



Prayer and Liturgy Policy

Autumn 2025

Mission Statement	
<p><i>“Treat others the way you would like to be treated yourself.” Mt 7:12</i></p>	
CONTEXT	<p>‘The celebration of Catholic liturgies and prayers as an integral part of the learning and teaching should enable the school community to become reflective, experience the presence of God and should develop a mature spiritual life.’ (Marcus Stock (2012), Christ at the Centre, Catholic Truth Society, 23.)</p>
STATEMENT OF REQUIREMENT	<p>The law requires all maintained Catholic schools to provide an act of daily collective worship (prayer and liturgy) for all pupils, including those in the sixth form (Section 70, 1988 Education Act) that is in accordance with the rites, practices, disciplines, and liturgical norms of the Catholic Church (School Standards and Framework Act 1998, schedule 20;</p> <p>The law requires all maintained schools to recognise and respect that parents have the legal right to withdraw their children up to the age of 16 from prayer and liturgy (School Standards and Framework Act 1998, s.71(1A)). Sixth-form pupils can choose to withdraw themselves from prayer and liturgy (School Standards and Framework Act 1998, s.71(1B)). The school’s provision for prayer and liturgy will fulfil pupils’ entitlement to experience the range of liturgical treasures of the Church, including a shared repertoire of prayers and liturgical music with which pupils in the school will be familiar. Prayer and liturgy are not designated curriculum time. In the context of the Catholic school, this means that times of prayer and liturgy are not considered to be part of the allocation of curriculum time for Religious Education.</p> <p>Worship at Christ the King is more than just a legal requirement. It is an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic tradition</p> <p>(For the shared repertoire of prayers and with which pupils in the school will be familiar, please see appendix 1. A variety of hymns for parts of the Mass and various liturgical celebrations will be learnt)</p>

AIMS	<p>AT CTK, we know that liturgy is the participation of the people in the work of God. (CCC1069) We aim to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ to contemplate something of the mystery of God ■ to reflect on spiritual and moral issues ■ 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 grow in liturgical understanding and development ■ to reinforce prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition ■ to reinforce positive attitudes ■ to participate fully in worship ('full, conscious and active') ■ to take time out 'to wonder at', 'to come to terms with' and 'to give worth to' ■ to have opportunities to empathise with others.
RESPONSIBILITY	<p>(a) Governance</p> <p>The governors, as guardians of the Catholic school's life and mission, have a responsibility to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prayer and liturgy are central to the Catholic life of the school and therefore are in line with the guidance set out by the Prayer and Liturgy Directory • there is a named person(s) who is responsible for prayer and liturgy in the school (the Prayer and Liturgy Coordinator) • the prayer and liturgy policy is updated regularly and shared with all stakeholders • there is a budget for prayer and liturgy that reflects its centrality to the life of a Catholic school. <p>(b) Headteacher</p> <p>The headteacher, as the spiritual leader of the school as a Catholic community, ensures that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prayer and liturgy are central to the Catholic life of the school and therefore are in line with the guidance set out by the Prayer and Liturgy Directory • they work in partnership with the leader(s) for prayer and liturgy • those responsible for prayer and liturgy in the school have been given appropriate training and formation to ensure that all guidance is followed and adhered to • there are suitable resources for prayer and liturgy in the school. <p>(c) Prayer and Liturgy Coordinator</p> <p>Those responsible for prayer and liturgy ensure that:</p>

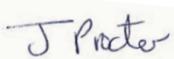
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prayer and liturgy are central to the Catholic life of the school and therefore are in line with the guidance set out by the Prayer and Liturgy Directory • there is an Annual Plan of Provision for prayer and liturgy across the school year which identifies liturgical seasons and key celebrations, as well as opportunities for the celebration of the Sacraments • there is daily planned prayer for all pupils, appropriate to age and ability, as outlined in the Prayer and Liturgy Directory • pupils are supported in their liturgical formation to take an active role in the planning, preparation, and delivery of prayer and liturgy according to their age and capacity, and in a manner which facilitates their progressive participation • resources to support the planning of prayer and liturgy are appropriate and readily available to staff and pupils • staff have access to effective training and formation opportunities • monitoring and evaluation of prayer and liturgy take place regularly and feed back into planning for future liturgies • monitoring of prayer and liturgy is reported to the headteacher and governing body to support whole-school development and the Catholic life of the school • there is collaboration with local clergy and parishes • liaison with the Diocesan Advisory Service and others is maintained to ensure they keep updated with best practice.
OVERVIEW	<p>Monday: Whole school 'Celebration of the Word' (in the infant hall) based on the Gospel reading relating to the weekly virtues statement, usually led by SLT or sometimes class teachers</p> <p>Tuesday: Class based worship based upon Monday's celebration and virtue to live by</p> <p>Wednesday: Mark Ten Missions Gospel based on Sunday'/Little Liturgies</p> <p>Thursday: Class based workshop based upon Mark Ten Mission</p> <p>Friday: Praise and music worship. During particular times of times of the Church's liturgical season, such as Advent, Lent, October/May, there will be additional opportunities for worship and prayer before or during school, led by the members of the parish or school children. Parents and guardians of children in the Foundation Stage are encouraged to stay and pray during different times of the year.</p>

	<p>Eucharist</p> <p>The same general principles will apply to planning a Eucharistic celebration as other acts of school worship, therefore opportunities for children to participate will be maximised. When preparing these celebrations reference will be made to "<i>The Children's Lectionary</i>" as a basis for our practice.</p> <p>As well as joining together as a school community to celebrate feast days, harvest and mark the beginning and end of the school year, year groups will take it in turns to join the parish community. Parents are encouraged to attend these celebrations. Year 6 will have a 'Mass to celebrate Y6 Leavers' held in July, attended by their parents.</p> <p>Each class will plan and lead a Class Mass with the parish priest at least once a year.</p> <p>Sacraments</p> <p>Baptised members of Y3 will celebrate their First Reconciliation during Lent in church. Parents will be invited to help children in preparation for this Sacrament during a parent and child session in school led by teachers. First Holy Communion preparation will also involve a session in school with parents and will be celebrated in Church with families on a Saturday in May/June. There will also be a Mass celebrated with the school involving a May parade. Lastly, a Parish celebration held during a Sunday Mass.</p> <p>The Prayer and Liturgy Coordinator, SLT and class teachers will be involved in helping children prepare for their sacraments and celebrating with them.</p> <p>Communal Prayer in classes</p> <p>This takes place four times per day with consistent prayers being used across the school (See Appendix 1):</p> <p>Beginning of the day: Morning Offering</p> <p>Before Lunch: Grace Before Meals</p> <p>After Lunch: Grace After meals or focus of the month prayer (See Appendix 2)</p> <p>End of the Day: End of Day prayer</p>
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CONTENT AND RESOURCES	<p>Prayer and liturgy are central to the school's understanding of itself as a Catholic school, and this is reflected in the annual budget allocation and available resources, including staff time, chaplaincy provision, and dedicated spaces for prayer and liturgy. The Catholic character of the school is reflected in religious artefacts and images on display throughout the building. Each classroom has the mission statement displayed as well as a cross or crucifix and prayer and liturgy table. Dedicated spaces for prayer and liturgy will be furnished and maintained as such, and updated to reflect the Church's liturgical season. In addition, there is an outdoor prayer space.</p> <p>Celebration of the Word in class will include scripture, symbols, prayer, silence and will be held in a space conducive to focussing on the sacred nature of the celebration. Younger children may participate in simple prayer opportunities such as prayers to say 3 times and feely cross prayers. Prayer throughout the school may include traditional prayers, hymns, litany, examens, meditation, and psalms so that children come to know the varied forms of prayer.</p> <p>Celebration of the Word in class is differentiated by the age of children so that there is an increasing level of responsibility as children progress through the school. Please see Appendix 2.</p>
TRAINING	<p>All new staff will be supported during induction and beyond, so that they fully understand the responsibility they carry within their individual role for leading prayer and liturgy in the school. Any individual training needs will be identified and addressed through training and formation. There will also be the opportunity for whole-staff professional development at least once a year, so that all staff understand the importance of prayer and liturgy and relevant staff are well supported to lead as required.</p>
MONITORING AND REVIEW	<p>Monitoring and evaluation of the quality and impact of prayer and liturgy will take place at least annually, and involve all key stakeholders: pupils, parents, staff, clergy, and governors. Areas for development will be identified and issues raised will be actioned and evidenced as appropriate.</p>

Date policy last reviewed:2025

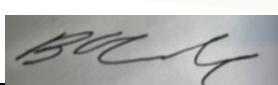
Signed by: _____



Date:

Headteacher

Signed by: _____



Date:

Chair of governors

Appendix 1

Christ the King, Bromborough



School Prayers

Morning Offering

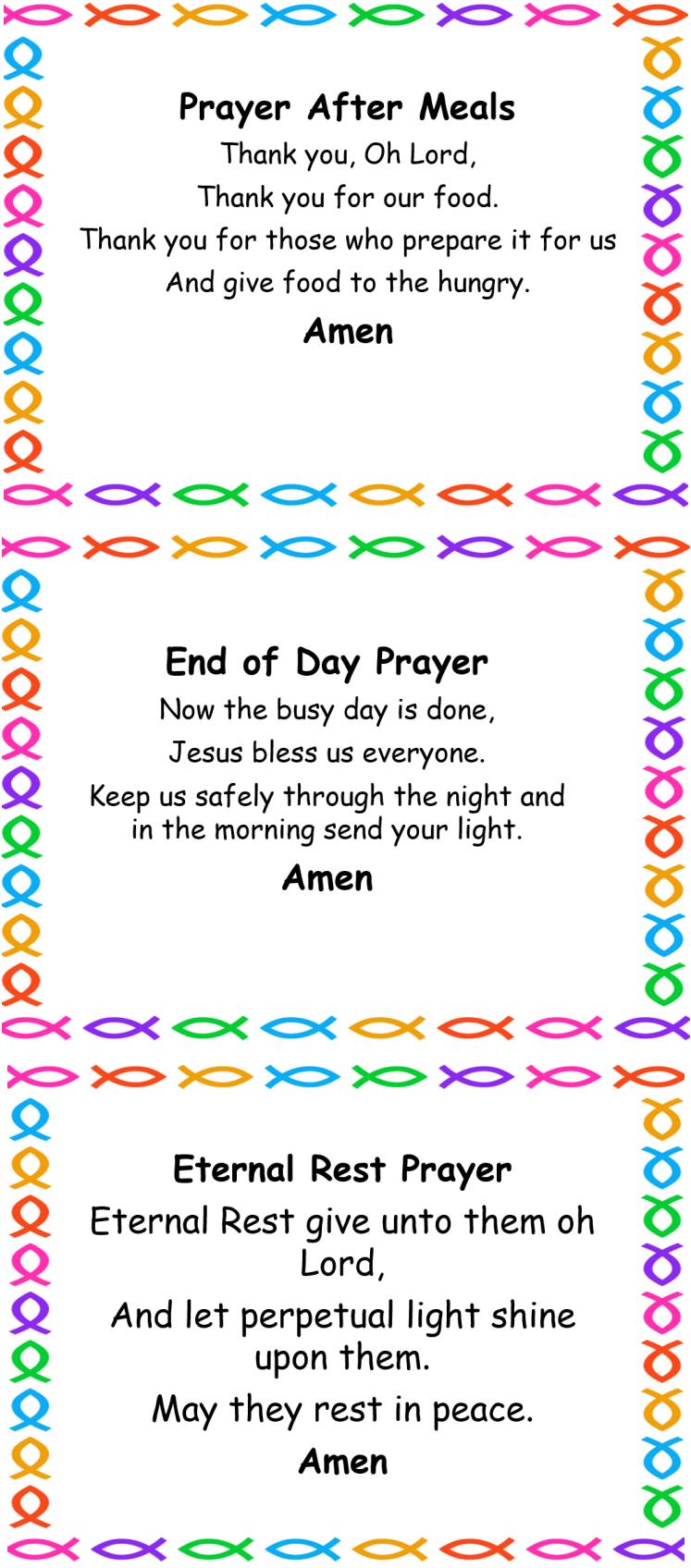
Oh my God I give to you
All that I think and say and do
All my work and all my happy play
I will give to you today.

Amen

Grace Before Meals

Bless us, Oh Lord,
Bless our food,
Bless those who prepare it for us,
And give food to the hungry.

Amen



Prayer After Meals

Thank you, Oh Lord,
Thank you for our food.
Thank you for those who prepare it for us
And give food to the hungry.

Amen

End of Day Prayer

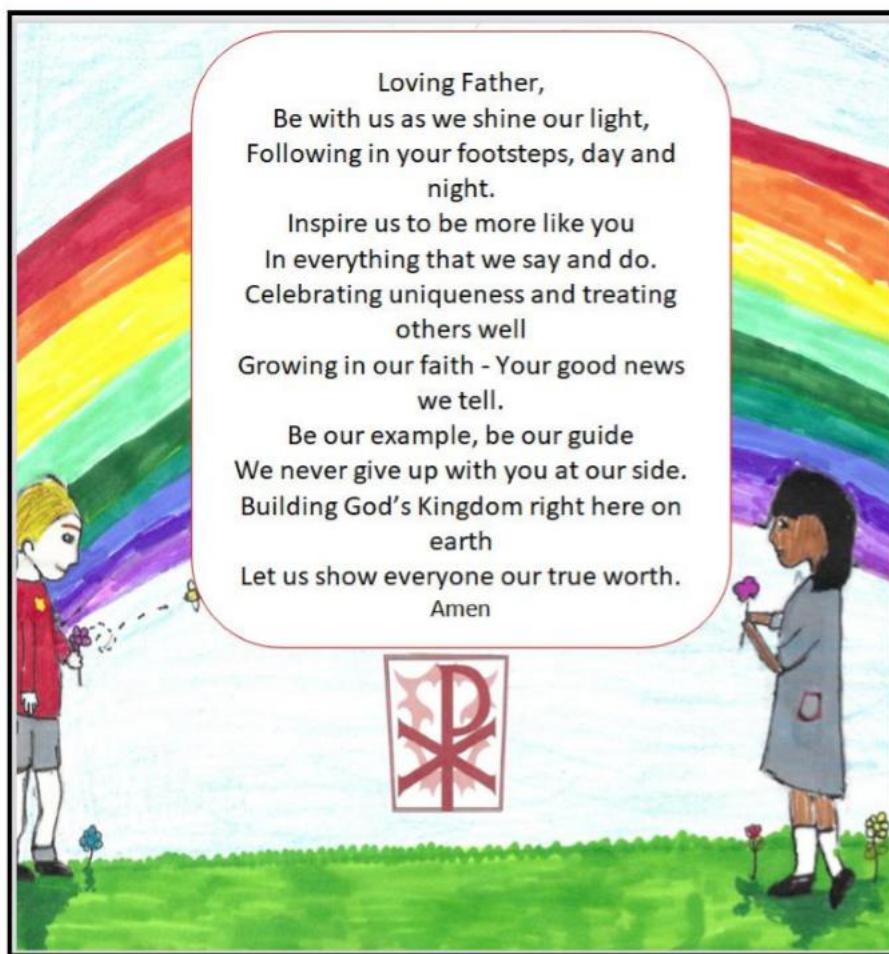
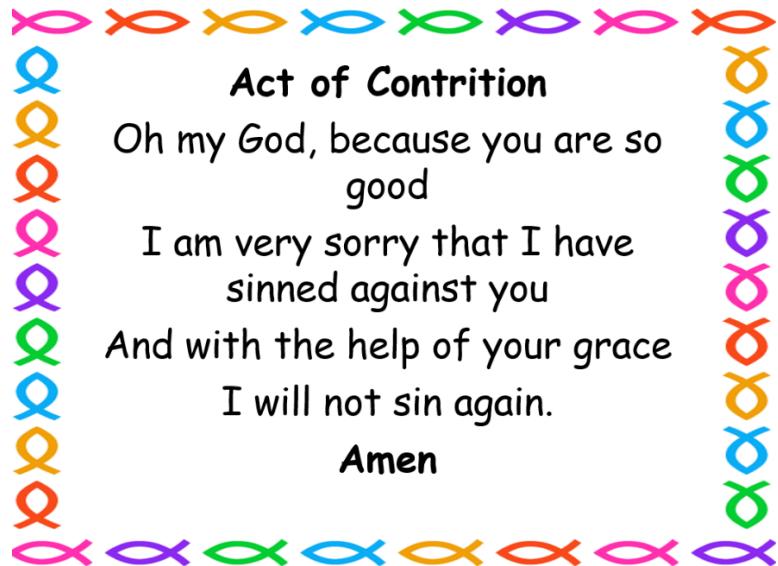
Now the busy day is done,
Jesus bless us everyone.
Keep us safely through the night and
in the morning send your light.

Amen

Eternal Rest Prayer

Eternal Rest give unto them oh
Lord,
And let perpetual light shine
upon them.
May they rest in peace.

Amen



The Angelus

The Rosary

Appendix 2

Monthly Prayer Focus Y3-6 (can be used instead of after lunch prayer)

September: Our Father

October: Hail Mary and Glory Be

November: Eternal Rest

Advent: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy

January: Daily Examen

February: Come Holy Spirit

Lent: Act of Contrition

April: Our Father

May: Angelus and Hail Mary

June: Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

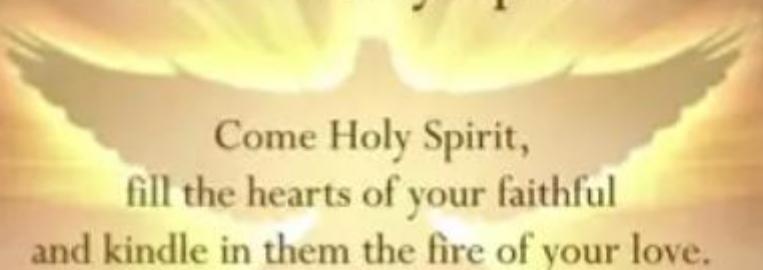
July: review all

FS2- Y2

Great Amen, Hail Mary, Our Father, Glory Be, Daily Examen, Alleluia

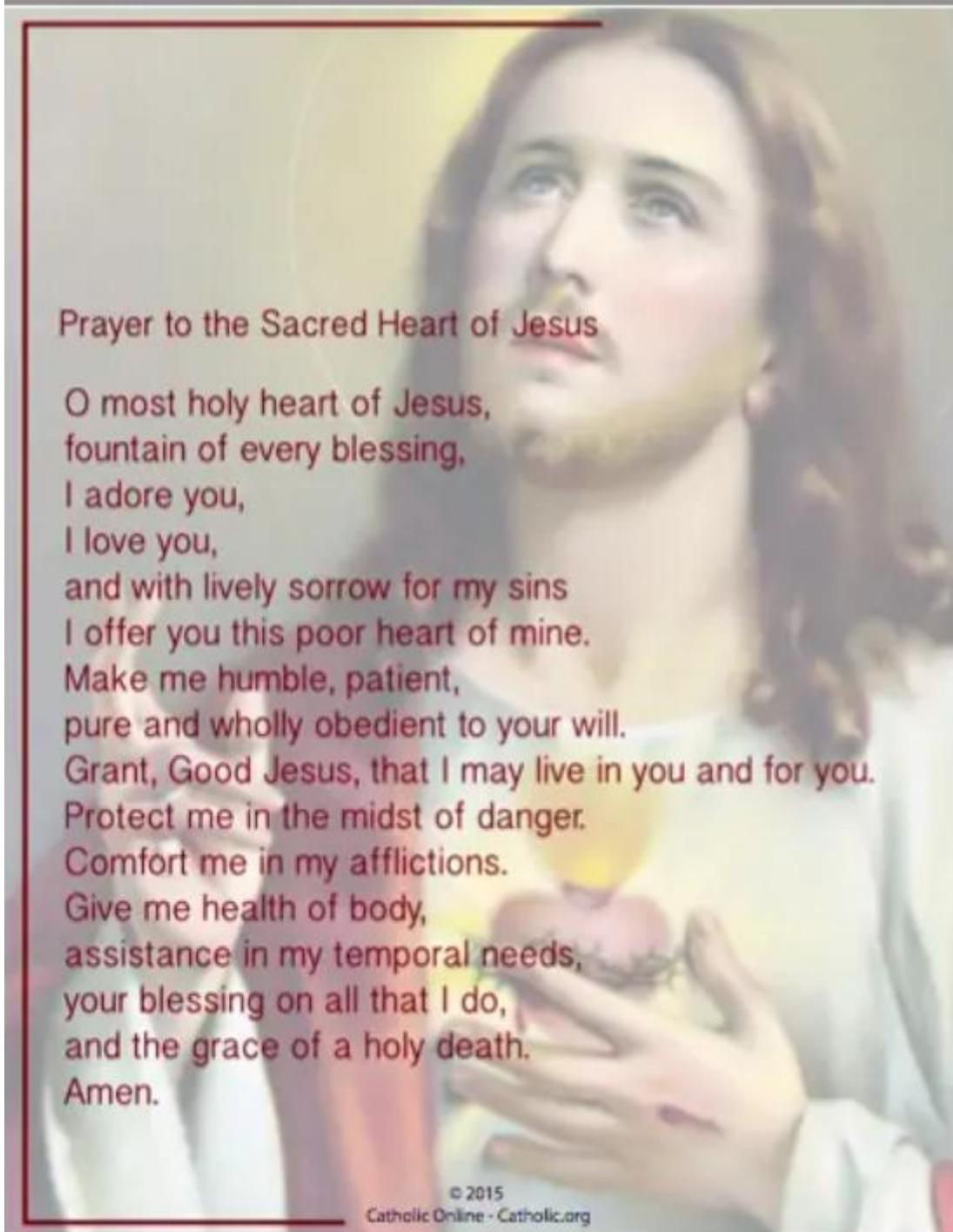
(Halle Halle)

Come Holy Spirit



Come Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit,
did instruct the hearts of the faithful,
grant that by the same Holy Spirit
we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations,
Through Christ Our Lord,
Amen.



Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

O most holy heart of Jesus,
fountain of every blessing,
I adore you,
I love you,
and with lively sorrow for my sins
I offer you this poor heart of mine.
Make me humble, patient,
pure and wholly obedient to your will.
Grant, Good Jesus, that I may live in you and for you.
Protect me in the midst of danger.
Comfort me in my afflictions.
Give me health of body,
assistance in my temporal needs,
your blessing on all that I do,
and the grace of a holy death.
Amen.

Appendix 3

Progression in Class Celebration of the Word (based on Maria Hall)

(Note: approx. 1 min per age of the child)

EYFS

Listen to scripture

Take part in circle prayer with help

Participate in short periods of silence, examens and meditation

Y1

Lay out prayer space with help

Listen to scripture

Take part in circle prayer with help

Participate in short periods of silence, examens and meditation

Y2

Lay out prayer space from selected symbols and artefacts

Help select and read scripture

Mae up own circle prayer

Increasing comfort with periods of silence, examens and meditation

Y3

Lay out prayer space

Select theme for scripture and read it

Make own circle prayer

Spend time in silence, examen and meditation

Y4

Lay out prayer space

Select music

Select scripture and read it

Select a prayer from a source

Select an image to be shown to meditate/reflect upon

Select a 'go forth'

Y5 and 6

Select more creative choices for prayer space including images and music to gather

Select scripture and read it

Write own prayers of the faithful to match theme, with prayers becoming
increasingly detailed

Incorporate own symbolic actions if appropriate

Spend increasing amount of time in silence, litany, examen or meditation

Evaluation of celebration is reflective and informs future planning