, and CST-themed activities provide additional prayer and liturgy opportunities.

Catholic Social Teaching (CST)

CST principles are explored through RE lessons, the wider curriculum, and prayer and liturgy, helping pupils connect faith with action and worship. Visual prompts and displays encourage reflection, and pupils integrate these principles into worship, reflections, and liturgical planning. CST also underpins mission weeks, CAFOD workshops, and enrichment activities, supporting prayerful engagement with justice, service, and charity.

Prayer

At Sacred Heart, prayer nurtures spiritual growth and strengthens pupils' relationship with God. Children learn formal Church prayers alongside prayers written for them, fostering a community of prayer. Pupils develop their personal prayer life through daily collective worship, grace before meals, afternoon prayer, and quiet reflection. Prayer includes listening in stillness and writing prayers for class worship and Mass. Each classroom has a prayer area, and opportunities for reflection are integrated through the RE scheme *Come and See*.

Provision

The Annual Plan of Provision (APOP) is developed each year, providing a variety of prayer and liturgical formation. The weekly overview demonstrates the weekly opportunities for prayer and liturgy.

Liturgy and Worship Rota ~ 2025-2026								
	Monday <i>Gospel Celebration of the Word</i>			Tuesday <i>Phase Celebration of the Word</i>		Thursday <i>Mass/Class Celebration of the Word</i>		
WC	Scripture	Word	Staff	Y1-3	Y4-6	Date	Theme	Class
1.9.25	Luke 14:1.7-14	Humility	SN	CB <i>Core Values</i>	JB	Thurs 4 th Sept	New Year Mass	St Andrew Kim Y6
8.9.25	Luke 14:25-33	Loyalty	SH	BR <i>CST – Human Dignity</i>	BC	Thurs 11 th Sept	Class Celebration of the Word	St Teresa Y6
15.9.25	John 3: 13-17	Self-Giving	TB	CD <i>CST – Promoting Peace (Int Day of Peace)</i>	HP	Thurs 18 th Sept	Class Celebration of the Word	St Paul Y5

Prayer and Liturgy Weekly Overview						
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
Prayer	Daily Prayer, Before school, Before lunch, After lunch, End of the day					
			Staff Prayer (PDM)	Singing Assembly Faith Club (lunch) Staff Prayer (lunch)	Staff Prayer (TED CPD)	
RE lessons	Prayer/Reflection at the beginning and end of lessons (2x lessons weekly)					
Celebration of the Word/ Liturgy <i>Gather, Listen, Respond, Go Forth</i>	Gospel Assembly Celebration of the Word	Phase Assembly Celebration of the Word	Class Worship Celebration of the Word	Class Assembly OR Mass/Service	Pupil Led Worship Celebration of the Word	Celebration Assembly NB: Celebration Assembly is <u>not</u> an act of worship
Theme	Sunday Gospel / Word of the week	Gospel / core / British Values, Class saints, Catholic Social Teaching, Equalities <u>Not</u> weekly Gospel	EYFS/KS1 - Mark 10 Little Liturgies KS2 – Mark 10 Mission	Class Assembly RE and wider curriculum including Listen (scripture), Response and Go Forth Mass/Service (Feast days & Liturgical events)	Sunday Gospel / Word of the week	Adult-led prayer Pupil-led prayer Certificates linked to the word of the week.
Planned & delivered by	SLT	Class teachers on rotation	Class Teachers	Class teacher with pupils	Pupils (see progression)	HT
Duration	15 mins	15 mins	10 mins	Assembly - 15 mins Service – 30 mins Mass– 45 mins	10 mins	20 mins

The choir accompanies the family Mass at the Sacred Heart Church at regular intervals throughout the year. Year groups visit the Church for workshops throughout the year and celebrate Mass alongside the

parishioners. Masses at the school are advertised in the parish newsletter and attended by many parishioners.

Staff Training, Development, and Formation

All new staff receive induction and ongoing support to understand their role in leading prayer and liturgy. Individual training needs are addressed through CPD, including in-school training, Diocesan courses, CAFOD, and The Well. Whole-staff professional development is provided at least annually, with evaluations informing future CPD.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Prayer and liturgy are regularly monitored, at least annually, involving pupils, parents, staff, clergy, and governors. Pupil voice is gathered to reflect on learning, experiences, and areas for improvement. Where relevant, joint or model planning and delivery supports development.

Home, School, and Parish Links

The Wednesday Word is shared with home and pupils use this to plan their celebration of the word. Pupils participate in Masses, Reconciliation services, and other opportunities such as the Travelling Crib (Lent). Parents and parishioners are invited to Masses, and pupils attend Mass at the church throughout the year, including Sunday Family Masses with choir participation. The school celebrates key milestones in a child's faith journey, such as First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

Leadership of Prayer and Liturgy

The governors and headteacher are responsible for ensuring Prayer and liturgy are central to school life and align with the Prayer and Liturgy Directory. They must also ensure:

- A named Prayer and Liturgy Coordinator is appointed: James Bush.
- The prayer and liturgy policy is regularly updated and shared with stakeholders.
- Adequate budget and resources support the centrality of prayer and liturgy.

The headteacher ensures that:

- Prayer and liturgy are central and follow national and diocesan guidance.
- They work closely with the Prayer and Liturgy Coordinator.
- Staff responsible for prayer and liturgy receive appropriate training and formation.
- Resources for prayer and liturgy are suitable and accessible.

Prayer and Liturgy lead ensures that:

- Prayer and liturgy are central and adhere to the Prayer and Liturgy Directory.
- An Annual Plan of Provision identifies liturgical seasons and key celebrations,
- Daily prayer is planned for all pupils, appropriate to age and ability.
- Pupils are supported to actively plan, prepare, and lead prayer and liturgy progressively.
- Resources for planning are readily available to staff and pupils.
- Induction, training, and ongoing formation for staff are provided.
- Prayer and liturgy are regularly monitored, evaluated, and reported to the headteacher and governors to support school development.
- Collaboration is maintained with the parish, Diocese and local schools to ensure best practice.

Related policies:

RE

SEND/Inclusion

RSE

Appendix : School Prayers

Sign of the Cross (all)
In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

School Prayer (all)
O sacred Heart of Jesus
I implore the grace to love you daily
more and more. Amen

Morning Prayer (all)
Oh my God I give to you
All that I think, or say, or do
All my work and all my play
I shall give to you today. Amen

Before lunch prayer (all)
Bless us O Lord as we sit together
Bless the food we eat today
Bless the hands that make the food
Bless us O Lord. Amen

After lunch prayer of thanks (all)
Thank you God for the food we have eaten.
Thank you for our friends.
Thank you God for everything. Amen.

End of day prayer (all)
Oh my God I come to say,
Thank you for your love today.
Thank you for my family and all the friends you gave to me.
Guard me in the dark of night
and in the morning share your light. Amen

Our Father (all)
Our Father who art in heaven
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it is in
Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil. Amen

Hail Mary (all)
Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners now
And at the hour of our death. Amen

Glory Be (KS1/2)
Glory be to the Father

And to the Son
And to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen

The Apostles' Creed (Year 3 and above)
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 rose 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.

Act of contrition (Year 3 and above)
O my God, because you are so good,
I am very sorry that I have sinned against you,
And with your help I will try not to sin again. Amen

Eternal Rest
Eternal rest, grant unto them O Lord
And let perpetual