

IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

ALL SAINTS

(1 November)

We celebrate the lives of special and ordinary people who have responded to God's invitation to love.

THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)

(2 November)

Today and throughout the rest of November we pray for those who have died. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

(22 November)

ADVENT

(Begins 29 November)

Advent means 'coming'. We think of the coming of Jesus when he was born but we also think of his promise that he would come again at the end of time. It is a time of waiting and preparing. It is only in the last week of Advent that we focus upon the events to be celebrated at Christmas.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

(8 December)

This feast marks the first stage of the existence of Mary, the mother of Jesus. She was 'full of grace' from the very beginning and co-operated with God throughout her life.

CHRISTMAS DAY, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

(25 December)

On this day we begin our celebration of the birth of Christ.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

AUTUMN TERM 2015

COME AND SEE AT HOME

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term we will be studying the three themes of Domestic Church [Family], Baptism and Confirmation [Belonging] (except Year 4 who will be following the Sacramental Preparation Programme) and Advent and Christmas [Loving]. Each class will approach the themes through different topics. The children will also spend a week studying Judaism.

DOMESTIC CHURCH - FAMILY

(Insert dates)

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Early Years | MYSELF - God knows and loves each one |
| Year 1 | FAMILIES - God's love and care for every family |
| Year 2 | BEGINNINGS - God is present in every beginning |
| Year 3 | HOMES - God's vision for every family |
| Year 4 | PEOPLE - The family of God in Scripture |
| Year 5 | OURSELVES - Created in the image and likeness of God |
| Year 6 | LOVING - God who never stops loving |

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Make a collage using family photographs of all the significant family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. who show God's love.

Write underneath it
"We show God's love to one another."

Include those who have died.

JUDAISM *(Insert dates)*

Pupils will study various aspects of Judaism for one week. Ask them what they have been learning about.

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - BELONGING

(Insert dates)

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Early Years | WELCOME - Baptism: a welcome to God's family |
| Year 1 | BELONGING - Baptism: an invitation to belong to God's family |
| Year 2 | SIGNS AND SYMBOLS - Signs and symbols in Baptism |
| Year 3 | PROMISES - Promises made at Baptism |
| Year 4 | RECONCILIATION – Sacramental Preparation Programme |
| Year 5 | LIFE CHOICES - Marriage, commitment and service |
| Year 6 | VOCATION AND COMMITMENT - The vocation of priesthood and religious life |

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism and/or Confirmation about their memories of this celebration.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - LOVING

(Insert dates)

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Early Years | BIRTHDAY - Looking forward to Jesus' birthday |
| Year 1 | WAITING - Advent: a time to look forward to Christmas |
| Year 2 | PREPARATIONS - Advent: preparing to celebrate Christmas |
| Year 3 | VISITORS - waiting for the coming of Jesus |
| Year 4 | GIFT - God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus |
| Year 5 | HOPE - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus, the promised one |
| Year 6 | EXPECTATIONS - Jesus born to show God to the world |

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Discuss with the children how your family welcomes visitors to your home.

Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree.

Use the CAFOD or Missio websites to get a religious Advent calendar.