



RERC Term 4 Planner - Primary 2



Experiences and Outcomes

I have explored the events of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus and I have reflected on the Catholic meaning of eternal life. **RERC 1-07a**

I am exploring God's relationship with others, and I have reflected on how people's faith has helped them in difficult times. **RERC 1-03a**

I have examined the role of the Holy Spirit in my life and in the lives of others. **RERC 1-10a**

I can honour Mary as Mother of Jesus and Our Mother. I can share why we honour her. **RERC 1-15a**

I can describe God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit and I have reflected on how God can support me in my life. **RERC 1-04a**

I know that the Holy Spirit strengthens my faith and the faith of the saints, and I have reflected on how the stories of the saints can inspire me to live a more Christian life. **RERC 1-19a**

I have examined the role of Jesus as a teacher and a healer, and I have reflected on how His words and actions influence my own life and the life of others. **RERC 1-06b**

I have considered ways in which the Catholic Christian community works together to show care for the world and for the needs of all people. I have reflected on the implications of this for my life and that of others. **RERC 1-24a**

I know that through the Community of the Church, people can experience God's love and care and I have reflected on how this community celebrates together. **RERC 1-08a**

I can share some Bible stories and I can explore how God speaks to us through these stories. I have reflected on how these stories can help me to live a Christian life. **RERC 1-11a**

I have explored the call to forgiveness and reconciliation and have reflected on how this can restore my relationship with God and others. I can put this understanding into practice in my relationship with God and others. **RERC 1-22a**

Benchmarks

- Describes and discusses the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus.
- Participates in discussion and reflection about the meaning of eternal life.
- Participates in discussion and reflection about how God helps them and others in life and at difficult times.
- Discusses ways in which they know the Holy Spirit is present in people's lives.
- Shares thoughts and feelings about why the Church honours Mary.
- States the names of the Trinity.
- Gives examples from the lives of the Saints of how the Holy Spirit strengthens faith.
- Participates respectfully in parts of the Mass.
- Says some prayers on their own and as part of a worshipping community.
- Shares thoughts and feelings about how to make good choices. Describes and discusses how forgiveness and reconciliation are important in their relationship with God and others.

* Pentecost is a movable feast so should be checked on the liturgical calendar. If the feast falls in May, please refer to lessons under FOCUS 4.

Plans for Assessment

Focus 1:

Children develop an understanding that on Easter Sunday which was three days later, God Our Father raised Jesus from the dead.

Children develop an understanding that, when people die, they can live forever with God in heaven.

Children show an awareness that, after the Resurrection, many of Jesus' followers and friends saw Him, talked to Him, touched Him and ate with Him.

Focus 2:

Children know that May is a special month when we honour Mary.

Children can recognise images and icons of Mary.

Children know the words of the Hail Mary.

Children can participate in a simple liturgical procession honouring Mary.

Focus 3:

Children show understanding of God's love both in happy and worrying times.

Children show awareness that God created us all as special and unique.

Children can see God's love for us in the beautiful natural world that he has created for us to enjoy and care for.

Children develop understanding that that God wants to befriend us and wants us to respond.

Focus 4:

Children will know that at Pentecost the disciples received the Holy Spirit.

Children develop understanding that the Holy Spirit helps them to pray and so to grow in relationship with God.

Children develop understanding that a saint is a person who was moved by the Holy Spirit to say "Yes" to God in prayer and action.

Focus 5:

Children know that Jesus was a teacher to his friends and followers.

Focus 6:

Children know the name of their parish and parish priest.

Children develop understanding that they are invited to be part of God's family.

Children will know that we gather to celebrate special occasions with our Parish family.

Focus 7:

Children will know the responses to the Word of God at Mass.

Focus 8:

Children develop understanding of what sin is.

Children will develop understanding of the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Sequence of Lessons

Focus 1:

- I know that three days later, on Easter Sunday, God Our Father raised Jesus from the dead.
- I know that, when people die, they can live forever with God in heaven.
- I know that, after the Resurrection, many of Jesus' followers and friends saw Him, talked to Him, touched Him and ate with Him e.g.,
 - John 21: 1-14 - Jesus eats beside the lake
 - John 20: 19-29 - Doubting Thomas.

Focus 2:

- I can participate in the setting up of a prayer space, in honour of Mary, in my classroom - especially during Advent and the months of May and October.
- I can recognise images and icons of Mary in the Church and in school.
- I have learned the words of the Hail Mary by heart and, through prayer and reflection; I am beginning to understand what they mean.
- I can participate in a simple liturgical procession honouring Mary.

Suggested Activities

(Optional resources to support lessons available on website)

Focus 1:

- Explain why Jesus had to be buried quickly (Jewish traditions and also due to His death being on a Friday, He had to be buried before the Sabbath which would begin at sundown on the Friday) and that three days later on Easter Sunday, He had risen from the dead. Ask questions and discuss how the children think/feel, reflecting on the celebration of Easter. Children complete 'Easter Sunday' page of their Lent and Easter workbook. (see Resources)
- CT should explain that, although we are sad when someone dies, we should remember that the deceased person can live forever with God in Heaven. This may involve some explanations due to the age and stage of the children and their level of understanding. Lead the children in prayer, thanking God for His love for us and for allowing us to live forever with Him in heaven.
- Explain that after Jesus rose from the dead many of His friends and followers saw Him, talked to Him, touched him and ate with Him. Read John 21: 1-14 (See Resources) and discuss the story of 'The Miraculous Catch'. Children complete 'Jesus at the Lake' page of their Lent and Easter workbook. (Further relevant activities can be found at [Miraculous Catch \(John 21:1-14\) Lesson for Kids - Ministry-To-Children Bible Lesson Plans for Kids, John](#))
- Read John 20: 19-29 to the class and discuss the story of Doubting Thomas. Children complete 'Doubting Thomas' page of their Lent and Easter workbook.

Focus 2:

- With the children, dress May altar and explain that the month of May is special because we pray to Mary more often. Pray 'Hail Mary' around the May Altar and teach/play hymn, 'Bring Flowers of the Rarest' available here with good images:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DLLaNrtToHk>
And here with lyrics:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ld4FNjk4IEQ>

Focus 3:

- I have listened to the story of the Annunciation (Luke 1: 26-38) and I can recognise that God shows His loving presence in both happy and worrying times.
- I know that God wants to share His love with everyone, and I have listened to my teacher, head teacher and/or chaplain telling me something about how God's love helps them in difficult times.
- I can see signs of God's love for me and for others since He created us all as special and unique.

Children read and colour 'Bring Flowers of the Rarest' page of their Bring Flowers of the Rarest Workbook. Throughout the month CT should teach the hymn and children should complete each page in the booklet.

- Show different ways Mary is portrayed in art and sculpture. Encourage children to look for different portrayals of Mary at school, home and church <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WNOJCs9B4Gw>
What symbols are associated with Mary? (blue clothing, flowers, mother holding baby, crown) What does each images represent?
- Discuss the Angel Gabriel telling Mary the good news that she was going to have a baby and that the baby was the Son of God. Ask questions to gauge understanding. Explain that we pray to Mary to say sorry for our sins and to pray for those who are sick/in need of healing. (Encourage the children to think of the words in the Hail Mary - "pray for us sinners")
Explore the words of the Hail Mary in writing as well as praying them. Children should complete the sequencing activity by cutting out the parts of the prayer and sticking them in the correct order. (See Resources)
- Discuss May procession and presenting Mary with flowers.
Create paper flowers in a craft activity. Some ideas can be found here: [Fun Flower Crafts And Activities For Kids \(catholicism.com\)](http://FunFlowerCraftsAndActivitiesForKids.catholicism.com)
Create basket and petals for May Procession. Participate in a simple liturgical procession honouring Mary, allowing the children to scatter their petals and present their flowers to Mary. This could be an assembly, school service or parish service. (See Resources)

Focus 3:

- Read the story of the Annunciation (Luke 1: 26-38) and discusses the events of the story. This can be difficult to understand, and a discussion should be had about 'announcements and the children's experiences of special announcements that have been made. A further discussion should take place around God sending special messengers (Angels) to pass on information. (See Resources for story and worksheet) A summary of the story is also available at [The Annunciation - My Catholic Kids](http://TheAnnunciation-MyCatholicKids.com) and a variety of follow up activities can

- I can see God's love for all of us in the beautiful, natural world that he has created for us to enjoy and care for.

be found at [The Catholic Toolbox: Lesson Plan- Mary and the Angel \(1st grade on up\) \(catholicblogger1.blogspot.com\)](http://catholicblogger1.blogspot.com)

- Class discussion: Mary was worried about having a baby because she was very young and was not married, but the Angel told her that God would support her. Talk about happy times when the children have had opportunities to thank God. Also talk about times when they have asked for God's help when they have felt worried (and when the teacher has too). Have they asked to help someone else?
Explain that God is always with us, when we are happy, sad and when we are worried about something. Children complete 'God is Always with Us' Worksheet. (See Resources)
- Class discussion - Uniqueness. Discuss how we are all different, e.g. hair, eyes, height, personality, skills and talents, etc. Distribute mirrors and ask children to study the physical features of their faces and share what they discover e.g. freckles, colour of eyes, curly hair. Explain that God loves us very much and He made us all unique. We're all very different yet each one of us is special to Him. Children draw their face on 'I am Unique, and I am Special to God' worksheet. (See Resources)
- Another fun but meaningful activity to explore our uniqueness is where children examine their fingerprints. CT should explain that the tip of our fingers is unique. Give the children opportunity to print using their fingerprints, look at them through a magnifying glass. Children are given paper and make a fingerprint to represent each member of their family and any pets. Decorate using pens/pencils etc. This clip may be used and includes an activity too: [See Your Own Fingerprints! \(youtube.com\)](http://youtube.com)
- Explain that God loves us so much that He created a beautiful world for us. Discuss what God has created for us and provide/listen to examples. Explain that God wants us to enjoy and care for all the wonderful things He created for us; discuss ways in which we can do this. Take a walk around the school grounds looking out for examples of the natural world that God has created for us. Take photos to display in the classroom. Children could bring in photos of themselves enjoying God's natural world from home. The National Geographic Kids Website has good pictures/short videos: <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/>. Complete 'God's Wonderful

Focus 4:

- I recognise that the Holy Spirit helped Mary, the mother of Jesus and the apostles to say "Yes" to God in their lives.
- I recognise that the Holy Spirit helps me to say "Yes" to God in the choices I make in my life.
- I know that the Holy Spirit helps me to pray and so to grow in relationship with God (see Romans 8:26-27)
- I have listened to the Annunciation narrative (Luke 1:26-38), and I can recognise that Jesus is the Son of God and that he was born of Mary by the Holy Spirit.
- I know that a saint is a person who, during their lifetime, was moved by the Holy Spirit to say "Yes" to God in prayer and action and that, in the saints, we see a glimpse of what God is like.

World' Worksheets or create your own by allowing the children to draw something from their natural environment.

Focus 4

- Explain that Jesus promised the disciples that the Holy Spirit would come and help them when He was gone. Read the story of Pentecost (Act 2: 1-8) and discuss. The following sites could also be accessed to retell the story and explore related activities.
[Strange and Miraculous! The Story of Pentecost by Linda Sue Pochodzay Edwards \(childrenschapel.org\)](#)
[Pentecost for Kids \(Video Story, Lessons, and Activities\) - Ministry-To-Children Bible Lesson Plans for Kids](#) (The story is told by children in their own words here and is a good example of children teaching other children)
Discuss the story and the feelings that may have been experienced at that time. Explain that although the disciples could not see the Holy Spirit, they felt Him around them; they felt the wind blowing and they saw the tongues of fire touching each person. They felt stronger and braver and were ready to go out and spread the good news. Children could make a windmill to place in the school garden as a reminder of the power of the Holy Spirit. (See Resources)
- Discuss different ways of saying 'yes'. Explain that Jesus was born because a very special woman said yes when God asked her to be the mother of his Son. Revise the story of the Annunciation (Luke 1: 26-38) and discuss. Explain that the Angel promised that the Holy Spirit would come to help Mary and that He helped her to say "Yes" to God when she was asked to be the Mother of His son.
Discuss times when it is easy to say yes and when it is difficult. We often have to make choices and we do not know what to do and have to think about it very carefully. Just like the disciples, the Holy Spirit can help us to say "Yes" to God by making good choices every day. CT could place a happy face and sad face onto the wall or large cones, at opposite sides of the room. (example in Resources)
Read out statements about choices (See Resources) and children should move to the face that they feel is most appropriate. Discuss the choices they make. Discuss the influence of the Holy Spirit

Focus 5:

- I know that Jesus was a teacher to his friends and followers and that:
 - He explained, when asked, "Who is the greatest?" (Luke 9:46-48)
 - He blesses children and those like them (Mark 10:13-16)

- Explain that the Holy Spirit helps us to pray and become closer to God. The Holy Spirit knows what is in our hearts, what we want to say to God Our Father when we pray., how we really feel, and God our Father accepts what He expresses as if they are our own prayers. Teach and sing the hymn, 'Walk in the Light'. Gather around the altar for a prayer time thanking the Holy Spirit for helping us to pray and so to grow closer to God.
- Ask the children to suggest names of any saints that they know and to explain what a saint is, if they know. Explain what a saint is (a very special person who said "Yes" to God because God was the most important person in their lives). The saints were given courage and help by the Holy Spirit to make good choices. Read stories of the lives of some saints; how these saints became more like God and are an example of how we should live our lives too. a homework activity could be to find out facts about a saint of their choice. Children could paint a picture of one of their favourite saints to display around altar with vocabulary showing they said 'yes' to God.

Focus 5:

- Discuss the idea of learning new things. How do you learn (different answers) and who teaches you to learn new skills? Explain that Jesus was a teacher and taught everyone he met. As a Great Teacher, He knew how to make things interesting for people. He would explain difficult things in ways that made them easy to understand. He spoke about birds and flowers and other ordinary things to help people understand God. Even though Jesus was a very wise and important man, He always had time to teach little children. Read Luke 9: 46-48 and discuss the passage. Explain that Jesus knew what the disciples were thinking and told them to stop competing with each and to be more like children who understand God and have complete trust in Him. Children complete 'Jesus and the Disciples' worksheet. (See Resources)
- Read Mark 10: 13-16 and discuss how Jesus reacted. Children can perform the play 'Jesus and the Little Children' (See Resources for play script).

Focus 6:

- I have explored the concept of belonging and can name some of the groups to which I belong. (family, schools, clubs etc.)
- I know my local parish is a community of the Catholic Church and I know the name of my parish and my parish priest.
- I know that God invites me to be part of his family and to show love by helping all people in any way I can.
- I recognise that we are all members of God's family and, just as we celebrate special events with our families, we gather to celebrate special occasions with our Parish family, e.g. Sunday Mass, baptisms, weddings, and funerals.

Children can then complete 'Jesus and the Little Children' worksheet by completing the sentence with: 'because the Kingdom of God belongs to them'.

Focus 6:

- Discuss the word 'belong' and identify things that belong to us and people/groups that we belong to, for example, we all belong to a family, a school, a class and in class we all belong to a group. Discuss what it means to belong to a group (live in same house, uniform, sharing resources, etc.). Discuss all the different groups the children belong to. Children participate in a pair and share activity, sharing groups they are part of and feeding back to class.
- Explain that they all belong to the community of the Catholic Church. Identify the name of their local parish and of their parish priest. Explain that every Sunday and on special feast days, all the people who belong to the parish gather together and celebrate Holy Mass. Take children to local parish church to meet members of the community if possible. Complete 'Our Parish' worksheet at home.
- Explain that God invites us to be part of his family and all the people who belong to God's family show love by helping each other. Discuss different ways we can show love to each other. Work in groups to create a poster showing ways that we can show love by helping others. Present to class. Children may also complete 'God's Family is My Family' worksheet.
- Discuss special events that the children celebrate with their families. Explain that members of God's family also celebrate special events together with their Parish family (Sunday Mass, weddings, baptisms, funerals, etc.). CT explains that at special occasions, the church is often decorated with flowers, special music is played, the choir sings and the priest wears special vestments. We wear our best clothes and are happy to be part of the celebration. Children could bring in photos of any special events they have participated in with their parish family.
- Children make a collage image of themselves; join images together to create a 'We All Belong to God's Family' display.
- Prayer time: gather at the class altar and say a special prayer for our Parish family.

Focus 7:

- I understand that, at Mass, we can hear and respond to the Word of God.
- I am able to make the following responses to the Word of God at Mass:
Thanks be to God; Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Focus 8:

- I can recall from the other strands of faith (Revealed Truth of God P2 1-03a, Signs of God P2 1-10a and Image of God P2 1-02a) to help me to explore:
 - What sin is
 - Repentance
 - The call to forgiveness and reconciliation
 - The affect these all have on my relationship with God, myself and others

Focus 7:

- Explain that when we celebrate Mass we listen to the Word of God. A reader at Mass reads stories from the bible to us and at the end of the reading says, "The Word of the Lord" and we respond by saying, "Thanks be to God." The Priest reads the Gospel and at the end says, "The Gospel of the Lord" and we respond by saying, "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ."
Practise both responses. Children complete 'Thanks be to God' worksheet and 'Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ' worksheet.

Focus 8:

- Recall 'Good Choices/Bad Choices' Game - as above. Explain that sometimes we do not make good choices and when we do this, we turn away from loving God and from loving others. These actions are called sins, and we have all committed sins in our lives deliberately or by mistake. Discuss times when we have made bad choices and turned away from loving God and share examples. Have a clear plastic carrier bag and starts to put heavy objects into it pretending they are sins e.g. telling lies. Ask children to lift the bag of sins up. Explain that when we sin, we carry the weight of those sins around with us. God loves us very much and allows us to get rid of the weight of our sins any time we want. We do this by praying to God and telling Him we are sorry for our sins; He always forgives us. Lead prayer time asking God to forgive any sins we have committed. Take heavy weights out of the bag and let the children feel how light the bag is.
- Explain to the class the call to forgiveness and reconciliation: Forgiveness is one person's response in the face of injustice or hatred; Reconciliation occurs when two persons can come together in mutual respect; When reconciliation occurs, it is always a sign of God's presence and activity; God always shows mercy and forgives us no matter what we have done; We are to forgive and show mercy just as God forgives us.
- Allow children to explore the meaning of forgiveness and reconciliation through role play where the children have opportunities to deepen understanding through participation and observation. Guide the children in recognising the occurrence of forgiveness and reconciliation

	by providing ideas/scenarios and encourage them to think of some of their own.
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Evaluation

Next Steps