

# Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School



## Prayer & Liturgy Policy

**January 2026**

Reviewed and amended: **January 2026**

To next be reviewed **January 2029**

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## **Corpus Christi Mission Statement:**

***Together We Dream***

***Together We Learn***

### **1. The context of this prayer and liturgy policy**

'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.)

### **2. Statement of requirement**

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; 70 9 and liturgy Instrument of Government, clause 2). Academies in England are required by their funding agreement and Articles of Association to comply with similar requirements (The Mainstream Academy and Free School: Supplemental Funding Agreement, December 2020; Model Articles for Catholic Academies, February 2019).

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.

### **3. Responsibilities**

#### **(a) Governance**

The governors, as guardians of the Catholic school's life and mission, have a responsibility to ensure that:

- 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.

#### **(b) Headteacher**

The headteacher, as the spiritual leader of the school as a Catholic community, ensures that:

- 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.

#### **(c) Prayer and Liturgy Coordinator**

Those responsible for prayer and liturgy ensure that:

- 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
- induction on prayer and liturgy takes place for new members of staff as required
- 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.

#### 4. Overview of prayer and liturgy provision at Corpus Christi

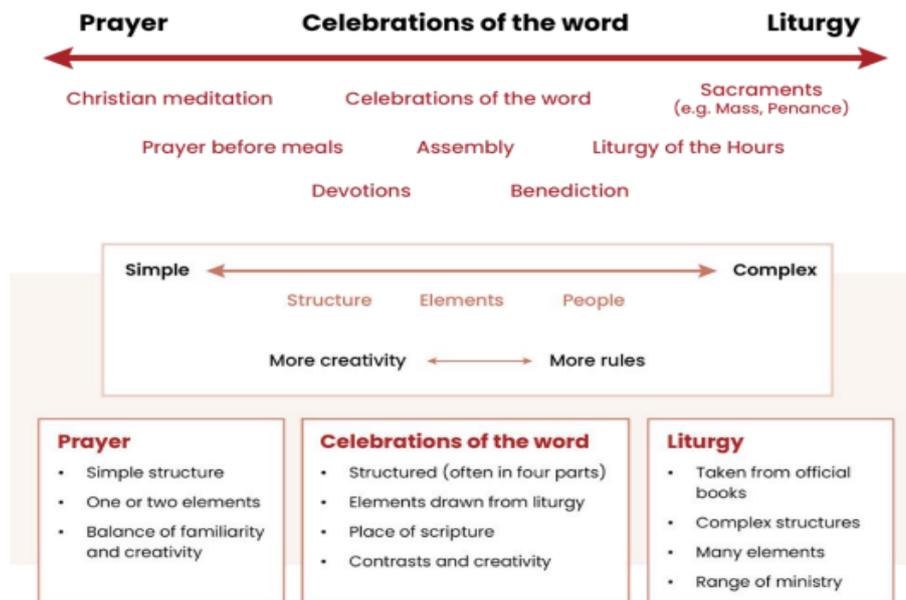
“Prayer, celebrations of the word, and liturgy form a continuum with silent meditation at one end and a celebration of Mass on a Solemnity of the Church (e.g., Ascension of the Lord) at the other. Of course, there are areas of overlap between the categories.” (RED, 2023)

At Corpus Christi, we ensure that our pupils have access to a full provision of prayer and liturgy in its many forms. Most importantly, we ensure full participation from all members of our school family. Children regularly attend mass at Corpus Christi church. There are protected times for Celebration of the Word as well as more informal, guided meditation and silent prayer opportunities, ensuring that Christ is always at the centre of our lives and school.

#### Frequency of different models of prayer



At Corpus Christi, we acknowledge the importance of ensuring children have access to a range of prayerful experiences, be that through attending mass, Celebration of the Word, Christian meditation or regular liturgical music and hymn singing sessions. We teach children that these are all forms of prayer.



Children at Corpus Christi have the following prayer and liturgy offer;

Everyday	Daily Prayer- Beginning and end of day and before meals Teacher-Led Celebration of the Word, on-going informal times to pray.
Every Week	Celebration of the Word and Assemblies- the school come together three times per week; Monday- Celebration of the Word with Headteacher- Welcome Assembly Thursday- Our Common Home (Global and National Issues) with Assistant Headteacher, including Prayers of Intercession Friday- Praise Assembly with Headteacher
Every Term	Children attend mass at Corpus Christi Catholic Church at least once per term on a rolling programme. Children also attend Mass for Holy Days as appropriate.
Every Year	Children in Y4 prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.  Whole school attend Sacrament of Reconciliation or Service of Penance twice yearly.

*See Annex 1 for full yearly overview*

## Common Prayers

We also have a systematic approach to teaching common prayers progressively (see Annex 2)

## 5. Resourcing

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. Dedicated spaces for prayer and liturgy will be furnished and maintained as such, and updated

to reflect the Church's liturgical season. Staff training and formation costs will be funded separately to ensure that all staff are able to fulfil their responsibility to contribute to the prayer and liturgical life of the school.

## **6. Training and formation**

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.

## **7. Monitoring and evaluation**

Monitoring and evaluation of the quality and impact of prayer and liturgy will take place regularly, and 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.

## **8. Review**

The policy will be reviewed as part of the regular cycle of policy review conducted by the governors.

**Annex One**

**Yearly Overview of Prayer and Liturgy at Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School**

<b><u>Annual Overview of Prayer and Liturgy 2025-26</u></b>	<b><u>Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School</u></b>
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<p><b><u>2025-26 Theme: Pilgrims of Hope</u></b></p> <p><i>To renew our hope and rediscover a spirituality of God’s creation in which we understand ourselves as “pilgrims on the Earth.”</i></p>
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<p><b><u>EYFS/KS1 – Prayers – check the class prayers</u></b></p> <p>Morning (EYFS): “Good Morning....” and sign of the cross          Morning (KS1): “Oh my God, I give to You...”          Before Lunch: “Bless us o Lord” (with actions)          End of Day: “Now the day is over”  <b><i>See also Prayer Progression Document</i></b></p>	<p><b><u>KS2 – Prayers – check the class prayers</u></b></p> <p>Morning: “Oh my God, I give to You...”          Before Lunch: “Bless us o Lord” (with actions)          End of Day: “God Our Father we come to say”  <b><i>See also Prayer Progression Document</i></b></p>
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<p><b><u>Weekly Prayer and Liturgy in School</u></b></p>
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<p><b>Monday</b> Whole School Celebration of the Word with Mr Hale</p>	<p><b>Tuesday</b> Teacher-Led worship in class – to include progressive teaching of common prayers and Cafod Resources</p>	<p><b>Wednesday</b> Teacher-led in class. Utilise Wednesday Word or Cafod Pupil led resources</p>	<p><b>Thursday</b> Whole school assembly around the national/global themes led by Mrs Bagdonavicius</p>	<p><b><u>Friday – Praise Assembly</u></b> Enter to Hymn/Sign of the Cross Reflection on week’s Gospel Class Awards External Awards/Good News/Celebration/Sporting Events certificates or mention if applicable Attendance (from previous week) House Points Prayer/Sign of the Cross Leave to Hymn / Singing</p>
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## Mass Attendance

Reception to Year 6 attend Mass at Corpus Christi Church once a term as a collective. Father Paul will celebrate mass in school for occasions such as Welcome Mass, Advent, Ash Wednesday and Saint Days.

### AUTUMN TERM

*Year C, Cycle 1 until December 1<sup>st</sup>*

Week Beginning	Monday Whole School Celebration of the Word <i>(based on Gospel from Sunday)</i> <i>(see Wednesday Word/CAFOD Children's Liturgy)</i>	Thursday Whole School Assembly (national/ global themes)	Friday Praise Assembly <i>or</i> Class Worship	Additional Masses/ Celebrations
<b>1st September 2025</b>	INSET Day Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	Launch Relationships Policy & Expectations	Praise Assembly	First Day Back – New Academic Year Assembly
<b>8<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Wednesday Word	Recap- Zones of Regulation and Calm Spaces	Praise Assembly	
<b>15<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Wednesday Word	Guided Meditation Protected Characteristics/British Values (Tolerance)	Praise Assembly	<i>14<sup>th</sup> September- Education Sunday</i>
<b>22nd September</b>	Wednesday Word	Pupil Council Introduction		
<b>29<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Wednesday Word		Praise Assembly	<b>Start Harvest collection</b> CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day 03.10.25
<b>6<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Wednesday Word	Harvest 5.10.25	Praise Assembly	

<b>13<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Wednesday Word	World Mental Health Day <i>(Actual 10.10.24)</i>	Praise Assembly	
<b>20<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Wednesday Word	Diwali		
<b>27<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>½ TERM</b>			
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> November</b>	Wednesday Word	Bonfire Night/Safety (Actual 05.11.24)	Remembrance Assembly	All Hallows' Day, the Feast of All Saints <i>(Actual 01.11.25)</i>  All Souls Day <i>(Actual 02.11.25)</i>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Wednesday Word	Anti-bullying week <i>(Actual 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Nov)</i>	Praise Assembly	
<b>17<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Wednesday Word	COP30- See Six Agenda Axes <i>(Actual 10<sup>th</sup>-21st Nov 2025)</i>	Praise Assembly	
<b>24<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Colour Day	Wednesday Word	28.11.25 Advent 1 - Season of Advent	
<b>1st December</b> <i>(Year A begins)</i>	Wednesday Word	GIFT Team Introduction – Advent and Christmas	05.12.24 Advent 2 - John the Baptist	
<b>8th December</b>	Wednesday Word	Wednesday Word	12.12.25 Advent 3 - Gaudete Sunday (actual Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> )	10.12.25 & 11.12.25 EYFS and KS1 Nativity
<b>15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Wednesday Word	International Migrants Day		17.12.25 KS2 Carol Concert 9.30 & 15.45
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS</b>			

**29<sup>th</sup> December**  
**(4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent 21st**  
**Dec)**

**CHRISTMAS**

Jan 1<sup>st</sup> Solemnity of Mary,  
Mother of God.

## Annex 2

### Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School

#### Prayer Progression Document

CLASS PRAYER & LITURGY OVERVIEW					
	DAILY PRAYERS	COMMON PRAYERS	OTHER FORMS OF PRAYER	CELEBRATION OF THE WORD	MASS RESPONSES
			COLLECTIVE WORSHIP		
EYFS	Morning Prayer Grace before meals Ending the day	<b>Sign of the Cross</b>  (Focus on God, ourselves and those around us)	Each week: 1 x Meditation 1 x Individual Prayer (guided)	Each week: 2 x teacher-led 1 x Whole School	<b>Amen</b>  (with an age-appropriate understanding of what this means)
Y1	Morning Prayer Grace before meals Ending the day	All above plus: Glory Be Hail Mary	Each week: 1 x Meditation 1 x Individual Prayer (guided)	Each week: 2 x teacher-led 1 x Whole School	Introductory Rites <b>Amen</b> V: The Lord be with you. R: And with your spirit.
Y2	Morning Prayer Grace before meals Ending the day	All the above, plus: <b>The Lord's Prayer (Our Father)</b> (teach one phrase per week)	Each week: 1 x Meditation 1 x Individual Prayer (guided)	Each week: 1 x teacher-led 1 x child-led (with teacher support) 1 x Whole School	All the above, plus... Introductory Rites V. Lord, have mercy. <b>R. Lord, have mercy.</b> V. Christ, have mercy. <b>R. Christ, have mercy.</b> V. Lord, have mercy. <b>R. Lord, have mercy.</b>
Y3	Morning Prayer	All above plus:	Each week: 1 x Meditation	Each week: 1 x teacher-led	All the above, plus... Liturgy of the Word

	Grace before meals Ending the day	Act of Contrition	1 x Individual Prayer (guided)	1 x child-led (with teacher support) 1 x Whole School	V: The Word of the Lord R: Thanks be to God V: The Lord be with you. R: And with your spirit. V: A reading from the holy Gospel according to ... R: Glory to you, O Lord. (Sign of the Cross on forehead, lips, and chest) V: The Gospel of the Lord. R: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
Y4	Morning Prayer Grace before meals Ending the day	All above plus: <b>The Prayer of St Richard of Chichester.</b>  <b>Glory Be</b> (revisited) revisited to reflect on past/future and trust)	Each week: 1 x Meditation 1 x Individual Prayer (guided)	Each week: 1 x teacher-led 1 x child-led 1 x Whole School	All the above, plus... Liturgy of the Eucharist Blessed be God for ever. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.
Y5	Morning Prayer Grace before meals Ending the day#	All above plus:  Eternal Rest	Each week: 1 x Meditation 1 x Individual Prayer (guided)	Each week: 1 x teacher-led 1 x child-led 1 x Whole School	All the above, plus... The Eucharistic Prayer V: The Lord be with you. <b>R: And with your spirit.</b> V: Lift up your hearts. <b>R: We lift them up to the Lord.</b> V: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. <b>R: It is right and just.</b>  <b>Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.</b> <b>Heaven and earth are full of your</b>

					<p><b>glory.</b>  <b>Hosanna in the highest.</b>  <b>Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.</b>  <b>Hosanna in the highest.</b></p>
Y6	<p>Morning Prayer  Grace before meals  Ending the day</p>	<p>Prayer to the Holy Spirit</p>	<p>Each week:  1 x Meditation  1 x Individual Prayer (guided)</p>	<p>Each week:  1 x teacher-led  1 x child-led  1 x Whole School</p>	<p><u>Communion Rite</u>  <b>When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.</b></p> <p>Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.</p> <p>Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,  but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.</p>

### **Annex 3**

#### **Catalogue of Common Prayers for Use at Corpus Christi**

<b>Catalogue of Common Prayers at Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School</b>	<b>Introduced</b>
<p><b>The Sign of the Cross</b> In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.</p> <p>The sign of the cross is both an action and a statement of faith. A physical reminder of our redemption in the cross and an expression of faith in the Trinity.</p>	<b>EYFS</b>
<p><b>Glory be to the Father</b> Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be world without end. Amen.</p> <p>The doxology is a short expression of praise of the Trinity dating back to the early Church. It is used extensively in the Liturgy of the Hours and in devotions such as the Rosary.</p>	<b>Year One/ Four</b>
<p><b>The Hail Mary</b> Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.</p> <p>The first part of the Hail Mary is biblical, drawn from Gabriel's greeting to Mary at the Annunciation and Elizabeth's greeting at the Visitation. The second part of the prayer has its origins in 15th-century Italy.</p>	<b>Year One</b>

<p><b>The Lord's Prayer</b>  Our Father who art in heaven,  hallowed be thy name.  Thy kingdom come.  Thy will be done on earth,  as it is in heaven.  Give us this day our daily bread,  and forgive us our trespasses,  as we forgive those who trespass against us,  and lead us not into temptation,  but deliver us from evil.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Lord's Prayer 'is truly the summary of the whole of the Gospel'. (CCC 2761.)</p>	<b>Year Two</b>
<p><b>Act of Contrition</b>  O my God,  because you are so good,  I am very sorry that I have sinned against you,  and with the help of your grace  I will not sin again.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">One of the forms of the Penitent's Prayer of Sorrow found in the Rite of Penance</p>	<b>Year Three</b>
<p><b>Prayer of St Richard of Chichester</b>  Thanks be to you, my Lord Jesus Christ,  for all the benefits which you have given me,  for all the pains and insults which you have borne for me.  O most merciful Redeemer, friend and brother,  may I know you more clearly,  love you more dearly,</p>	<b>Year Four</b>

<p>and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen</p>	
<p><b>Eternal Rest</b> Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.</p>	<b>Year Five</b>
<p><b>Come Holy Spirit</b></p> <p>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 will renew the face of the earth.</p> <p>Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit you have taught the hearts of your faithful. In the same Spirit help us to relish what is right and always rejoice in your consolation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.</p>	<b>Year Six</b>