

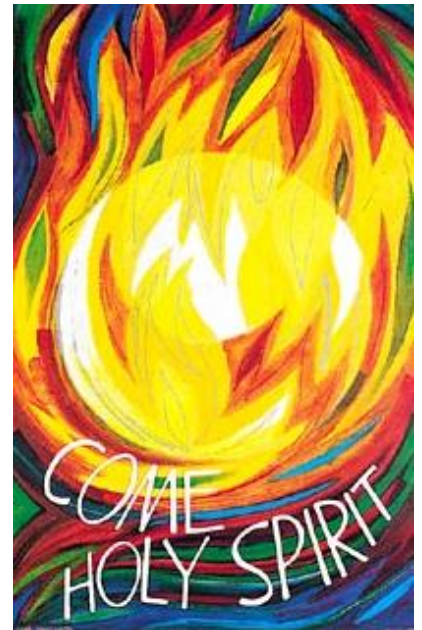


Dear Families,

We welcome everyone back to St. Winefride's after the half term break. There is much to celebrate in this last period of the summer term: we have celebrated Ascension Thursday - Jesus' ascension restores our human dignity and holds the promise that we too can be 'taken up' to live with God. We also celebrated the birthday of the Church and the outpouring of the



Holy Spirit at Pentecost. We begin the month of June which is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus reminds us of the never ending and merciful love that Jesus has for everyone and all of creation.



We hope, as always, you find this newsletter interesting and informative. Please keep us in your prayers as we support your children in their Religious Education.

Mrs. Bannister

Dates from the Church's calendar:

14 <sup>th</sup> May	The Ascension of the Lord	3 <sup>rd</sup> July	St.. Thomas, Apostle
24 <sup>th</sup> May	Pentecost	22 <sup>nd</sup> July	St. Mary Magdalene
31 <sup>st</sup> May	The Most Holy Trinity	23 <sup>rd</sup> July	St. Bridget
7 <sup>th</sup> June	The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ	25 <sup>th</sup> July	St. James, Apostle
12 <sup>th</sup> June	The Sacred Heart of Jesus	29 <sup>th</sup> July	Ss. Mary, Martha and Lazarus
24 <sup>th</sup> June	The Nativity of St. John the Baptist		
28 <sup>th</sup> June	Ss. Peter and Paul, Apostles	31 <sup>st</sup> July	St. Ignatius of Loyola

# Reception- The Church

The Way,  
The Truth and  
The Life



This half term, the children in the Reception class will be learning about the Church. The children will begin to understand that we call the Church the family of God. They will learn that a church building is a holy place where we can all pray and are welcome. The children will learn that Jesus is present in a special way in the Blessed Sacrament and he invites us to be with him. They will learn to be thankful that lots of people help to look after the church and know why Sunday is a special day.

At home you could help your children by:

- visiting church, either for Mass or another time, to talk about the church and reminding them what a special place a church is and reasons why it is special.
- talking to your child about Baptism, either their own or one they have attended, explaining how this is the day that people become part of God's family in a special way.

## The Vine and The Branches

### Year 1 - Dialogue and Encounter

The starting point of dialogue in a Catholic school is understanding some things about the Catholic Church. Children will come to know that a Christian is a follower of Jesus Christ, that the Cross is a symbol of Christianity and is also an expression of belief. They will also learn about their local parish church of St. Winefride's and find out that Catholics are part of a global Christian family, and all Christians are sisters and brothers.

In the encounter section of this branch, Year One children learn about Jewish life in Britain which includes growing in knowledge about the Jewish belief in one God and the Torah as a special text which contains stories of the Jewish people's history and is a guide for Jewish life.



At home

You could help your children by:

- visiting our parish church of St. Winefride's together and talking about what you see there.
- asking the children to talk about their learning in their Religious Education lessons.
- visiting BBC Religions of the World and watching the animations there together:  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/articles/zfxwpg8>.



## Year 2 - Dialogue and Encounter

### The Vine and The Branches

'Those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen' (1 Jn 4:20). In the dialogue dimension of this branch, pupils will begin by studying the parable of the Good Samaritan, which Jesus told in answer to the question, 'Who is my neighbour?'. Pope Francis reminded everyone that living according to this parable has the potential to radically transform society.

In the encounter part of this branch, pupils will learn more about Judaism as part of the religious education curriculum. They will find out about a religious law or belief from the Torah and explore how Jewish people live this out.

At home

You could help your children by:

- reading them a child-friendly version of the parable of The Good Samaritan and discussing what Jesus' message is for Christians today.
- asking the children to talk about their learning in their Religious Education lessons.
- visiting BBC Religions of the World and watching the animations there together: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/articles/zfxwpg8>.

## Year 3 - Dialogue and Encounter

### The Vine and The Branches

This branch begins by looking at the Jewish Passover. Pupils will know that the festival of Passover (Pesach in Hebrew) celebrates the liberation of the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt. On the evening before Passover starts, Jewish families have a special service called a Seder which takes place over a meal. The story of Exodus is read from a book called the Haggadah. For Christians, the feast of the Passover is important because they believe that it links with Jesus' last meal with his disciples. In the gospels of St Matthew, St Mark, and St Luke, the Last Supper is a Passover meal.



In the encounter part of this branch, children will learn that Islam has a rich culture which incorporates art, religious music, poetry, and architecture as well as finding out what Muslims believe.

### At home

You could help your children by:

- reading them a child-friendly version of the narrative of The Last Supper and discussing what happens and why it is important for Catholics.
- asking the children to talk about their learning in their Religious Education lessons.
- visiting BBC Religions of the World and watching the animations there together:  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/articles/zfxwpg8>.

## The Vine and The Branches

### Year 4 - Dialogue and Encounter

Pupils will begin the dialogue part of this branch by exploring a little more about the life and work of St Paul, one of the most significant figures in the New Testament. In this branch, pupils will look at Paul's commitment to announcing the gospel to the world and simply reflect on the gift of unity Christ gave from the beginning (CCC 820). St Paul is the first model of intercultural dialogue.

Pupils will explore something of the universal Catholic Church and the many different communities of faith that form part of the Catholic Church. They will also find out more about different Christian communities in their local area.



The encounter element of the branch focuses on the five pillars of Islam.

### At home

You could help your children by:

- researching the teachings of St. Paul in a child-friendly way
- making them aware of the different communities of faith in their local area and talking about tolerance, respect and understanding.
- asking the children to talk about their learning in their Religious Education lessons.
- visiting BBC Religions of the World and watching the animations there together:  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/articles/zfxwpg8>.

## Year 5 - Dialogue and Encounter



## The Vine and The Branches

Year 5 will learn that the Bible itself is a work of dialogue as the writers recount humanity seeking to 'converse' with God. Pupils will understand how Christians view the Bible and the importance of the Church in helping people encounter the meaning of the text beyond what is written. The word 'bible' comes from a Greek word 'biblia' which means 'little books'. The Bible is not one large volume as pupils will perceive it in their classrooms. It is a collection of different writings gathered over time. Within these writings, there are different types of literature, gathered from different sources, probably including oral accounts, that have been gathered and edited over centuries. Pupils will recognise that the texts that Christians refer to as the Old Testament are texts of the Jewish religion. For Christians, they are 'old' as Jesus Christ fulfils a new covenant which the New Testament recounts. However, God's covenantal relationship with Abraham told in the book of Genesis remains and the texts of the Old Testament remain relevant to Christians. The Church proclaims an understanding of Sacred Scripture as part of the revelation of God made complete in Jesus Christ while respecting that different religious and non-religious views may not share in the same revelation.

In the encounter dimension of this branch, pupils will be invited to explore more about the importance of Hebrew, the holy language for Jewish people, and understand how prayer, beliefs and sacred objects form part of Jewish life. They will also learn that the Torah is central to Jewish life and the scrolls in synagogues are sacred objects.

### At Home

You could help your children by:

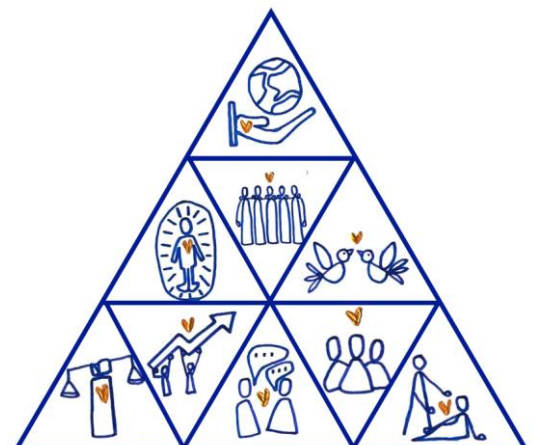
- finding out about the different books of the Bible.
- discussing what is important to them in their faith.
- finding out about the Torah and the Jewish synagogue.

## The Vine and The Branches

## Year 6 - Dialogue and Encounter

Pupils in Year 6 will consider what dialogue means in action. The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales identified different ways Catholics can enter dialogue with people of goodwill in their document 'Meeting God in friend and stranger' (2010). Pupils will explore the following pathways:

- The dialogue of life - what it means to be a good neighbour.



- The dialogue of action - how Christians and others collaborate for justice and freedom for all people.
- The dialogue of religious experience - how people share their spiritual riches. 157



The children will find out about the experience of neighbourliness, collaboration, and the sharing of spiritual riches.

The encounter element of the branch introduces Dharmic faith pathways. These are faith pathways that originated in the Indian subcontinent. They include Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, and Sikhism.

### At Home

You could help your children by:

- discussing the core values of our school and how these can be seen as 'alive and active' at home and in our daily lives.
- discussing the many ways in which we can be called to serve God and our neighbour.
- talking about the diversity and richness of our community, local and global.
- chat about their gifts and talents, both obvious ones and hidden ones.