



St Mary's Catholic Primary School **Collective Worship Policy**

Mission Statement

“Our mission is to work to develop the full potential of each individual in an environment where the Gospel Values of love, peace, truth and justice are lived out.”

This means we aim to meet our pupils' needs in the light of the Gospels. We firmly believe it is our religious dimension which makes St. Mary's Catholic Primary School distinctive.

It is found in the school in:

- the quality of relationships based on care and respect.
- the belief that all knowledge and learning comes from Christ.
- the delivery of a broad curriculum which is based on the above, and which is designed to enable all children to reach the highest standard of personal achievement.

Our basic purpose is the communication of Christ through all we do.

The Nature of Collective Worship at St Mary's

As a Catholic School, we are committed to making worship central to our work, our celebration and all our endeavours. We pray in thanksgiving, in petition, in celebration, in sorrow and in our acclamation of the glory of God.

The Aims of Collective Worship

We believe that Collective Worship at St Mary's aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff:

- To learn and love traditional Catholic prayers (eg- the sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, morning and evening prayers)
- To know and be familiar and confident with responses in liturgy, including the Mass
- To contemplate something of the mystery of God
- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- To explore their own beliefs
- To respond to and celebrate life
- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit
- To develop a common ethos and shared values
- To enrich religious experience
- To reinforce positive attitudes

Progression of Prayer throughout the School.

	Morning	Angelus	Before meals	After meals	Hometime
Reception	Good Morning Jesus, Good Morning Lord	Angelus (to twinkle twinkle)	Thank you Jesus	Thank you for the world so sweet	Tick tock it's going home time
Year 1		Hail Mary (Shortened Angelus)			
Year 2	Oh My God I give to you		For the food we eat we thank you		O My Good Angel
Year 3	Pupil led collective worship (linked to sacramental programme development and reflections)	Shortened Angelus	Bless us O Lord	We give thee thanks	
Year 4	You wake me up Father to a new day				
Year 5	O Jesus through the most pure heart of Mary	Full Angelus			
Year 6	Pupil led collective worship (linked to leading worship within the wider school community)				

Please see prayer booklet for full collection of prayers

Assemblies

Assemblies are an important part of the worship and celebration in St. Mary's. Whole school assembly is held on Monday morning and is led by the Headteacher. Prayer and worship are always a part of the Headteacher's assemblies and the follows the liturgical year and important feasts in the church calendar that might otherwise not be covered in RE lessons. The Monday assemblies are devoted to appreciation of good work and achievement both in and out of school.

Infant assemblies take place on a Thursday afternoon where they come together for class teacher led collective worship based on church seasons or special events that week.

Masses

The SLT draws up a Mass rota at the beginning of each term. Each class takes a turn to plan the weekly whole school Friday Mass which takes place in school and parents, carers and parishioners are welcome to attend. Themes are usually linked to The Way, The Truth and the Life, feast days or Liturgical Year Calendar. Depending on age

and stage children take an active role in preparing mass. This may include selecting readings, preparing artwork, reflections, music, singing and display.

Collective Worship and Celebrations throughout the year

As well as the daily cycle and weekly cycle of worship and celebration noted above, there are regular annual fixtures of Collective Worship which usually occur at St Mary's every year. These are an important expression of our strong school and parish links and many of them take place in our parish church. They include:

- An Induction Mass, prepared by Reception children and staff, and celebrated at St Mary's Church early in the new school year.
- Advent prayer trail (every two years)
- Infant and Junior Penitential Services in Advent.
- Christmas Eve Vigil Mass in church
- An Infant nativity play, Carol service and Mass in the week before Christmas.
- Family Masses in church to mark the milestones in preparation for celebration of First Forgiveness and First Holy Communion.
- A Service of Ashes in school to mark the start of Lent
- Lenten prayer trail (every two years)
- Celebration of First Forgiveness in church
- Infant and Junior Penitential Services in Lent.
- Palm Sunday Mass in church
- A whole-school Last Supper
- A whole-school Stations of the Cross
- Celebration of First Holy Communion in church
- Certificate Mass in church
- A valedictory Mass for our departing Year 6 pupils.

Legal requirements

According to the Education Reform Act collective worship is seen, together with RE, as part of schools' broadly based curriculum. It will occur daily for all registered pupils. It may be at any time of the day in whatever grouping the school wishes and must take place on the school premises.

At St Mary's we more than observe the legal requirement for a daily act of Collective Worship. Prayer is an integral part of the rhythm of the school day at St Mary's.

We acknowledge that parents have a right to withdraw their children from Religious Education and collective worship. If a parent asks for their child to be wholly or partly excused from attending any RE or collective worship at the school then we will comply, following a meeting to discuss this request.

We remain responsible for the supervision of any child withdrawn from RE or collective worship, unless the child is lawfully receiving RE, or taking part in collective worship elsewhere.

Recording

Collective Worship is recorded:

- On the school planner
- On the school server (organised into various folders)
- Through displays, collections of pupils' contributions, prayers, reflections, photographs.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The school's provision of worship will be evaluated regularly to consider whether it meets the needs of all pupils and whether pupils are making progress in acquiring skills and abilities in organising and leading worship. This is done through evidence in pupils' books through scrutiny of RE books on a regular basis.

This policy was reviewed and revised by a representative cross section of school staff on Monday 18th December 2017.

Subsequently it was formally adopted (with minor additions) by the Catholic Ethos, Performance and Standards Committee on behalf of the full governing body on Tuesday 13th February 2018.