**St. Theresa’s Catholic Primary School.**

*Fully Valuing Everyone in the Love of Jesus.*

*Caring and Learning Together.*

**The Religious Life of our School Community.**

**Celebrating, Praying and Worshipping together in Faith.**

At St. Theresa’s School we follow the seasons of the church with our children and use these our basis for our themes for prayer, praise, reflection and worship. This is a list of the events which take place each year. Every year there are other events which we add to our faith calendar to reflect the events of our local and global community.

**St Theresa’s School Year in Praise, Prayer, Worship and Reflection**.

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| ***Time of Year*** | ***Event*** | ***Detail*** |
| ***Autumn Term*** | Each class will host a Class Mass and family Collective Worship during this term. | Children and staff will invite families to attend their events either in school or church |
| Beginning of the school year.  September | Mass to pray for the work of the school, the children in our school and those who have left for other schools | In church.  Whole school attends  Families invited. |
| 1st October | St. Theresa’s Feast Day | Mass for the whole school community.  Lessons and activities in classes to learn about St. Theresa. |
| Sunday closest to 1st October | Children prepare celebration in school for parishioners who are unable to attend Mass each week. | Children serve the guests in school.  Sing for them.  Church and school decorated with flowers to celebrate the feast of St. Theresa. |
| Month of October | Month of the Holy Rosary. | Children learn to pray the Rosary in class and whole school Collective Worship. |
| Month of November | * Feast of All Souls * Feast of All Saints. * Month of prayer for family members and friends who have died. * Remembrance events and the sale of poppies in school organised by pupils. | Children reflect upon and learn about these feasts.  Children create books of remembrance for those they wish us to pray for during this month of the Holy Souls. |
| Season of Advent. | The period of time which the church devotes to preparation in our hearts and souls for the great feast of Christmas.  Children are enrolled in the programme of preparation for the Sacraments of Forgiveness and Holy Communion – usually on Gaudate Sunday. | The school has a collective Advent Wreath which we light each week. Children learn the significance of each candle.  The school has a period of ‘waiting time’ before we decorate the school and put up the Christmas tree and teach the children the reasons for this.  The school has a crib in each class. |
| December – The Feast of Christ’s Birth.  Christmas.  In the last weeks before we break for our Christmas Holidays | Nativity Productions  Carol Services – community, Parish and school.  School Christmas Lunch  The sharing of Christmas Hampers with those in need.  Children visit our local care homes to share their Christmas Nativity Songs. The whole school and families gather in church to pray listen once more to the songs, carols and readings from our services of our celebration of the events of Christmas. | Each department in school prepares an event to celebrate the feast of Christmas.  The baby Jesus is placed in the cribs in school.  We focus on the true meaning of Christmas and hear the Scripture of the events of this great feast as well as enjoying all the traditions of the season together. |
| ***Spring Term*** | Each class will host a Class Mass and family Collective Worship during this term. | Children and staff will invite families to attend their events either in school or church |
| January 6th | Feast of the Epiphany.  The Arrival of the Wise Men to see Jesus. | The children and staff revisit the Christmas story on return to school after the Christmas Holiday. Children learn about the significance of the visit for us today and the gifts that were brought in an age appropriate way. |
| Shrove Tuesday. | The last day of Ordinary Time before Lent starts | Children learn about traditions around the world including our country linked to this day. Many classes will enjoy eating pancakes and all will begin make their Lenten promises to present at Mass or in a Liturgical Service on Ash Wednesday. |
| Lent.  Ash Wednesday.  Holy Week.  Easter. | The season of the church year to prepare for the great feast of Easter, when Jesus rises to life from the dead.  Children who have prepared receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Forgiveness – Confession).  Children and staff pray and journey the Stations of the Cross together in a range of forms.  Children learn about the events of Holy Week and Easter in a range of creative ways including drama, dance, music, prayer and song before breaking up for their Easter Holidays.  We share the Easter Story with families in song, dance and prayer.  We focus on the true meaning of Easter and hear the Scripture of the events of this great feast. | Children, staff and families attend Mass or have a Liturgical Service at the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday. We receive Ashes together. We make our Lenten Promises.  Children receive their Sacrament in a small group as part of a service of Reconciliation with their families and our Parish Priest.  Children are introduced to the Stations of the Cross from Key Stage 1 at a level appropriate to their development and ability to understand. EYFS children visit the events of the stations and Holy Week through a range of activities and practical experiences.  Children gather in church for a period of reflection and a service of Reconciliation. When possible our Parish Priests have offered all children who have prepared the opportunity to come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the season of Lent. Other children may choose to come for a time of reflection and talk about things they wish to say sorry for if they wish to.  Children share their Easter songs, dance and poetry with families in church.  The children are also given lots of opportunity to share and enjoy all the traditions of this season |
| ***Summer Term*** | Each class will host a Class Mass and family Collective Worship during this term | . Children and staff will invite families to attend their events either in school or church |
| During the Summer Term | Children who have prepared for the Sacrament of Holy Communion will receive this in a special Sunday Parish Mass | Children and their families and friends attend Mass. Afterwards the Parish celebrates with them at a special party breakfast held in our Parish Centre. |
| May – The month of Mary. | Children reflect upon the example given to us by Mary our mother in Heaven and revisit the prayers and mysteries of the Holy Rosary. | Whole School and Class Collective Worship.  Creative RE lessons will include art work of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Children will explore the imagery within these paintings etc. |
| The Ascension.  Corpus Christi & The  Feast of Saints Peter and Paul. | Children learn about the importance of these Holy Day feasts in school.  Corpus Christi: The feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Jesus. | Children also receive teaching about these feasts in church in Children’s Liturgy.  When the school is in session and the feast falls on a school day Mass will be led by the children in church. |
| End of the school year | Thanksgiving Mass for the end of the school year and all that the community have shared and achieved together. Also prayers and thanksgiving for the gifts shared with our community by those who are leaving us.  Teaching Staff from the schools that Y6 will move onto are invited to this Mass.  All families from every year group are invited to this Mass. | This Mass is usually prepared and led by Year 6. They include prayers and thanksgiving for the memories they have of St. Theresa’s School and the people who have helped them. We pray for their continued happiness and success and especially for their continued relationship with God Our Father in Heaven, Jesus his son and the Church upon earth as they move on from our school community. |



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