

R.E. Newsletter for Year Five Parents

(Spring term, second half 2024)

This half term your child will be studying the topic of Reconciliation:

"There is no limit to God's grace, nor to God's mercy and forgiveness when we fail. Sin is always an exercise of free will. It is always a failure of genuine love of God, of our neighbour, of ourselves. Serious (mortal) sin 'separates' us from God until we repent and confess...Reconciliation is a sacrament of healing. Reconciliation makes sacramentally present Jesus' call to conversion, involves contrition for our sins, confession of them to a priest, and absolution spoken by the priest in the name of Jesus Christ. In the celebration of the sacrament we acknowledge (confess) God's holiness and mercy and are reconciled to God and the community of the Church." **Religious Education Curriculum Directory p.24**

Key Learning Objectives

In this unit the children will have the opportunity to:

- Understand that actions have consequences and reflect on some of the consequences of actions
- Understand that Mary, our Mother, untangles knots of sin and reflect on how Mary is always ready to help us
- Know about God's love and forgiveness and reflect on what this means for us
- Understand the meaning of sin and reflect on how sin hurts us, others and our relationship with God
- Know what happens in the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Reflect on how this sacrament helps us
- Understand that God is love and is always ready to forgive
- Reflect on what it means to experience forgiveness

At Home:

You might like to discuss the Parable of the Lost Son with your child. Discuss with them what can be learnt from this story. Talk about how the father is like God and how forgiveness and love are an important part of this parable's message. You might also like to discuss the Sacrament of Reconciliation with your child and think about the main parts of this Sacrament.

Dates to Note:

February:

14th Ash Wednesday
18th First Sunday of Lent
25th Second Sunday of Lent

March

17th St Patrick's Day
19th St Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
24th Palm Sunday
25th The Annunciation of the Lord
28th Holy Thursday
29th Good Friday
31th Easter Sunday