

# St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School



## Prayer and Liturgy Policy

### School Mission Statement and Values

Our mission at St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School is to educate our children to reach their full potential in the context of a Catholic community in which each individual shares, or is in sympathy with, the teachings of the Catholic Church and the Christian way of life.

Our core values of **equality, excellence, kindness, forgiveness, perseverance, friendship, courage, service** and **respect** were chosen by our pupils and are based on Catholic Social Teaching. These are the overriding principles to which the whole school aspires, together with our school motto, "*Love one another as I have loved you*" John 13:34.

We seek to make St Elizabeth's School a secure, happy and inclusive environment that is a place:

- of the highest quality teaching and learning;
- of compassion, co-operation and reconciliation;
- where each child is seen and appreciated as a unique individual;
- in which every child's talents are developed and their needs met;
- where mistakes are learning opportunities;
- in which all children are empowered to keep themselves safe and healthy;
- where endeavour and excellence are encouraged and celebrated;
- in which cultural diversity is respected and valued;
- where we put our faith into action and help those in need.

We value worshipping and celebrating together, sharing our Christian witness and drawing strength from and serving our local parishes and the wider community.

***Commitment to Equality:*** *We are committed to providing a positive school environment which is free from prejudice and unlawful discrimination and any form of harassment, bullying or victimisation.*

Approved by:	Full Governing Board
Status	Statutory
Review Cycle	Every two years
Date written/last review	November 2025
Date of next review	September 2027



**St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School**

*"Love one another as I have loved you"*

## **St Elizabeth's Prayer and Liturgy Policy**

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# St Elizabeth's Prayer and Liturgy Policy

## 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; 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)).

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. Responsibility

### (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 that 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 that 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**

Prayer and liturgy at St Elizabeth's is planned following a structure with reference to the Church's seasons, the Religious Education Curriculum Directory, the curriculum and significant dates, e.g. CAFOD Family Fast Day.

(See Appendix 2 for our Annual plan of provision for prayer and liturgy)

### **The Timetable of Prayer and Liturgy**

The whole school gathers together at least twice a week for an act of worship linked to the liturgical season, Sunday's Gospel, or other religious celebration or social justice themes. A variety of staff and groups of children lead liturgies.

The staff use a range of resources, including Ten:Ten and CAFOD in the preparation and delivery of these acts of worship.

We follow a format which is familiar to the children (Gather, Word, Response and Mission) with music, hymns, prayer and the lighting of a candle, and staff attend as one community.

The Collective Worship schedule is as follows:

**Monday:** Key Stage assembly or class-based Celebration of the Word

**Tuesday:** Whole-school Gospel 'Celebration of the Word' led by RE lead

**Wednesday:** Class-based Celebration of the Word

**Thursday:** Whole-school hymn practice

**Friday:** Catholic Social Teaching assembly and celebration of our School Values

### **Gospel 'Celebration of the Word'**

Each Tuesday, the children gather for a Celebration of the Word which focuses on Sunday's Gospel. Year 6 Pupil Chaplains help in the delivery of this. The key message from the Gospel is highlighted, reflected on and linked to the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. The children are challenged to live the Gospel message in their daily life. Observations of children living out the Gospel message are celebrated.

### **Catholic Social Teaching/Values Collective Worship**

Each Friday, the whole school community comes together for a time of Collective Worship in which one of our school values or Catholic Social Teaching themes is celebrated. During this time, an example of how the Catholic Social Teaching principles or School Value is or has been 'lived' is shared. Children 'living' our school values and Catholic Social Teaching are acknowledged and celebrated during this assembly.

### **Class-led whole-school assemblies**

Once a year, each class prepares an assembly for the whole school based on their learning in their RE topic or an aspect of the liturgical year. The children are included and involved in the whole process of planning and delivery of this liturgy. They are actively involved in the selection of readings and the writing of prayers. They also use drama, art and music to engage and communicate their message. Parents, carers and governors are invited to attend class assemblies.

### **Pupil Leadership and Child-Led Celebrations of the Word**

We encourage the children to take a leadership role in the prayer life of the school.

- In every class there are Prayer Monitors who lead daily prayer.
- Every week, children in each class prepare and lead their class in a Celebration of the Word. The children contribute to the planning and delivery of their worship: they choose scripture, write prayers and choose hymns. See Appendix 4 for the Celebration of the Word planning proforma.
- At the end of each RE topic, the children in every class plan, lead and deliver a Celebration of the Word to share and celebrate their newfound learning. The children follow the format of: gather, word, response, mission.
- Pupil Chaplains lead Celebrations of the Word for younger children in their classes and in Bible Club.

When planning for Celebrations of the Word, both staff and pupils have an active part. There is a planning proforma which includes the four parts:

- **Gather** – how we come together, the setting, the environment (quiet reflective music, lighted candles, icons etc.)
- **Listen (The Word)** – every liturgy will centre on at least one text from the Bible, with the reading of the day being the first source. The Word of God will be proclaimed from a Bible or Lectionary
- **Response to the Word** – The response to the Word may lead into a time of ritual action or communal prayer. The ritual action may vary (dance, music, drama, art, poetry, etc.) We place our needs before God (intercessory prayers)
- **Going forth (Mission)** – Giving the children something to hold on to from the experience of the liturgy that they can take into their daily lives

### Liturgies

Throughout the year, we hold a range of liturgies to mark important events in the Church’s liturgical year, e.g. Liturgy of Remembrance for our friends and family who have died, a Reconciliation Service, Ash Wednesday Liturgy, ‘Stations of the Cross’ liturgy, May as a special month dedicated to Mary liturgy. The liturgies take place in a variety of settings including our prayer garden, which is dedicated to Mary.

### Celebrating Mass

The priests from our four parishes come into school to celebrate Mass. Children help to prepare and lead the Mass through altar serving, welcoming, reading, choosing hymns, singing in Schola and bringing up the gifts during Mass. On Holydays of Obligation, we go to one of our parishes for Mass. A special choir, Schola, drawn from Year 5 and Year 6 children, leads the singing in our liturgies. Parents, carers and governors are invited to join us for Mass in school.

### Prayer within the school day

Each class has set times of the day for prayer, e.g. the start of the day, before lunch, after lunch and at the end of the day, as well as times for spontaneous prayer using their own words and thoughts. Children are expected to learn and recite some formal prayers, and they are also exposed to a wide range of other prayers, as well as having the opportunity to compose their own.

All children in all classes pray each day:

The sign of the Cross

The morning offering

Before and after meal grace

An evening prayer

Children pray the following prayers:

Age Phase	5-7 (KS1)	7-9 (Lower KS2)	9-11 (Upper KS2)
Prayers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Sign of the Cross</li> <li>• The Lord’s Prayer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Apostles’ Creed</li> <li>• An Act of Contrition</li> <li>• Angel of God</li> <li>• Come, Holy Spirit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Angelus</li> <li>• The Rosary</li> <li>• The Magnificat</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Hail Mary</li> <li>● Glory be</li> <li>● Morning Offering</li> <li>● Night Prayer</li> <li>● Grace before meals</li> <li>● Grace after meals</li> <li>● Eternal Rest</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Prayer of St Richard of Chichester</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Act of Faith</li> <li>● Act of Hope</li> <li>● Act of Love</li> </ul>
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(See appendix for full versions of these prayers).

### **Prayer Stations**

There are a number of spaces for prayer in school. These are:

- Focal points for prayer in each classroom
- Focal point in the hall
- The Pupil Chaplains' interactive prayer space in the school hall
- The Mary Prayer Garden
- The School Chapel (from Dec 2025)

These spaces include the Bible, a crucifix, images of saints, artefacts to create 'wonder' and liturgical colours.

### **Liturgical Movement**

We help the children to understand and express themselves in prayer through liturgical movement. We regularly use movement for the Our Father and the sung Hail Mary. We have taught different classes other movements appropriate to particular feast days in the year.

### **Prayer in the school community**

All staff meetings, Governors' meetings and parent information meetings begin with prayer.

## **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. Recording, 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.

Evidence may be collected:

- through scripts of class assemblies
- through displays, collections of pupils' contributions, prayers, reflections, photographs, videos, etc

- through plans for child-led collective worship being kept in RE books or the class Spiritual Journal
- through children's written or oral evaluations of their pupil-led Celebrations of the Word
- through feedback from parents in the parents' annual survey
- feedback from clergy
- observations of prayer and liturgy by RE lead and Headteacher using the Prayer and Liturgy Monitoring form (Appendix 5)
- observations and feedback from governors' visits

Monitoring and evaluation will identify areas of strength to share and celebrate.

Areas for development will be identified and will be actioned and evidenced as appropriate.

End of year evaluations will inform the following year's Collective Worship priorities on the School Development Plan and staff training needs.

## **7. 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 term, so that all staff understand the importance of prayer and liturgy and relevant staff are well supported to lead as required.

## **8. 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.

## **9. Review**

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

## Appendix 1

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP SKILLS PROGRESSION		PRAYER PROGRESSION
YEAR	What we want the children to be able to do to plan, deliver and evaluate acts of worship:	
EYFS	<p>Children to use 'Gather, Listen, Respond, Mission' proforma to plan and lead COW, facilitated and supported by an adult. All children to have opportunity to contribute to the planning and leading of a COW by the summer term.</p> <p>Whole class to evaluate COW.</p> <p>Teacher to explicitly model COW to children after each RE topic</p> <p>Advent/Lent Term/Pentecost – whole class planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select appropriate colour cloth for the liturgical time of the year</li> <li>• Select crucifix, open Bible, light candle and begin to explain why</li> <li>• Select other appropriate artefacts to match the theme</li> <li>• Participate in preparing the focal area with these items</li> <li>• Make the sign of the cross</li> <li>• Put their hands together ready to pray</li> <li>• Know that the sign of the cross is a special sign and that it marks the beginning and the end of the liturgy</li> <li>• With support and from a choice, select how to 'Gather', etc</li> <li>• Teacher selects appropriate scripture passage and reads, explaining how it links to the theme</li> <li>• Offer simple spontaneous prayers, with support</li> <li>• Use appropriate responses as modelled by the teacher, explaining how the activity response links to the theme</li> <li>• Take part in appropriate reflection as supported by staff</li> <li>• Take part in silent prayer times/meditation up to one minute</li> <li>• Teacher articulates the stages within the liturgy</li> <li>• Teacher guides children to evaluate the liturgy</li> <li>• Children can begin to say how the liturgy makes them feel</li> </ul>	<p>By the end of the year, as well as the Sign of the Cross, children are encouraged through teacher modelling to generate their own spontaneous sorry, asking and thank you prayers</p> <p>Morning Prayer</p> <p>Prayer before lunch</p> <p>Prayer after lunch</p> <p>End of the Day Prayer</p> <p>Prayers outlined in KO.</p> <p>Begin to participate in- Hail Mary Our Father</p>
KS1	<p>Children to use 'Gather, Listen, Respond, Mission' proforma to plan and lead COW, facilitated by adult. Children to plan and prepare focal point for worship according to liturgical season/RE curriculum topic.</p> <p>Beginning of Y1, all children to plan COW as a class, facilitated by an adult. By Summer term of Y2, all children to plan COW in groups. Y2 to generate their own way of gathering to begin the liturgy.</p> <p>Whole class to evaluate liturgy in Y1 and Y2.</p> <p><b>As above plus:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher models links between sections of the COW, commenting on what is happening next and why, giving more detail than EYFS as to how this links</li> </ul>	<p>School Prayer:</p> <p>Morning Prayer</p> <p>Lunchtime Prayers</p> <p>End of the day Prayer</p> <p><b>Learn:</b> Our Father and Hail Mary</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children more confident in spontaneous prayer</li> <li>• Children know appropriate responses</li> <li>• Children can respond to the Gospel appropriately making the sign of the cross on the forehead, lips and heart and begin to explain why</li> <li>• With support, children can begin to select an appropriate Bible story – teacher to explain / help the children leading explain why the scripture choice links with the theme</li> <li>• Take part in appropriate reflection as suggested by the children – teacher to explain / help the children leading explain why/how the activity links with the theme</li> <li>• Take part in silent prayer time/meditation up to 1 minute.</li> <li>• Take part in evaluation as guided by the teacher.</li> <li>• Children can say how the liturgy makes them feel, what they enjoy and what they can improve</li> </ul>	<p>Range of spontaneous sorry, asking and thank you prayers</p> <p>Prayers outlined in KO.</p>
<b>LKS2</b>	<p>Y3 to generate their own way of gathering to begin the COW, and plan their own mission for children to complete the COW. Whole class to evaluate COW.</p> <p>Y4 – Children to generate their own way of gathering to begin the COW, a response to the word, and plan their own mission for children to complete the COW. Whole class to evaluate COW.</p> <p><b>As above plus:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher supports the children to begin to articulate and explain the links between the stages of the liturgy so that this flows appropriately and the theme follows through from beginning to end</li> <li>• Children can select a Bible story and can begin to explain why and how it links to the theme. Adult to support children’s selection of appropriate Bible story and support them where needed in explaining how it links with the theme</li> <li>• With support, children can plan a ‘response’ or reflection appropriate to the theme of the liturgy</li> <li>• Children are confident in spontaneous prayers</li> <li>• Children can articulate how they can live out the mission</li> <li>• Take part in silent prayer/ meditation for up to 2 minutes</li> <li>• Children can evaluate the liturgy with greater confidence and some independence as supported by staff</li> <li>• Children can articulate how the liturgy makes them feel and give appropriate evaluations</li> </ul>	<p>School Prayers: Morning Prayer Lunchtime prayers End of the Day prayer Our Father Hail Mary</p> <p>Sorry Prayer Act of Contrition</p> <p>Prayers outlined in KO.</p> <p><b>Learn:</b> Glory Be To be used in liturgies after Sorry Prayers:</p> <p>Range of spontaneous sorry, asking, penitential and thank you prayers</p>
<b>UKS2</b>	<p>Children to use the Liturgical Calendar to support planning of class COW. <a href="https://www.lectionarypage.net/CalndrsIndexes/Calendar2025.htm">https://www.lectionarypage.net/CalndrsIndexes/Calendar2025.htm</a></p>	<p><b>As LKS2 plus:</b></p> <p>Range of spontaneous sorry, asking, penitential</p>

	<p>Children to use Open Bible online resource to select a reading linked to the theme provided on liturgical calendar. Pupils to then find the passage in Bible to add to their prayer focus.</p> <p>Children to generate their own gather, response, word and mission according to the theme. They may use hymns, actions, prayers, classroom resources within the COW. We encourage active participants throughout.</p> <p>This is overseen by an adult, and guided only when necessary.</p> <p>Evaluation - following whole-class discussion. Children are encouraged to give reasons for their responses and recommendations. Whole class to evaluate COW.</p> <p><b>As above plus:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children can independently plan and prepare all aspects of the COW</li> <li>• They explain confidently why prayers, scripture, responses have been chosen and how these link with the theme; and weave these explanations into the liturgy</li> <li>• Adult to support children’s selection of a more diverse range of scripture passages linked to theme to enable their repertoire to extend.</li> <li>• Spontaneous prayers are confident</li> <li>• Children can confidently say how the mission links to the theme and its choice is appropriate</li> <li>• Children can take part in silent prayer/meditation up to 4 minutes</li> <li>• Children can confidently articulate the impact that the COW has on them and suggest and follow through independently outcomes of evaluations</li> <li>• The COW is overseen by the adult, guided only when necessary with minimal teacher talk and support throughout</li> </ul>	<p>and thank you prayers.</p> <p><b>Learn: The Angelus as part of lunchtime prayers:</b></p> <p>The Magnificat</p> <p>Prayers outlined in KO.</p>
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## Appendix 2

**Annual Plan of Provision for prayer and liturgy across the school year 25-26**

**The Gospel scriptures is at the heart of the Celebration of the Word each week.**

## **Autumn**

Prayer tables are green at the start of the academic year.

## **September**

### **Liturgical Season of Creation**

Focus on St Francis of Assisi and the Prayer for Peace

**Blessing of the new school year / Commissioning of Pupil Chaplains:** Mass celebrated by one of our parish priests.

**Harvest:** Mass celebrated by one of our parish priests.

A Communal Harvest with gifts of food organised by Pupil Chaplains. Harvest Gifts shared with the elderly and with a local foodbank.

## **Month of the Rosary**

October is the month of the Rosary. Classes are encouraged to pray a decade of the Rosary each day. Pupil Chaplains lead a 'Celebration of Word' liturgy which focuses on 'The Rosary'. Children in Y3 make their own set of Rosary beads.

## **November**

Month of Remembrance: during November, we remember all those souls who have gone to Heaven. We pray the Eternal Rest as a school during November. On the 11th November, we particularly remember those who have died in war.

**All Soul's Day:** Celebrated with Mass at school or in one of the parishes.

**Pupil Chaplains' liturgy: remembering our friends and family in Heaven**

## **Advent**

The prayer table is changed to purple.

This is the season to prepare for Christmas

Introduction and blessing of the Advent Wreath.

Penitential Advent Service for KS1 led by a KS1 class

Penitential Advent Service for KS2 led by a KS2 class. Individual confessions for Y5 and Y6.

Individual confessions heard by priests from our four parishes.

## **Christmas**

There are a range of liturgies, concerts, assemblies and Nativity plays led by the different classes throughout the school.

Celebration of the Nativity through drama and hymns led by Reception

Celebration of the Nativity through drama and hymns led by KS1

Advent Service led by KS2- The story of the Nativity is retold through scripture and carols.

**Pupil Chaplain Prayer packet - 'Las Posadas'.**

This prayer packet is taken home by every child and enhances the family's opportunity to pray.

**Anticipating Christmas:** Mass celebrated by one of our parish priests

**Spring**

Prayer tables are white for Christmas season then green for Ordinary Time after Feast of Baptism of Our Lord.

**Epiphany** (if in term time): Mass celebrated by one of our parish priests either in the parish or in school.

**Candlemas Celebration of Light and Jesus' presentation in the Temple:** Mass celebrated by one of our parish priests.

**Lent**

This season is to prepare for Easter. Opportunity for Prayer and Penance. Encourage awareness of our greater responsibilities and of our privilege to help our brothers and sisters in the wider world.

**'Inspirational People' Prayer Packets sent home by Pupil Chaplains.**

All classes receive a Pupil Chaplain Prayer packet- This prayer packet is taken home by every child and enhances the family's opportunity to pray

**Ash Wednesday Service - prepared by KS2 class**

**Lenten Sacrament of Reconciliation - prepared by KS2 class Individual confessions for Years 4 and 3.** Individual confessions heard by priests from our four parishes.

**Reconciliation Service for KS1 led by a KS1 class**

**Stations of the Cross liturgy - prepared by KS2 class**

**Passion Play-** Y4 children re-enact the Passion and Resurrection of Christ through drama, scripture and music.

**Special washing of the feet liturgy** on the last day of term to remember the Last Supper. Planned and led by Pupil Chaplains.

The resurrection of our Lord is celebrated during the school holidays, however, is covered through the RE curriculum. Special liturgies and displays when the children return to highlight the importance of this feast.

### **Summer**

Prayer table is white for Easter season until Pentecost where it changes to green for Ordinary Time.

**First Holy Communions:** The children in Year 3 (there may also be children from other year groups) make their First Holy Communion in the Summer Term.

As many staff as possible try to come to celebrate this occasion with them.

**May Procession in Honour of Our Lady:** Planned and led by Pupil Chaplains.

May is a month devoted to Our Lady. All children process around school.

Children bring in flowers and they are distributed to the elderly in the local community.

For the rest of the month each class try to say a decade of the Rosary each day.

**Ascension:** Celebration of our Lord's return to Heaven. Mass celebrated by one of our parish priests either in the parish or in school

**Pentecost:** Celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit. Mass celebrated by one of our parish priests either in the parish or in school.

**Feast of SS Peter and Paul:** Mass celebrated by one of our parish priests either in the parish or in school.

**St Elizabeth's Feast Day:** Mass celebrated by one of our parish priests either in the parish or in school.

**Year 6 retreat** - Year 6 pupils attend a retreat at St Elizabeth's Church as part of their transition process.

**Leavers' Mass:** Mass is offered for our Y6 pupil leavers. This is where they are presented with their Governors' Award for service and living out their faith.

## **Appendix 3**

## Prayer Progression at St Elizabeth's

### Prayers said in each class:

#### **Reception**

Sign of the Cross  
Morning Offering  
Bless Us, O God, as we sit together  
God Our Father, we come to say...  
Our Father...

#### **Time**

Before prayers  
Morning (M)  
Before Lunch (B.L.)  
End of the day (E.O.D.)  
Any time (A.T.)

### **Year 1 as previous year with**

Hail Mary... A.T.  
Glory Be... A.T.  
Simple responses in Mass: Lord in your mercy, And with your spirit, Sign of Peace

### **Year 2 as previous years with**

Eternal Rest A.T

### **Year 3 as previous years with**

#### **Act of Contrition**

Bless Us, O Lord, and these thy gifts A.T  
Responses to Mass: Lord, I am not worthy, Lamb of God, Holy, Holy, Holy B.L  
The Rosary A.T (May and October)  
Act of Contrition/Sorry Prayer

### **Year 4 as previous years with**

The Apostles' Creed Mass

### **Year 5 as previous years with**

The Gloria Mass (Not Advent / Lent)

### **Year 6 as previous years with**

The Angelus A.T  
The Magnificat

In addition to the above, within RE lessons and Collective Worship children are introduced to prayers used in the Sacraments, psalms, and litanies.

## **Prayers**

### **The Sign of the Cross**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

**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**

### **Our Father**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed by 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. Amen

**The Lord's Prayer 'is truly the summary of the whole of the Gospel'. (CCC 2761.)**

### **Hail Mary**

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

**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.**

### **Glory Be**

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

**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**

## **St Elizabeth's daily prayers:**

### **Morning Prayer**

My God, I offer up to Thee  
My heart and soul, Thine own to be  
And all I do, or think, or say  
And all my work, and all my play.  
Amen

### **Grace Before Meals**

1. Bless Us, O God, as we sit together.  
Bless the food we eat today.  
Bless the hands that made the food.  
Bless us, O God.  
Amen.
2. Bless Us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts,  
Which we are about to receive,  
From Thy bounty,  
Through Christ Our Lord.  
Amen

### **Night Prayer**

God Our Father, I come to say,  
Thank You for Your love today,  
Thank You for my family,  
And all the friends You give to me.  
Guard me through the dark of night,  
And in the morning send Your light.  
Amen

### ***Act of Contrition***

My God,  
Thank you for loving me,  
I am sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you.  
Help me to live like Jesus and not to sin again.  
Amen

### **One of the forms of the Penitent's Prayer of Sorrow found in the Rite of Penance**

***We say this prayer to show God we are sorry for the times we have not done the right thing.***

## **Eternal Rest**

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

*In this prayer, we pray for all those people who have died.*

## **Angel of God**

Angel of God, my guardian dear,  
to whom God's love commits me here,  
ever this day be at my side,  
to light and guard, to rule and guide.  
Amen.

*The prayer is based on one by Reginald of Canterbury in the early 12th century*

## **I Confess**

I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done  
and in what I have failed to do,  
*[All strike their breast]*  
through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore, I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God

**This prayer is part of the Penitential Act at the beginning of Mass.**

**The prayer acknowledges personal faults in thought, word, and deed, and asks for the intercession of the saints.**

## **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
***At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.***  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;

he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.  
Amen.

**Based on baptismal documents of the 8th century but related to texts of an earlier origin.  
The Apostles' Creed is a concise statement of core Christian beliefs, summarizing faith in  
God the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.**

## **The Rosary**

**The Rosary is a prayer and meditation that involves reciting specific prayers while meditating on events in the lives of Jesus and Mary, known as the mysteries.**

For each mystery or decade, one Our Father, ten Hail Marys and the Glory Be is recited.

### **The Joyful Mysteries (Recited Monday and Saturday)**

The Annunciation (Luke 1:26–38)

The Visitation (Luke 1:39–45)

The Nativity (Luke 2:1–7)

The Presentation in the Temple (Luke 2:22–35)

The Finding in the Temple (Luke 2:41–52)

### **The Mysteries of Light (Recited Thursday)**

The Baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:13–17)

The Wedding Feast of Cana (John 2:1–12)

The Proclamation of the Kingdom, with the call to Conversion (Mark 1:14–15; 2:3–12)

The Transfiguration (Luke 9:28–36)

The Institution of the Eucharist (Matthew 26:26–29)

### **The Sorrowful Mysteries (Recited Tuesday and Friday)**

The Agony in the Garden (Mark 14:32–42)

The Scourging at the Pillar (Matthew 27:15–26)

The Crowning with Thorns (Matthew 27:27–31)

The Carrying of the Cross (John 19:15–17; Luke 23:27–32)

The Crucifixion (Luke 23:33–38, 44–46)

### **The Glorious Mysteries (Recited Wednesday and Sunday)**

The Resurrection (Matthew 28:1–8)

The Ascension (Acts 1:6–11)

The Descent of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1–12)

The Assumption (1 Thessalonians 4:13–19)

The Coronation of Mary Queen of Heaven and Earth (Revelation 12:1; 14:1–5; Isaiah 6:1–3)

Prayer concluding the Rosary [Hail, Holy Queen, etc. as above]

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray

O God, whose only-begotten Son,  
by his life, death and resurrection,  
has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life,  
grant, we beseech thee,  
that meditating on these mysteries  
of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
we may imitate what they contain  
and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **The Magnificat**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,  
for he has looked upon his handmaid in her lowliness;  
for behold, from this day forward,  
all generations will call me blessed.  
For the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.  
His mercy is from age to age for those who fear him.  
He has made known the strength of his arm,  
and has scattered the proud in their conceit of heart.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones  
and has exalted those who are lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and has sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,  
mindful of his mercy,  
even as he promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his descendants for ever.

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.

**The Magnificat is the Blessed Virgin Mary's canticle of praise, which she recited when she visited her cousin Elizabeth.**

**This prayer is strongly and explicitly linked to Catholic Social Teaching (CST) and acts as an inspiration for social justice and a model for working towards a transformed world.**

### **The Angelus**

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts:

that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel,  
may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.

Through the same Christ our Lord.

Amen

### **The Angelus**

A PRAYER FOR MIDDAY

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

**Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.**

**Blessed are you among women; and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.**

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us, sinners; now and at the hour of our death.**

**Amen.**

Behold, the handmaid of the Lord! -- Let it be done to me according to your Word.

**Hail Mary...**

And the Word became flesh. -- And dwelt among us.

**Hail Mary...**

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God! -- That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts: that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection, through the same Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**The Angelus is a prayer that commemorates the Annunciation, the moment the Angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would bear the Son of God.**

**Come, Holy Spirit**

**The prayer is based on one by Reginald of Canterbury in the early 12th century.**

V. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

R. And kindle in them the fire of your love.

V. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

R. And you will renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray, O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise, and ever rejoice in your consolation, Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**This prayer is a compilation of a number of liturgical texts drawn from the Mass and Office of Pentecost and the Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit.**

### **Prayer of St Richard of Chichester**

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,  
and follow you more nearly,  
day by day.  
Amen.

### **Act of Faith**

My God,  
I believe in you  
and all that your Church teaches,  
because you have said it,  
and your word is true.

### **Act of Hope,**

My God, I hope in you,  
for grace and for glory,  
because of your promises,  
your mercy and your power.

### **Act of Love**

My God, because you are so good,  
I love you with all my heart,  
and for your sake,  
I love your neighbour as myself.

Appendix 4: Celebration of the Word planning and evaluation proforma



St. Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School

*"Love one another as I have loved you"*

**'Celebration of the Word'**

**Class planning and evaluation proforma 2025-26**

<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Class:</b>	<b>Theme:</b>
<b>Welcome/Gather:</b> 🙌 Where will you hold the liturgy? Sacred space What hymn will you sing? What prayer will you say? <b>Gather</b>	
<b>Word/ Listen</b> 📖 What scripture will you read? What is the scripture message: <b>Listen</b>	
<b>Response to the Word</b> Design an activity/response to embed the scripture message. <b>What did you hear?</b>	
<b>Mission</b> 👉 How will the scripture message transform the children? How do the children understand and live the message out in their words and actions? <b>How will you live out the Gospel message?</b>	



## **Evaluation**

**What went well?**

**What could be improved for next time?**

## Appendix 5: Celebration of the Word Evaluation Proforma



St. Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School

*"Love one another as I have loved you"*

### 'Celebration of the Word' Observation Proforma

<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Class:</b>	<b>Theme:</b>
<b>Welcome/Gather:</b>  Where will you hold the liturgy?  Sacred space  What hymn will you sing? What prayer will you say? <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Are objects and signs used to help with creating the right atmosphere for prayer.</li><li>• Are children guided others through stilling techniques, encouraging them to sit comfortably, stop, rest and be open to God's grace</li><li>• Are children involved? How? Hymn selection, setting up of Sacred Space</li></ul>	
<b>Word/ Listen</b>  What scripture will you read  What is the scripture message: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How was the scripture selected?</li><li>• Who read the scripture?</li></ul>	
<b>Response to the Word</b>  How are pupils invited to spend some heart-to-heart time with God and respond to what they have heard in His Word? <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Silence</li><li>• Prayers of Intercession</li><li>• other activity</li></ul>	

## Mission

All encounters with God will change us in some way.

During the 'mission' pupils are invited to reflect on their experience and on how they could live the message in their daily life in response to the scripture they have listened to?

How will the scripture message transform the children?

How will the children live the message out in their words and actions today?

### **Child voice:**

What do children say about the liturgy? What did they think went well? What could be improved for next time?

How did children contribute to planning, leading and delivery?

How often do class you pray each day?

When does the class pray?

Who leads prayers in your class?