



RERC Term 2 Planner - Primary 4



Experience and Outcomes

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 Jesus as a teacher and a healer and I have reflected on how His words and actions influence my own life and the lives of others.

RERC 1-06b

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

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

I know some of the signs and symbols related to Lent, Easter, Advent and Christmastide and I can use this understanding to help me explore the themes of these celebrations. **RERC 1-18a**

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

I am familiar with the Christmas story and I know that at Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus the Son of God and Son of Mary. **RERC 1-05a**

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**

Benchmarks

- Expresses that it is God who asks them to love others and shares how they put into practice love of God and love of neighbour.
- Gives a personal response to Jesus as teacher and healer.
- Discusses ways in which they know the Holy Spirit is present in people's lives.
- Engages in discussion about Bible stories and describes in their own words how God speaks through them.
- Reflects upon and explains how these stories help them live a Christian life.
- Describes and discusses the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus.
- Describes and discusses how signs and symbols helps them understand more about liturgical celebrations.
- Shares thoughts and feelings about why the Church honours Mary.
- Actively engages with the Christmas story and discusses its importance for Christians



Plans for Assessment

Focus 1:

Children will know that God is present in their lives and understand that they can call on the intercession of the Holy Spirit in times of difficulty.

Focus 2:

Children will have some understanding of the Church as a community throughout our world. They will have some knowledge of the work carried out by Missionaries in Scotland.

Focus 3:

Children will be able to reflect on the lives of some of the Saints and understand the role of the Holy Spirit in their lives.
Children will have some knowledge of the life of Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus.

Focus 4:

Children will reflect on the passion of Jesus and the gift of eternal life.

Focus 5:

Children demonstrate an understanding of the significance of the Advent Wreath.
Children show awareness that the birth of Jesus is a joyful event.
Children can participate in a liturgical procession.

Focus 6:

Children can pray a decade of the Rosary.
Children can make their own Rosary beads.
Children demonstrate an understanding of why we honour Mary as Mother of Jesus and our mother.

Focus 7:

Children can read and recount the story of the Wise Men from the East.
Children demonstrate an understanding that the Wise Men from the East recognised Jesus as God.
Children can genuflect and show awareness of its significance.
Children demonstrate an understanding of the significance of the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Focus 8:

Children demonstrate awareness of what it means to be part of their local Catholic Church.
Children demonstrate awareness that they are invited to serve and support the Catholic Church.



Sequence of Lessons

Focus 1:

- I have listened and responded to peers describing times when they knew God's love and presence in their lives.
- I have reflected on the narrative of the Repentant Thief (Luke 23: 39-43) and I can recognise that Jesus shows us a God who is merciful, just and full of compassion.
- I know that, when I experience difficult moments in my life I can ask the Holy Spirit to guide, strengthen and console me.

Focus 2:

- I can investigate ways in which the Church offers God's love and care in other countries, especially through the work of MISSIO Scotland and other charities.

Suggested Activities

(Optional resources to support lessons available on website)

Focus 1:

- Class discussion about times in our lives when we have felt God was showing His love (e.g., When having a difficult time at school and a friend showed kindness to help the situation, after losing a relative and feeling comforted) Children to draw and annotate a picture of times when they feel most close to God.
- Class Teacher to read and children to listen to/reflect on the narrative of the Repentant Thief (Luke 23: 39-43).
[The Story Of The Two Thieves - YouTube](#)
[Gospel Reading and Reflection for Kids - November 20, 2016 - Luke 23:35-43 - YouTube](#) (Watch until 2min 5secs)
In groups pupils could dramatise story.
Further activities can be found using this link:
[faith-in-kids-the-wonder-of-easter-lesson 7.pdf \(faithinkids.org\)](#)
- Discuss difficult times and find solutions of how we can help each other.
- Write a prayer to the Holy Spirit asking for help for help with something in their life that troubles them.

Focus 2:

- Watch the short video on Missio Scotland's website to learn about the work that the charity does: [ABOUT | Missio Scotland](#)
- Children could be given the opportunity to explore the Missio Scotland website ([HOME | Missio Scotland](#) and focus on the area for Primary Schools, [PRIMARY SCHOOLS | Missio Scotland](#)) if they have access to ICT equipment.
Children should create a fact file about the work of the charity. (template attached)



Focus 3:

- I have examined the role of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the Saints, and I recognise that the Holy Spirit helps and strengthens us to respond to God's call to us to be saints.
- I know that when I listen to God's Word, the Holy Spirit speaks to me and helps me to follow Jesus closely in my daily life.
- I can recognise how Saints listened to God's Word and responded to it and, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, witnessed to God in their lives: e.g. St Therese of the Child Jesus - tried to be like a little child as Jesus had taught in the scriptures (Luke 10: 21-22 and/or Matthew 18: 1-4).
- I can recognise that we too, like the saints, can listen to and respond to God's Word.
- I recognise that under the influence of the Holy Spirit, we give witness to God in our lives

- Children may write to the charity inviting a representative into the class/school to talk about the work they do and how the charity's aim is to have children helping children. CT should explain that Missio is the Holy Father's official charity for overseas missions and identify what this means. CT can share that Archbishop Cushley is president of the Charity (2023) too.
- Using the website individually or in pairs, children could make up questions to quiz others on the work of Missio Scotland:
<http://www.missioscotland.org.uk/>

Focus 3:

- Revise what a Saint is. Allow children to research a Saint of their choice and share their findings with the class.
- CT to read from the Bible (Luke 10:21-22). Discuss the meaning of this passage. (*Jesus rejoices as he sees the work of the Holy Spirit in His people*) Remind the children of Pope Benedict's call for us all to be 'Living Saints'. What does this mean and how can we respond to this call? Identify examples as a class.
- CT should allow the children to listen to the story of St. Therese of Lisieux at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sM3jxJkmjug>
- Children could make a poster, drawing St. Therese in the centre and writing some facts about her all around the picture. Children should demonstrate an understanding of how St. Therese responded to God's Word and became a witness to God with the help of the Holy Spirit. Please find craft activities here: <https://www.catholicicing.com/st-therese-crafts-printables-and-fun/>
- The following website shows the children the morning prayer of Saint Theresa:
<http://www.archive.org/details/KarenPacMorningprayerWrittenbyStTherese>
(Class Teacher to define some of the vocabulary and explain the meaning)
- Write a short prayer of intercession to Saint Therese.

Focus 4:

- I know that Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday and that, at his Ascension, He promised to be with us always (Matthew 28: 16-20)
- I can explain that, as Christians, we remember and pray for those who have died. We pray, especially in November, that they will be with God forever in Heaven.

Focus 5:

- I can participate in the preparation for Christmas, through prayer and joyful expectation in Advent and through prayer.
- I have been offered opportunities to deepen my understanding of preparation and waiting as Advent themes through the prayerful creation of an Advent Wreath.
- I can appreciate the crib as a symbol of the Universal Church's prayerful reflection on the birth of Jesus.

- Make paper roses from yellow, pink and red crepe or tissue paper to put on altar alongside prayers to St Theresa (use this site to guide: [Fun Flower Crafts And Activities For Kids \(catholicicing.com\)](http://FunFlowerCraftsAndActivitiesForKids.catholicicing.com))

Focus 4:

- Read the Bible passage when Jesus Appears to His Disciples (Matthew 28:16-20). Discuss the passage.
- This story is sometimes called 'The Great Commission' discuss what this means. (Teacher may read [Go Make Disciples \(Matthew 28:16-20\) Bible Lesson for Kids on the Great Commission - Ministry-To-Children Bible Lesson Plans for Kids, Matthew](http://GoMakeDisciples(Matthew28:16-20)BibleLessonforKids.ontheGreatCommission-Ministry-To-ChildrenBibleLessonPlansforKids,Matthew) beforehand)
- Learn the hymn 'Go Tell It On The Mountains' (Lyrics attached)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=72LE487YZ-U>
- CT should make links that Advent and Easter are a time of preparation.
- CT should discuss that, as we listen to and reflect on Jesus' death, we remember others who have died, remembering them especially during November. Children can write the names of those who have died on a card and place it on the class altar. The class should pray the Eternal Rest each day around the altar, remembering the lists before them Previous learning about Saints should be included.

Focus 5:

- Discuss the various ways we prepare for Christmas during Advent.
- Access an online Advent Calendar (Or make a class version) where children are asked to do something each day. This could include, making a card for someone, saying a prayer for the homeless, donating a food product to a foodbank, sharing with a friend, etc. Examples can be found prior to December at: [CAFOD - Catholic international development charity](http://CAFOD-Catholicinternationaldevelopmentcharity), [Primary School Resources - Missio](http://PrimarySchoolResources-Missio) and other similar sites.
- Make a simple Advent Wreath, learning about the colours and meaning of the each of the candles.

Focus 6:

- I can participate in the creation of a prayer space in my classroom in honour of Mary in my classroom - especially during the season of Advent and the months of May and October.
- I can recognise images and icons of Mary in the Church and in school.
- I can participate in a simple liturgical procession honouring Mary and I can connect this to other liturgical processions e.g. Entrance procession at Mass, Gospel Procession, procession for the Presentation of the Gifts.
- I know that the Rosary is a set of special prayers that help us to honour Mary and tells us about the life of Jesus.
- I can say a decade of the Rosary using Rosary beads.
- I know that I can pray decades of the Rosary to Mary for myself, my family and for others.

[The Catholic Toolbox: Lesson Plan- Advent \(1st grade on up\)](#)

catholicblogger1.blogspot.com

[Advent Wreath Crafts For Kids \(The Ultimate List!\) \(catholicicing.com\)](#)

[Advent Wreath Colouring Sheet Five Candles | Teaching Resources \(tes.com\)](#)

- Children should be given opportunities to participate in school Advent assemblies where the Advent wreath is lit and the meaning is discussed.
- CT shows figures or pictures of Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus and sets up a crib on or near the class altar, discussing what it symbolises. There should be opportunities to pray at the crib and reflect on the birth of Jesus as a joyful event that all Christians celebrate at Christmas time.

Focus 6:

- Discuss the different ways of honouring Mary as Mother of Jesus and Our Mother e.g. saying special prayers to Mary, singing hymns to Mary.
- As a class begin to learn the Angelus (attached)
Explain the *Angelus* means Angels and that Mary is in Heaven with all the Angels and has a special title - Queen of the Angels - pray this each day in December.
- Create artwork to display as Mary Queen of the Angels using picture as stimulus. (Attached) Other craft activities: [Queenship of Mary Craft \(catholicicing.com\)](#)
- Participate in a simple liturgical procession at assembly honouring Mary. This could be that the children draw/make a flower and process in holding it high. Discuss times at Mass where there are processions and the meaning of each.
- During May, October and Advent we pray the Rosary to Mary. Revise - The Joyful Mysteries:
 - The Annunciation
 - The Visitation
 - The Nativity
 - The Presentation
 - The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple



Focus 7:

- I can hear, read and recount the account of the Magi / Wise Men (Matthew 2: 1-12)
- I know that the Wise Men understood that the star was a sign of a special person being born and that they set off on a journey to find this person.
- I know that a prophet in the Old Testament had written that the Saviour would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5: 1), and this is why Herod directed them to Bethlehem.
- I know that, just as the Magi journeyed together to Bethlehem, so during Advent I am journeying towards Christmas with my class, school, family and Parish.
- I know that the Wise Men recognised Jesus as God, and knelt and worshipped Him, an event known as the Epiphany, and I know that, we too, kneel and genuflect in His presence in Church.
- I know that, shortly after Christmas, we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, which recalls the visit of the Magi to Jesus.
- I can state the significance of the gifts.
 - Gold - a gift given to Kings (A sign of Kingship)
 - Frankincense - burned as a symbol of prayer to God (A sign of Divinity)
 - Myrrh - used to prepare dead bodies for burial (A sign of future death)

- Explain how to use the beads correctly to pray the Rosary. Pray a decade of the Rosary (see resources)
- Pupils design their own rosary beads. Ideas:
<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/catholicicing/rosary-ideas-for-kids/>
<https://www.catholicicing.com/easy-rosary-craft-for-kids/>

Focus 7:

- CT should read Matthew 2: 1-12 and encourage the children to recount the story verbally.
- Use a storyboard to draw and recount the bible passage (Example attached)
- Discuss the importance of the star in the story of the Three Wise Men from the East and that it was the sign of a special person.
Children make their own Star of Bethlehem. (Instructions attached)
- Class Teacher should explain that the teachers of the Law and Chief Priests could tell Herod about where Jesus was born because a prophet in the Old Testament had written that the Saviour would be born in Bethlehem. Teacher reads to the children from the Bible the passage; Micah 5: 1.
"The Lord says, Bethlehem Ephrathah, you are one of the smallest towns in Judah, but out of you I will bring a ruler for Israel, whose family line goes back to ancient times." CT to discuss this prediction and ask the children to recall the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem.
- Read Matthew 2: 11, *"They went into the house, and when they saw the child with his mother Mary, they knelt down and worshipped him. They brought out their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, and presented them to him."* Discuss the significance of the Wise Men from the East kneeling and worshipping, emphasising that they recognised baby Jesus as God. Write a recount of the visit of the Wise Men from the East to baby Jesus.
- CT should explain that when we kneel and genuflect, we are acknowledging Jesus as King and the Son of God. Demonstrate how to genuflect and the children practise this gesture.

Focus 8

- I know that, as a member of my local parish, I am also invited to participate actively in the liturgical life of the Catholic Church by, for example, attending Mass, participating in Eucharistic Adoration and other Liturgical events, such as Christmas Carol Service.

- Recall the gifts that the Wise Men from the East presented baby Jesus - in groups dramatise this part of the story, exemplifying the meaning of the gifts as they are presented.
Have Circle Time where children have the opportunity to discuss gifts that they have received and their personal meaning. For example, have they been given a special gift which has been passed on from a family member or have they been given something that had a special significance/symbolism in their lives.

Focus 8

- Class discussion about how it feels to belong to the Church community. How are they involved in the life of the Church or how could they get involved? (For example, are they altar servers or would they like to be, do they attend Children's Liturgy, are they asked to carry the gifts for the offertory, do they help out at events in the parish?)
- Explain that as a Church, we are responsible for caring for the world. Children could compile a list of questions about how their class teacher, head teacher and school chaplain care for the world and the needs of all people. They could also ask those at home some questions too. Arrange for the head teacher and school chaplain to visit the class and answer these questions.
- Invite some members of parish groups to speak to the children about their role as part of their local Catholic Church community. Can they be of help by working with charities/groups associated with the Church? Is there a Rosary group or Mini Vinnies group that they could be involved in or lead at school?
- Create a leaflet about their local Parish explaining all there is to know, e.g., Mass times, Parish Priest name and contact details, groups/charities associated (SVDP, UCM, etc.) This leaflet could also include parish events that take place too. These could be displayed in the Church or School.

Evaluation

Next Steps

