



St Clare's Catholic Primary School

Following in the footsteps of Jesus

RE Newsletter – Autumn 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new academic year. Below you will find information about what your children will be learning in their Religious Education this half term.

Dates from the Church's calendar:

4 th September	St Cuthbert	2 nd October	Guardian Angels
8 th September	Our Lady's Birthday	4 th October	St Francis of Assisi
15 th September	Our Lady of Sorrows	7 th October	Our Lady of the Rosary
21 st September	St Matthew, Apostle	9 th October	St John Henry Newman
27 th September	St Vincent de Paul	10 th October	St. Paulinus
29 th September	Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael	12 th October	St Wilfrid, patron of the diocese
	Archangels	13 th October	St. Edward the Confessor
30 th September	St Jerome	18 th October	St Luke, evangelist

Dates from the School's calendar:

1 st September to 4 th October	Daily burst of Liturgy for the Season of Creation with One Life Music	
4 th September at 9:30am	Mass in Church (New School Year)	All Welcome
Month of October	Month of the Holy Rosary	Children invited to pray the rosary at 1pm
7 th October at 9:30am	Mass in Church (Harvest)	All Welcome

At St. Clare's, all year groups follow the new Religious Education Directory (RED) and the content 'To Know You More Clearly'. This term, our children are learning about:

Branch 1 - Creation and Covenant

'The heavens are telling the glory of God.' Psalm 19.1

In this branch, the children will encounter the God who creates and calls a people. They will explore revelation of the Christian belief that all that is comes from God, the Creation accounts in Genesis, and scientific explanations of the process of Creation. They will explore the call of God and his covenantal relationship with his people first through Abraham and Moses, then through the narrative of the Old Testament.



EYFS

In this branch, children will begin to explore the wonder of the world around them and learn that Christians believe God made the world and everything in it. Through stories, prayers, songs, discussion and creative activities, children will discover that creation is a special gift from God.

Children will listen to stories from the Bible about Creation and learn that God loves and cares for all people, animals and the natural world. They will be encouraged to notice the beauty of creation, develop a sense of awe and wonder, and think about ways they can help care for the world around them.

The branch also introduces children to the idea that they are loved by God and are part of a wider community. Through prayer and reflection, they will begin to understand that many Christians use prayer to thank God, express their feelings and grow closer to Him.

Throughout the branch, children will have opportunities to:

- Explore the beauty and wonder of the natural world.
- Learn that Christians believe God created everything.
- Talk about things they are thankful for.
- Develop caring attitudes towards other people, animals and the environment.
- Experience simple prayer and moments of reflection.
- Recognise that they are valued and loved.



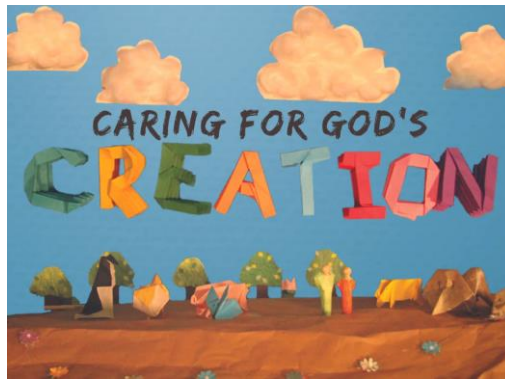
Year 1

In this branch, children will learn that Christians believe God created the world and everything in it. They will explore the idea that creation is God's gift to us and that God loves and cares for all people.

The children will learn about how Christians understand God's relationship with people, beginning with the gift of creation. They will discover that Catholics believe God is our loving Father and that these beliefs are found in the Bible and in the prayers of the Church.

As part of their learning, the children will be encouraged to think about how we can look after the world around us. They will explore simple ways of caring for creation, respecting others, and working together, linking to the Catholic values of stewardship, dignity and community.

Children will also hear some important prayers and beliefs used in the Catholic Church, including the opening words of the Nicene Creed and the prayer of the *Our Father*. They will learn what these prayers teach Christians about God, rather than being expected to memorise them.



Throughout the branch, all children will be invited to reflect on the wonder of the world, the importance of caring for others, and what prayer and reflection can mean in their own lives.

Year 2

In this branch, children will learn about the story of Noah and the Ark, with a special focus on God's promise to Noah and all living things after the flood. They will discover that the rainbow is a sign of God's promise to care for creation and remain faithful to His people. Through this story, children will explore themes of hope, trust, forgiveness and new beginnings. They will learn that even when people make poor choices, God continues to love them and offers opportunities to start again.

The branch will also introduce children to the Sacrament of Baptism. They will learn that Baptism is a special welcome into the Christian family and marks the beginning of a person's journey of faith. Children will explore some of the symbols used during Baptism, such as water, light and the white garment, and learn what these symbols mean for Christians.

The children will come to understand that Baptism is more than a celebration or naming ceremony. For Christians, it is a sign of God's love and a commitment to live as part of God's family. They will learn that parents often choose Baptism for their children as a way of beginning their faith journey, and that later in life people can choose to strengthen this commitment through other sacraments.

Throughout the branch, children will be encouraged to think about:

- How they can care for the world and living things.
- The importance of making good choices.
- What it means to have hope and start again when things go wrong.
- How belonging to a family, community or faith group can help people grow and flourish.



Year 3

In this branch, children will revisit the story of Creation from the Book of Genesis and explore what it teaches Christians about God, the world and themselves. Children will learn that Christians believe God created the world with love and purpose, bringing order and life to creation. They will reflect on the beauty and wonder of the world around them and understand that creation is a gift from God that should be valued and enjoyed.

A key message in this branch is that God saw that creation was good. Children will explore how Christians are called to be thankful for the world and to take responsibility for caring for it. They will learn that spending time appreciating nature, resting, and showing gratitude are important parts of living well.

The children will also learn that Christians believe every person is special because they are made in God's image. This helps children understand the importance of treating themselves and others with kindness, respect and dignity. The branch provides opportunities to discuss equality, friendship, inclusion and how we can support one another.

Drawing on the teachings of Pope Francis, children will consider how caring for the environment and looking after God's creation is everyone's responsibility. They will be encouraged to develop positive habits that help protect our world and care for the people who share it.

Throughout the branch, children will have opportunities to:



- Reflect on the beauty and wonder of creation.
- Recognise that every person has value and dignity.
- Understand why it is important to care for the environment.
- Consider how their actions affect other people and the world around them.
- Develop attitudes of gratitude, responsibility and respect.

Year 4

In this branch, children will learn about Abraham, an important figure who is respected by Jews, Christians and Muslims. They will explore how Abraham listened to God's call and trusted Him, even when faced with difficult challenges.

Children will learn that Christians believe God made special promises, known as covenants, with Abraham. Through these promises, God began to build a close relationship with His people. The children will discover that Abraham's faith, trust and willingness to follow God make him an important example for Christians today.

As well as learning the story itself, children will be encouraged to think about what these stories teach us about making good choices, trusting others, showing commitment and responding to what we believe is right.

The branch also introduces the story of Joseph, Abraham's descendant. Children will learn how Joseph was treated unfairly by his brothers but later chose forgiveness rather than revenge when he was in a position of power. Through Joseph's story, the children will explore themes of forgiveness, resilience, family relationships and hope.

Throughout the branch, children will be encouraged to reflect on:



- What it means to trust and have faith in others.
- How promises can strengthen relationships.
- The importance of forgiveness and reconciliation.
- How people can show courage when facing challenges.
- The value of treating others with kindness and respect.

Year 5

In this branch, children will learn about Moses, one of the most important figures in the Bible. They will explore how God spoke to Moses through the Burning Bush and called him to lead God's people. Through this story, children will learn that Christians believe God knows and cares for His people and invites them to follow Him.



The children will also learn about the Ten Commandments, which God gave to Moses to help people live good and happy lives. Rather than seeing these as simply a list of rules, children will explore how the commandments guide people to make positive choices, build strong relationships and care for others.

The branch will help children understand that Christians believe loving God and showing love to others are at the heart of living well. They will consider how kindness, honesty, respect and responsibility can help people flourish in their families, friendships and communities.

Children will also be introduced to important virtues, such as:

- Faith - trusting and believing.
- Hope - looking forward with confidence.
- Love - caring for others and showing kindness.
- Justice - treating people fairly.
- Courage - doing the right thing even when it is difficult.
- Self-control - making wise and thoughtful choices.

These virtues are valuable for everyone, regardless of their faith background, and help children develop positive habits for life.

Year 6

In this branch, children will explore a second Creation story from the Bible and think about what it teaches Christians about human nature, relationships and God's love for the world.

Children will learn that this story uses symbols and imagery to explain important truths about people and their relationship with God. They will discover that Christians believe God lovingly created humanity and gave people the freedom to make their own choices. Through the story of Adam and Eve, the children will discuss themes such as trust, temptation, responsibility and forgiveness. They will explore how choices can affect ourselves, others and the world around us, and why taking responsibility for our actions is important. The branch also highlights the importance of relationships. Children will learn that people are made to live in community, supporting, caring for and working alongside one another. They will reflect on friendship, belonging and the value of treating others with kindness and respect.



The children will then learn how Christians believe that Jesus brings hope and a new beginning for humanity. Through readings from St John's Gospel, they will explore the Christian belief that God's love is shown most fully through Jesus.

The branch also helps children understand that many Christians see faith and science as working together to help us understand the world. They will learn that religious beliefs about creation and scientific explanations of how the world developed are not necessarily in conflict.

Throughout the branch, children will be encouraged to:

- Reflect on the choices they make and their consequences.
- Consider the importance of trust, honesty and responsibility.
- Understand why relationships and community matter.
- Appreciate God's gift of creation and how to care for it.
- Think about how hope, forgiveness and new beginnings can make a positive difference in life.