



St Mary's Catholic Primary School RE Curriculum Newsletter September 2025

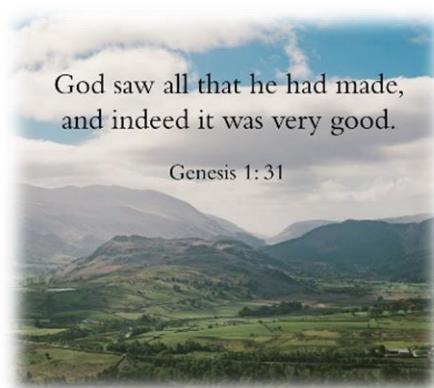
From September 2025 a new RE curriculum will be implemented in Years 5 and 6.

"To Know you more clearly, The Religious Education Directory" sets out the new curriculum following a pattern where children hear, believe, celebrate and live out the Gospel.

Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 have been following this curriculum since September 2024. To support in teaching this new curriculum teachers use a scheme called "The Vine and the Branches" supplemented with other resources.

Reception will follow the Religious Education Directory using planning resources recommended by the Diocese for this academic year. They will move over to 'The Vine and the Branches' in September 2026.

In the Autumn term, all year groups will follow the topic Creation to Covenant, differentiated to their ability.



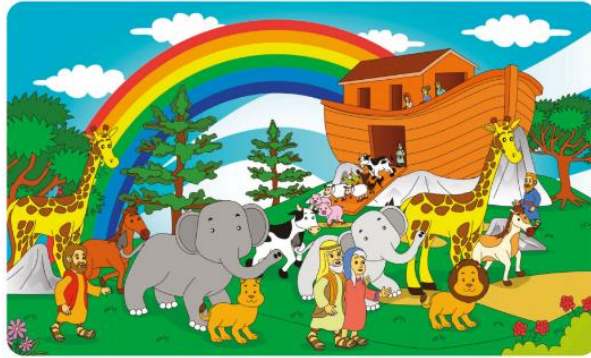
Reception will hear the story of how God made our beautiful world and everything in it.

They will explore how we **believe** that God made us and God loves us. God loves each one of us as a unique person. God loves us and we are part of a family.

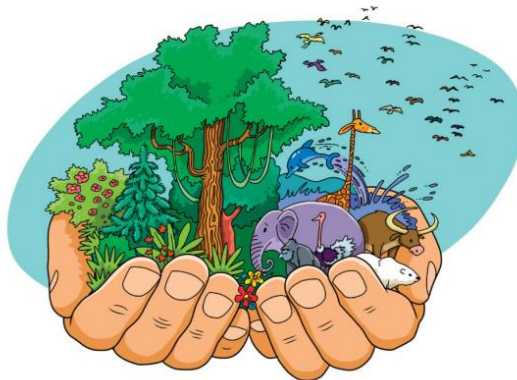
They will **celebrate** by learning the words and actions of the sign of the cross. They will **celebrate** God's beautiful world. They will learn how we enter God's family, the Church, through Baptism. They will learn how we can **live** as Stewards of Creation and show care for God's world (stewardship) as part of our care for each other.



Year 1 will **hear** the Creation story in Genesis and learn how the Nicene Creed sets out what we, as Catholics, believe. They will explore how we **believe** God is our Father and how through our beautiful Earth he shows his love for us. They will **celebrate** by learning how praying enables us to grow closer to God. They will **live** out God's teachings by exploring how we can care and be stewards of creation.



Year 2 will **hear** the story of Noah, focusing on God's covenant (promise) with Noah and all living beings in the sign of the rainbow. They will explore how we **believe** that the Sacrament of Baptism is when a person becomes part of the Christian family and promises to love God. They will explore how the Christian Bible is split into two parts, the Old Testament, and the New Testament. They will **celebrate** by exploring how psalms are prayers to praise God. They will also learn how Sacraments are living signs of Jesus' love for all people and that Baptism is the first sacrament which welcomes people into the Christian family. They will learn how we can **live** as Stewards of Creation and show care for God's world (stewardship) as part of our care for each other. They will also learn how a baby is baptised in the Catholic Church.



Year 3 will **hear** the story of creation in Genesis and consider how it expresses our beliefs about God, the world and Humans. They will explore how we **believe** in God as the Creator of the Universe, that all human beings are made in God's image and all people have dignity and are created equal. They will learn that the dignity of all human beings is one of the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. They will **celebrate** by learning extracts from a psalm of Creation. They will explore how the praise of Creation is expressed in the prayer and Liturgy of the Church. They will **live** out their faith by learning about ways in which we can show care for God's world (stewardship) as part of our care for each other. They will also explore ways in which people can give thanks for the blessing of Creation, including spending time in prayer.



Year 4 will **hear** the story of Abraham and learn about the historical, cultural, and religious context out of which Abraham was called. They will learn the importance of understanding historical context to appreciate the literal sense of biblical stories. They will explore how we **believe** that God's covenant with Abraham is the foundation of the faith of the people of the Old and New Testaments: Judaism and Christianity. They will **celebrate** by learning age-appropriate extracts from prayers of faith in God from the Catholic tradition. They will **live** out their faith by exploring the virtues of faith, hope, and love and will learn about the life and work of a person who was an example of faith made active in love.



Year 5 will **hear** the story of Moses, focusing on the two key events of the call and the covenant: The Burning Bush, The Sinai covenant and the Ten Commandments and Jesus' summary of the law. They will explore how we **believe** that a covenant is a binding agreement between God and human beings, which makes them his people. God made several covenants throughout history – with Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David. God gives the Ten Commandments to help human beings live good and happy lives. Jesus teaches that the most important commandments are to love God and to love other people. They will **celebrate** by exploring how sin is the deliberate spoiling of our friendship with God and each other. They will also explore how we can develop habits that will help us accomplish what is good. These habits are called virtues. Virtues are practical wisdom (prudence), justice, fortitude, and temperance (also known as the cardinal virtues). Through God's grace we can enjoy the theological virtues of faith, hope, and love. They will **live** out their faith by exploring examples of acting with great love and exploring what growing in virtue could mean in their school.



Year 6 will **hear** the following key texts: The second account of Creation; The Nicene Creed; Laudato Si'. They will explore the literary forms employed in the Genesis account. The Genesis account of Creation and Fall is not a literal scientific description, but expresses beliefs about God, the world, and human beings.

They will explore how we **believe** that the world is in disarray because humans choose to do evil again and again. This is called original sin; the story of Adam and Eve explains why the world is no longer as good as it was in the beginning. In Jesus, God restored humanity's relationship with him. Baptism is the first sacrament of the forgiveness of sins. It unites Christians with Jesus Christ, who dies and rises, and strengthens the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Belief in God as sustainer and source of the universe is compatible with the scientific account of the beginnings of the universe and the theory of evolution.

They will **celebrate** by exploring how the symbols in the Sacrament of Baptism point to a Christian's new life in Christ. The Church teaches that the Nicene Creed allows all believers to make a common statement of their faith.

They will **live** out their faith by exploring how many scientists are Christians and they do not see any conflict between their faith and science. They will learn the work of Catholic scientists in contributing to the scientific account of the beginnings of the universe. They will also explore the ways in which some sin is social and embedded in social structures.