

# **IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM**

## **ALL SAINTS**

(1 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)**

(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.

## **OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

(24 November)

## **ADVENT**

(Begins 1 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**

(9 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.

When December 8 falls on a Sunday, the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday

## **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**

(30 December)

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## AUTUMN TERM 2024

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term Reception class, Year 2, Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6 will be teaching Religious Education using the new Religious Education curriculum, which is to be taught throughout the school by September 2025.

The topics for Autumn term are 'In the Beginning' and 'Advent to Christmas'.

### IN THE BEGINNING

*Autumn 1*

The first part of the curriculum focuses on the beginning of the earth in the creation accounts of Genesis 1 (for EYFS to year 4), and Genesis 2 for Year 6. Year 5 take 'time out' to learn about the Catholic scientist who proposed the theory of the big Bang, allowing pupils to learn that Genesis and science are not opposed.

Pupils will also learn different prayers, prayers at Church and the importance of prayer.

The second part moves to another beginning.

Younger pupils will focus on Baptism and Stewardship, taking care of God's world and his creations.

Abraham's life and Moses and his leading of the people out of Egypt and Stewardship is the focus for older pupils.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

**Creation:** Make a collage using different materials of God's creations.

**Baptism:** Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism about their memories of this celebration.

### ADVENT TO CHRISTMAS

*Autumn 2*

In this branch, pupils will be focusing on Advent: a time to look forward to and prepare for Christmas, a time of waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus, the promised one. Pupils will be studying Advent preparations in other cultures and focus on the celebration of Mass.

Pupils will be learning about the events of the Christmas story, The Annunciation of Jesus and John the Baptist, The Visitation, and the birth of Jesus, that Jesus was born to show God to the world.

Older pupils will also learn about the importance of women in salvation history such as the leadership of Miriam and Old Testament Kings such as King David.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

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.