

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Local Church / Community – BOOKS – Y2

\*Note to teachers/parents and carers.

This work comes from the Come and See Religious Education programme which is taught in all Catholic primary schools in the Archdiocese of Liverpool. We have given a general guide to the learning opportunities that children may have come across under normal timetabling in school. We have suggested and selected a small amount of the programme. The activities aim to keep Religious Education practical and fun. They are in Year groups however, there is no harm in completing other year group work as this will help children to remember and strengthen their learning.

The first part of learning is called – **EXPLORE**. This shares your child's everyday experiences and helps them to see how the Catholic faith is lived in their everyday lives. The second part, called – **REVEAL** shares bible stories that links to their everyday life.

The experience of community is an essential and enjoyable part of life for people of every age and faith. The cycle of a year and the span of a lifetime contain occasions for regular celebrations as well as unexpected surprises, when people want to celebrate with family, friends and communities. The Church's celebrations are community occasions. On Sundays, the parish family gathers together. It is a time to remember how much there is to celebrate; a time to say thank you; a time to know that God's love is offered and made visible here and now in Jesus and in people. Sacraments are more formal special moments: signs of 'God-with-us', who journeys with his people; signs of strength and blessing for life.

The Christian life is about journeying with Christ and sharing his way of life. The Church's year celebrates the key elements of Christ's life.

The scriptures are the treasured Word of God for the Jewish and Christian communities. The books used by the Christian community record and hand on its story. The lectionary which is used at Mass contains the scriptures used by the community throughout the year.

# YEAR 2 – BOOKS – EXPLORE

Different books used at home and in school

Children may be able to **talk** about their experience and feelings about the different books that are used at home and school.

Children may be able to say what they **wonder** about the importance of books in their lives.

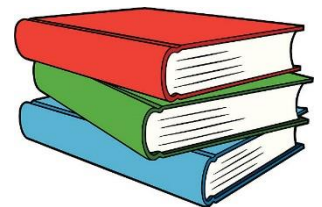
Children may be able to **ask and respond** to questions about their own and others' experience and feelings of the different books that are used at home and school.

Explore, discuss and investigate the many books which you use at home (and at school) and how and where each one might be used. Share together favourite books, why they are favourites and notice how you could choose the same and different types of books.

You might like to read and discuss a book together that you have at home.



- Q What types of books do you have at home?
- Q What uses do books have? (e.g. a timetable, telephone directory, text books, photo albums etc.)
- Q What books do you like and why?
- Q What would a world without books be like?



Have you read any of these books?  
Which ones would you like to read?

## Activities to choose:



- Design a book cover for your favourite book or the book that you have been reading.
- Make a bookmark to keep your place.
- Make a list the characters in your book and draw pictures of them.
- Make a poster to advertise your book.
- Write a blurb for your book to encourage someone to read it.
- Draw a picture or write about your favourite part.
- Make up 5 questions about your book to ask someone who has read it.
- Draw a cartoon strip / story board of the main events in the story.


At the end of your exploring about **BOOKS**, think and wonder about:

- all the different books you use in school and at home
- the people who use them
- how important books are
- a world without books.

## YEAR 2 – BOOKS – REVEAL

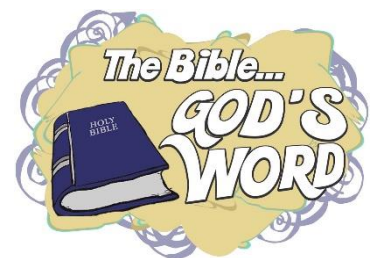
The books used in Church on Sunday by the parish family

Children may be able to **recognise** that the Bible is a special book for Christians and name some of the stories in the Bible.

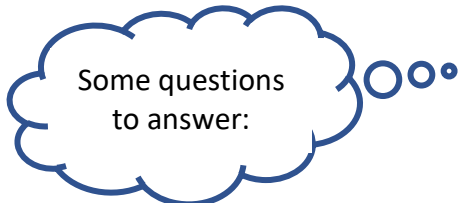
Children may be able to **recognise** and name some of the special books used in church and the people who use them.

Children may be able to **describe** how the Gospels are used by the parish family and the actions and symbols related to proclaiming the Gospel.

The Bible is God’s special book. It is all about how much God loves and cares for people. The Bible is the most important book that Christians use, because it is God’s Word, so it is always treated with reverence. Like all special books we take care of it, make sure our hands are clean before we use it and keep it in a safe place.



There are two main sections in the Bible. The **Old Testament** tells us about the time before Jesus. The **New Testament** tells us about Jesus and the beginning of the Church. Some of the books are called by the name of the person thought to have written them: Mark, Jeremiah, Peter. Some are named after the person the story is about: Job, Ruth, Jonah. One is called after an event: Exodus. Others tell you about the content of the book: Genesis (Beginnings), Psalms, Proverbs, Letters. The Bible is like a library of different books just like we saw a variety of different books that we have at home and in school.



- Q What is the Bible and why is it such an important book?
- Q Why do you think we should show reverence for the Bible?
- Q What does the first part of the Bible tell us?
- Q What is the second part of the Bible about?

Activities to choose:

- Design a front cover for the Bible that shows it is a special book. On the back cover write a summary of what you would find inside.
- Create a bookmark for a Bible including the title of your favourite story from the Bible.

The four Gospels, found in this second part of the Bible - the New Testament - tell the story of Jesus' life on earth, his birth, his teaching, the friends he called to help him and his Death and Resurrection.

**Matthew, Mark, Luke and John each tell the story of the Good News of Jesus.**

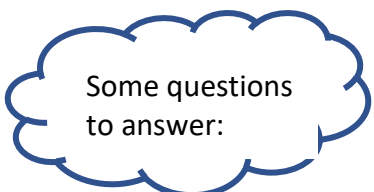
**Matthew** tells us about Joseph and wise men from the East who came to see the baby. Matthew reminds us that Jesus teaches us how to live with God who is always with us.

**Mark** wrote the very first gospel about Jesus and his friends.

**Luke** tells the stories of Mary, of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem and the shepherds who came to see the child. Luke tells us how Jesus seeks people who are lost to bring them to God.

**John** wants us to know Jesus the one who wants us to have the fullness of life. It is in John's gospel that we read about Jesus' promise to send the Holy Spirit.

The four Gospels are each named after the person who is thought to have written it – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The Gospel writers wrote for different reasons and different groups.



- Q How many Gospels are there?
- Q What are the names of the Gospels?
- Q How do the Gospels help us?



**Activity:**

- In the Gospel of John, Jesus says, 'Love one another. I love each one of you' and, 'You are my friends.'

Choose one of these sayings and describe how it can be lived out at home or in school.



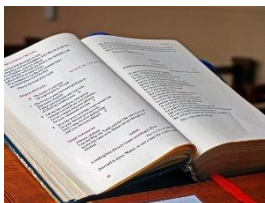
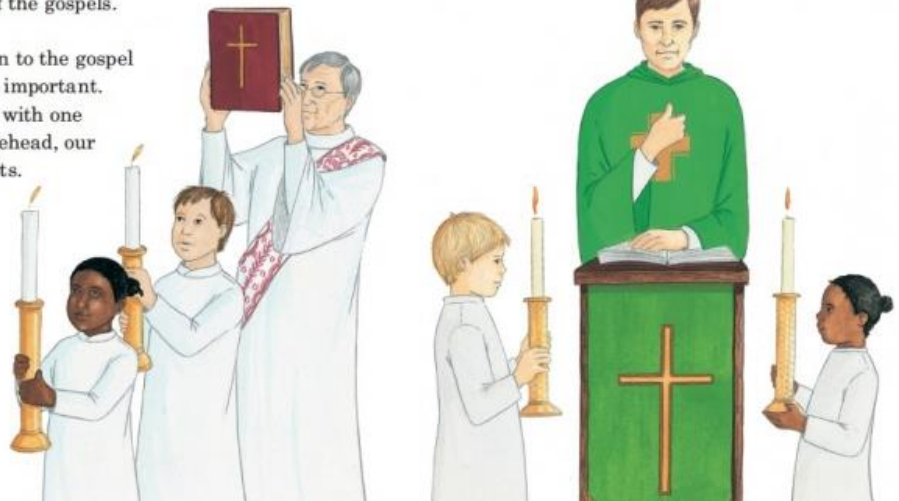
A reader reads from the lectern

Readings during Mass are read from a lectern. There are readings from the Old Testament and from parts of the New Testament. These are read by people from a book called the **Lectionary**.

After these readings, the Book of the Gospels is held up and carried in procession to the lectern. We greet the Gospel with 'Alleluia!' The deacon or priest then reads the Good News of Jesus from one of the gospels.

The deacon or priest ends the gospel reading with: 'The Gospel of the Lord.' We respond with: 'Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.'

We stand to listen to the gospel to show that it is important. We make a cross with one thumb on our forehead, our lips and our hearts. This shows we want to understand, speak and love God's word.



A lectionary

The Gospel readings for each Sunday are on a 3 Year cycle. (A, B, C). The Book of the Gospels is honoured in a special way because Jesus is God's Son bringing the Good News of God's love to everyone (Gospel means Good News). The priest or deacon reads a gospel story from the **Book of Gospels**.

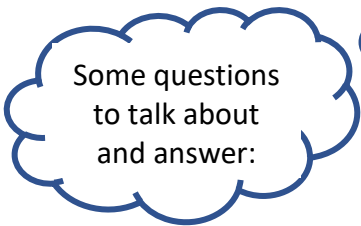
During the rest of Mass, the priest will read from the **Altar Missal**. This book contains the prayers the priest uses during Mass.



Other books used in church at Mass are **hymn books, Mass books and prayer books**. These are all used by the congregation to help them to take part.



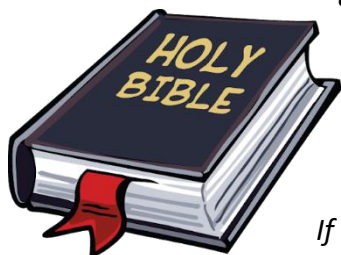
Talk about these books which are used in church.



- How is the Book of the Gospels treated?
- How do people at Mass greet the Gospel?
- Why do you think people make the sign of the Cross three times on themselves before they listen to the Gospel?
- What does the priest say before and after he reads the Gospel?

Activities to choose:

- Design a simple information leaflet about the books we use at church and describe how and why these books are used.
- Make a bookmark to keep in a prayer book. Decorate it with the names of all the books you have learned about.



At the end of all the work you have done on **BOOKS**, you might like to think of all the books you use at home, in school and in church. Perhaps you could write your own prayer to thank God for books.

*If you have a Bible at home, place it reverently on a table. As a family, gather around it and read the scripture below:*

**A reading from the Gospel of Saint Matthew, (Make the sign of the cross with your thumb on your head – to know and understand God’s Word; lips – to speak God’s Word and heart – to love God’s Word)**

**Glory to you, O Lord**

At that time Jesus arrived from Galilee and came to John at the Jordan to be baptised by him. But John tried to make him change his mind. “I ought to be baptised by you,” John said, “and yet you have come to me!” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so for now. For in this way we shall do all that God requires.” So, John agreed. As soon as Jesus was baptised, he came up out of the water. Then heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and lighting on him. Then a voice said from heaven, “This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



Quietly think about these questions and share your thoughts if you want to:

- Q What does this Gospel story say to you?
- Q Why did Jesus ask John to baptise him?
- Q How do you think John felt?
- Q How do you think Jesus felt when he heard God the Father’s words?

*Say this prayer, or the one you have made up, together:*

Heavenly Father, thank you for all the books we learn from and especially those we enjoy reading. Thank you for the Bible which tells us of how much God loves and cares for all people. Thank you for all the books we use in Church. Help us to look after them all.  
AMEN!

