

# The Liturgical Year

# 2023-24

A document to support Diocesan schools in planning Collective Worship that has the Word of God at its heart, incorporates the Church's liturgical year, its seasons and feasts, and provides opportunities for promoting Catholic Social Teaching.



### **'THE GOD WHO SPEAKS' - THE YEAR OF THE WORD**

2020 was the 10th anniversary of Verbum Domini – Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord' and the 1,600 anniversary of St Jerome's death. These dates inspired the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales to dedicate 2020 as a year of focus on the Bible and 'The God Who Speaks'. We continue to encourage reading and understanding of scripture . Resources here <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/about-the-bible/>

### **LAUDATO SI'**

In May 2020 Pope Francis inaugurated "Laudato Si' Week" at the Vatican commemorating the 5th anniversary of the publication of his eco-encyclical with the same title, opening a wider year-long commemoration of the document aimed at spurring global citizens to adopt more sustainable practices. As communities begin to envision what a post-COVID world will look Laudato Si' continues to provide "the moral and spiritual compass for the journey to create a more caring, fraternal, peaceful and sustainable world." Encyclical Resources from CAFOD here - <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Laudato-Si-encyclical>

### **COMMON PRAYER FOR LAUDATO SI'**

Loving God,  
 Creator of heaven and earth and all that is in them,  
 You created us in your image and made us stewards of all your creation, of our common home.  
 You blessed us with the sun, water and bountiful land  
 so that all might be nourished.

Open our minds and touch our hearts,  
 so that we may attend to your gift of creation.  
 Help us to be conscious that our common home belongs not only to us,  
 but to all future generations, and that it is our responsibility to preserve it.  
 May we help each person secure the food and resources that they need.

Be present to those in need in these trying times,  
 especially the poorest and those most at risk of being left behind.  
 Transform our fear, anxiety and feelings of isolation into hope  
 so that we may experience a true conversion of the heart.

Help us to show creative solidarity in addressing the consequences of this global pandemic,  
 Make us courageous to embrace the changes that are needed in search of the common good,  
 Now more than ever may we feel that we are all interconnected,  
 in our efforts to lift up the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.  
 We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen

## **CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING**

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) is a central and essential part of our faith. It is rooted in Scripture that tells of God's special love for the poor and marginalised and calls us to be bearers of love and justice. It is teaching founded on the words and actions of Jesus who identified himself with the hungry and thirsty, the sick and the imprisoned, the naked and the stranger – the 'least of my brothers and sisters'. CST is formed by the wisdom of Church leaders and provides us with a moral compass, guiding us on how to live out our faith in the world. Our faith calls us to love God and to love our neighbours in every situation so, with care for our common home and the dignity of every human person at its heart, CST compels us to make present in our unjust and broken world the justice, love and peace of God, especially to our sisters and brothers living in poverty.

### ***SEVEN THEMES OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING***

- Human Dignity
- Rights & Responsibilities
- Concern for the Poor
- Solidarity & the Common Good
- Family
- Community & Participation
- The Dignity of Work
- Care of Creation

Throughout the liturgical year there are countless opportunities for schools to focus upon aspects of CST and bring reflections on global justice and poverty into their worship activities. Using the language of CST and drawing children and young people into a deeper understanding of its principles will inspire and empower them to respond to inequality and injustice in the modern world, leading them to seek ways to put their faith in action in school, in the local community and in the wider world. This document suggests ideas and opportunities for promoting CST in schools as a supplement to the excellent and varied work that is already taking place in Diocesan schools with regards to CST and social action.

Further information and resources for CST can be found at:

- <http://www.catholicsocialteaching.org.uk/>
- <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Catholic-social-teaching>
- <https://missio.org.uk/catholic-social-teaching/>

## **CARITAS DIOCESE OF SHREWSBURY**

Caritas is the social action and social justice agency of the Diocese of Shrewsbury that seeks to work with children, families and communities throughout the Diocese. They support families with a range of concerns for example mental health, addiction, domestic abuse and family breakdown. They offer practical support to those living in poverty, in partnership with SVP and local foodbanks. They also give support to refugees and those seeking asylum.

Each Lent schools can support Caritas by fund raising for the Good Shepherd collection and Caritas offers opportunities for Caritas Ambassadors in schools. If you would like to know more see <https://www.caritasshrewsbury.org.uk/about/> or email [info@caritasshrewsbury.org.uk](mailto:info@caritasshrewsbury.org.uk)

### **THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

The St Vincent de Paul Society in England and Wales, through its Mini Vinnies and Youth SVP programmes, encourages children and young people to develop their faith and spirituality in order to put their faith into action; in service to the disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalised of society. For more information see <https://www.svp.org.uk/involve-young-people>

### **MISSIO**

Missio is the Pope's official Charity for Overseas Missions. It is the Holy Father's chosen instrument for sharing the Gospel and building the Church throughout the world. Their secondary resources encourage students to reflect on their role in building the Kingdom of God for all people and aim to help young people to: discover the world around them and reflect on their role within it; think critically, inspired by Christ's Gospel; to embrace Catholic Social Teaching and to grow in faith. Secondary schools can download their free resources to follow the Liturgical Year, including Advent and Lent. They also have a series of workshops explaining the principles of Catholic Social Teaching (CST) and <https://missio.org.uk/general-resources/> For primary schools Mission Together is the children's' branch of Missio, encouraging children to pray, fundraise and become missionaries themselves – children helping children. They provide primary school resources throughout the year focused on the Gospel, liturgical seasons and on our various overseas projects including assemblies, liturgies, activities, posters and aids to prayer. All resources are available from <https://missiontogether.org.uk/teachers-resources/>

### **CAFOD**

CAFOD is the official international development and relief agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales and is active within the global Caritas family. CAFOD provide a wide range of resources for primary and secondary schools and have Diocesan volunteers who can help you to promote CAFOD and CST in your school. See <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Education-resources> and <https://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer/CAFOD-in-your-area/Shrewsbury>

### **FAITH IN ACTION AWARD**

The CYMFED Faith in Action award scheme is a great opportunity to encourage and inspire young people to get more involved in the community and in local Parishes. Open to pupils from Y6 upwards the Faith in Action award aims:

- To celebrate the faith journey of young people
- To celebrate what already happens
- To encourage tangible living faith in the 'real world'
- To strengthen links between individuals, communities and organisations
- To explore the universal call to holiness
- To work for the Good News and the common good

Schools who wish to participate must contact the Youth Office at [youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

WEEK BEGINNING	LITURGICAL THEME	FEAST DAYS/ SPECIAL DAYS	THOUGHT FOR WEEK	OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROMOTING CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING	
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>					
<p>Pope Francis' prayer intention for September - For people living on the margins: We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance. Watch the 'Pope Videos' each month <a href="https://thepopevideo.org/">https://thepopevideo.org/</a></p>				<p><b>Season of Creation</b> <b>CST Care for Creation</b></p>	
4 September	<b>Follow me</b>	<p>"If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him take up his cross and follow me." <i>Matthew 16:21-27</i></p>	<p><b>22<sup>nd</sup> Week of Ordinary Time</b> 5<sup>th</sup> St Teresa of Calcutta</p>	<p>"Let us not forget: if we are to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus, our lives must bear witness to what we preach." <i>Pope Francis</i></p>	<p>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> World Day of Prayer for Creation – the start of Creation Time which runs until 4<sup>th</sup> October, the feast of St Francis of Assisi. <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources">https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources</a> <a href="https://catholicclimatemovement.global/">https://catholicclimatemovement.global/</a></p>
11 September	<b>Listening to each other</b>	<p>"For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them." <i>Matthew 18:15-20</i></p>	<p><b>23<sup>rd</sup> Week of Ordinary Time</b> <b>10<sup>th</sup> Education Sunday</b></p>	<p>"Just look at what we can do when we come together." <i>Marcus Rashford</i></p>	<p><a href="https://www.cte.org.uk/Groups/234838/Home/Resources/Education_Sunday/Education_Sunday.aspx">https://www.cte.org.uk/Groups/234838/Home/Resources/Education_Sunday/Education_Sunday.aspx</a></p>
18 September	<b>Justice</b>	<p>"Lord, how many times do I have to forgive?" <i>Matthew 18:21-35</i></p>	<p><b>24<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time</b> 17<sup>th</sup> Evangelii Gaudium Sunday – 1<sup>st</sup> celebration 21<sup>st</sup> St Matthew 21<sup>st</sup> UN International Day of Peace</p>	<p>"When a deep injury is done to us, we never heal until we forgive." <i>Nelson Mandela</i></p>	<p>21<sup>st</sup> International Day of Peace <a href="https://internationaldayofpeace.org/">https://internationaldayofpeace.org/</a> <a href="https://paxchristi.net/2020/07/06/catholic-nonviolence-days-of-action/">https://paxchristi.net/2020/07/06/catholic-nonviolence-days-of-action/</a></p>
25 September	<b>Generosity</b>	<p>God's generosity – "The last will be first, and the first, last." <i>Matthew 20:1-16</i></p>	<p><b>25<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time</b> 24<sup>th</sup> Harvest Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Feast of St. Vincent de Paul</p>	<p>"You can't live a perfect day without doing something for someone who will never be able to repay you." <i>John Wooden</i></p>	<p><a href="https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Harvest-prayers">https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Harvest-prayers</a> 27<sup>th</sup> Feast of St. Vincent de Paul - Mini Vinnies/Youth SVP</p>
<b>OCTOBER</b>					
<p><b>Pope Francis' prayer intention for October –</b> <b>For the Synod We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit to all the corners of the world.</b></p>			<p>Black History Month</p>	<p>Month of the Rosary</p>	
2 October	<b>Making choices</b>	<p>"Which of the two did the father's will?" <i>Matthew 21:28-32</i></p>	<p><b>26<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time</b> Bishop Mark – Anniversary of succession 1<sup>st</sup> Oct St Therese of Lisieux</p>	<p>God could not have chosen anyone less qualified, or more of a sinner, than myself. And so, for this wonderful work he intends to perform through us, He selected me- for God always chooses</p>	<p>4<sup>th</sup> St Francis of Assisi <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/11733/91933/version/4/file/St_Francis_of_Assisi.pdf">https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/11733/91933/version/4/file/St_Francis_of_Assisi.pdf</a></p>

			<a href="https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/13713/105760/version/1/file/Secondary_Prayer%20Card_St_Therese_of_Lisieux1.pdf">https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/13713/105760/version/1/file/Secondary_Prayer%20Card_St_Therese_of_Lisieux1.pdf</a> Season of Creation ends - 4 <sup>th</sup> St Francis of Assisi Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> October CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Day of Prayer for Needy and Hungry of the World	the weak and the absurd, and those who count for nothing.” <i>St. Francis of Assisi</i>	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> CAFOD Harvest Fast Day <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/Harvest-Fast-Day">https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/Harvest-Fast-Day</a>
9 October	<b>Our responsibility</b>	“The Kingdom of God will be given to a people who will produce its fruit.” <i>Matthew 21:33-43</i>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time</b> Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their dependents <b>10<sup>th</sup> World Mental Health Day 2023</b>	“Good intentions are simply not enough. Our character is defined, and our lives are determined not by what we want, say, or think, but by what we do.” <i>Michael Josephson</i>	Prisons Week <a href="https://prisonsweek.org/">https://prisonsweek.org/</a> <a href="https://www.youngminds.org.uk/support-us/fundraising/helloyellow/">https://www.youngminds.org.uk/support-us/fundraising/helloyellow/</a>
16 October	<b>Equality</b>	God invites you into his Kingdom Matthew 22:1-14	<b>28<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time</b> Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> World Missions Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> World Food Day 18 <sup>th</sup> St Luke	“Pay attention to the hungry, both in this country and around the world. Pay attention to the poor. Pay attention to our responsibilities for world peace. We are our brother’s keeper...” George McGovern	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> World Missions Sunday <a href="https://missio.org.uk/what-is-world-mission-sunday/">https://missio.org.uk/what-is-world-mission-sunday/</a> Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> World Food Day – Grow, Nourish, Sustain, Together
23 October	<b>Citizenship</b>	“Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.” <i>Matthew 22:15-21</i>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time</b>	“We know that every effort to better society, especially when injustice and sin are so ingrained, is an effort that God blesses, that God wants, that God demands of us.” <i>St Oscar Romero</i>	
<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY</b>					
Pope Francis’ prayer intention for November - For the Pope : We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.			<b>International Men’s Month</b>		<b>Month of Remembrance</b>
30 October	<b>Doing the right thing</b>	The Beatitudes <i>Matthew 5:1-12</i>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> All Saints Day – Holy Day of Obligation</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> All Souls Day</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> St Winefride – patron of the diocese</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> St Martin de Porres	“Saints are not supermen who are born perfect but rather are ordinary folk who followed God with all their heart.” <i>Pope Francis</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> St Martin de Porres <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/7064/58844/version/6/file/St_Martin%20de%20Porres_V2.pdf">https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/7064/58844/version/6/file/St_Martin%20de%20Porres_V2.pdf</a>

6 November	<b>Remembrance</b>	"All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted." <i>Matthew 23:1-12</i>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> Week of Ordinary Time</b>	"What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal." <i>Albert Pine</i>	
13 November	<b>Using your talents</b>	"Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." <i>Matthew 25:1-13</i>	<b>32<sup>nd</sup> Week of Ordinary Time</b> 11 <sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day 12 <sup>th</sup> Remembrance Sunday <a href="https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/remembrance-events/remembrance-sunday">https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/remembrance-events/remembrance-sunday</a>	"Your talent is God's gift to you. What you do with it is your gift back to God." <i>Leo Buscaglia</i>	13th – 17th November Anti-Bullying Week <a href="https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/">https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/</a> Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> World Toilet Day - <a href="https://www.worldtoiletday.info/">https://www.worldtoiletday.info/</a> Or use CAFOD's World Toilet Day Assembly Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> Universal Children's Day <a href="https://www.un.org/en/observances/world-childrens-day">https://www.un.org/en/observances/world-childrens-day</a>
20 November	<b>Helping the poor</b>	"First clean the inside of the cup, so that the outside also may become clean." <i>Matthew 23:14-30</i>	19th World Day of Prayer for the Poor <b>22<sup>nd</sup> Red Wednesday</b>	"When I give food to the poor, they call me a saint. When I ask why the poor have no food, they call me a communist." — Dom Helder Camara	Red Wednesday – highlighting Christian Persecution and Suffering <a href="https://acnuk.org/our-campaigns/red-wednesday/">https://acnuk.org/our-campaigns/red-wednesday/</a> <a href="https://www.csan.org.uk/worlddayofthepoor/">https://www.csan.org.uk/worlddayofthepoor/</a>
27 November	<b>Amnesty international</b>	Christ the King says "Whatever you do to one of the least of my brothers and sisters, you do to me." <i>Matthew 25:31-46</i>	<b>Last Week of Ordinary Time - Christ the Universal King</b> also National Youth Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> St Andrew	"Dear young people, do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things!" Pope Francis	<a href="http://www.nationalyouthsunday.org.uk/">http://www.nationalyouthsunday.org.uk/</a> <a href="https://homeimission.org.uk/home/youth/">https://homeimission.org.uk/home/youth/</a> 1 <sup>st</sup> World Aids Day <a href="https://www.worldaidsday.org/">https://www.worldaidsday.org/</a> <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-and-youth-resources/HIV-and-AIDS-animation">https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-and-youth-resources/HIV-and-AIDS-animation</a>
<b>Pope Francis' prayer intention for December - For persons with disabilities We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.</b>				<b>Advent</b>	
4 December	<b>When the going gets tough</b>	"Stay awake!" <i>Mark 13:33-37</i>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Week of Advent:</b> Sunday Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees 8 <sup>th</sup> Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary	"But freedom was measured, he supposed, by what you were leaving behind." — Mick Herron	
11 December	<b>Be Prepared</b>	"A voice cries in the wilderness - prepare the way for the Lord." <i>Mark 1:1-8</i>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent</b> Bible Sunday	"Learn to listen. Opportunity sometimes knocks very softly." <i>Anonymous</i>	

WEEK BEGINNING		LITURGICAL THEME	FEAST DAYS/ SPECIAL DAYS	THOUGHT FOR WEEK	OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROMOTING CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING
18 December	<b>Hero's</b>	"He came as a witness to speak for the light." <i>John 1:6-8,19-28</i>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent</b>	"Every day you are witnessing. What are you witnessing to? Your witness is the total package of your attitudes, character, and actions. It does not lie." <i>Winkie Pratney</i>	18 <sup>th</sup> International Migrants Day <a href="https://www.caritasshrewsbury.org.uk/services/refugee-project/">https://www.caritasshrewsbury.org.uk/services/refugee-project/</a> <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-and-youth-resources/Refugee-resources">https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-and-youth-resources/Refugee-resources</a>
<b>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS</b>					
<b>Pope Francis' prayer intention for January -FOR THE GIFT OF DIVERSITY IN THE CHURCH We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.</b>					
1 January	<b>Our Holy family</b>	"for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples," <i>Luke 2:22-40</i>	<b>The Holy Family</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Mary the Mother of God</b>	"If you ever feel distressed during your day, call upon our Lady, just say this simple prayer: 'Mary, Mother of Jesus, please be a mother to me now.' I must admit, this prayer has never failed me." -St Mother Teresa of Calcutta	1 <sup>st</sup> January World Day of Peace – see Pope Francis' new year message of peace
8 January	<b>Serving others</b>	"Then opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh." <i>Matthew 2:1-12</i>	<b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b> <b>8<sup>th</sup> The Baptism of the Lord</b>	"No one has ever become poor by giving." <i>Anne Frank</i>	.
15 January	<b>Faithful to Christ</b>	"What do you want?" <i>John 1:35-42</i>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Week in Ordinary Time</b>	"Create the highest grandest vision possible for your life because you become what you believe." <i>Oprah Winfrey</i>	Day of special prayer for world peace <a href="https://www.paxchristi.net/">https://www.paxchristi.net/</a>
22 January	<b>Witness</b>	"Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men." <i>Mark 1:14-20</i>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Week in Ordinary Time</b> Sunday of the Word of God <a href="https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2020-01/sunday-word-of-god-fisichella-a-press-conference.html">https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2020-01/sunday-word-of-god-fisichella-a-press-conference.html</a>	"Never underestimate the influence you have on others." <i>Laurie Buchanan</i>	27 <sup>th</sup> St Angela Merici <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/12549/97594/version/5/file/St_Angela.pdf">https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/12549/97594/version/5/file/St_Angela.pdf</a> 27 <sup>th</sup> Holocaust Memorial Day 2024 Theme – <a href="https://www.hmd.org.uk/what-is-holocaust-memorial-day/this-years-theme/">https://www.hmd.org.uk/what-is-holocaust-memorial-day/this-years-theme/</a>
<b>Pope Francis' prayer intention for February – OR THE TERMINALLY ILL We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.</b>					



WEEK BEGINNING		LITURGICAL THEME	FEAST DAYS/ SPECIAL DAYS	THOUGHT FOR WEEK	OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROMOTING CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING
29 January	<b>Authority</b>	"Here is teaching that is new and has authority behind it." <i>Mark 1:21-28</i>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time</b> Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> Racial Justice Sunday  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> The Presentation of the Lord</b>	"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." <i>Martin Luther King, Jr.</i>	<a href="https://ctbi.org.uk/category/witnessing-together/racial-justice/">https://ctbi.org.uk/category/witnessing-together/racial-justice/</a> <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/7064/58844/version/6/file/St_Martin%20de%20Porres_V2.pdf">https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/7064/58844/version/6/file/St_Martin%20de%20Porres_V2.pdf</a>
5 February	<b>Healing</b>	"He cured many who were suffering....." <i>Mark: 1:29-39</i>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time</b> Childrens Mental Health Week Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> Our Lady of Lourdes – World Day of Prayer for the Sick	"There are two ways of spreading light; to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it." <i>Edith Wharton</i>	<a href="https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/about/">https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/about/</a> 8 <sup>th</sup> St Josephine Bakita – Day of Prayer for Trafficked People <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-and-youth-resources/Saints-prayer-cards">https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-and-youth-resources/Saints-prayer-cards</a> <a href="https://www.caritas.org/2016/02/international-day-prayer-awareness-human-trafficking/">https://www.caritas.org/2016/02/international-day-prayer-awareness-human-trafficking/</a>
12 February	<b>Choose Christ</b>	"Jesus...said to him, 'I do choose. Be made clean!'" <i>Mark 1:40-45</i>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>14<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday</b>	"What happens when people open their hearts?" "They get better." – Haruki Murakami	
<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY - I have still put the Sundays in as half-terms vary – check against your school calendar</b>					
19 February	<b>Good News</b>	"Repent and believe the Good News." <i>Mark 1:12-15</i>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Week of Lent</b>	"Everyone has inside of him a piece of good news. The good news is that you don't know how great you can be! How much you can love! What you can accomplish! And what your potential is!" <i>Anne Frank</i>	Check out CAFOD's & Missio Ash Wednesday and Lent resources
26 February	<b>Awe and Wonder</b>	Rabbi, it is wonderful for us to be here." <i>Mark 9:2-10</i>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> St David <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/8846/72202/version/6/file/St_David.pdf">https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/8846/72202/version/6/file/St_David.pdf</a> 1 <sup>st</sup> March Women's World Day of Prayer	"Joy does not simply happen to us. We have to choose joy and keep choosing it every day." <i>Henri Nouwen</i>	Support Caritas Shrewsbury <a href="https://www.caritasshrewsbury.org.uk/get-involved/good-shepherd-collection/">https://www.caritasshrewsbury.org.uk/get-involved/good-shepherd-collection/</a> Fairtrade fortnight begins <a href="https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/get%20involved/CURRENT-campaigns/Fairtrade-Fortnight">https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/get%20involved/CURRENT-campaigns/Fairtrade-Fortnight</a>
<b>Pope Francis' prayer intention for March – FOR THE NEW MARTYRS - We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.</b>				<b>Women's History Month</b>	<b>Lent</b>
4 March	<b>Perception</b>	"Jesus could tell what a person had in him." <i>John 2:13-25</i>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Lent</b>	"Character is doing the right thing when nobody is looking." <i>J.C. Watts</i>	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> International Women's Day <a href="https://www.internationalwomensday.com/">https://www.internationalwomensday.com/</a>

11 March	<b>Truthfulness</b>	'The person who lives by the truth comes into the light.' <i>John 3:14-21</i>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> St Patrick <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/1371/1/105751/version/2/file/St_Patrick.pdf">https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/1371/1/105751/version/2/file/St_Patrick.pdf</a>	"Nothing can dim the light that shines from within." <i>Maya Angelou</i>	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> International Day of Happiness <a href="https://www.dayofhappiness.net/#join">https://www.dayofhappiness.net/#join</a>
18 March	<b>Persecution</b>	If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest. <i>John 12:20-33</i>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent</b> <b>19<sup>th</sup> St Joseph, husband of Mary</b> Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> St Oscar Romero (See resources from CAFOD and Missio) <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/2449/1/175828/version/4/file/St%20Oscar%20Romero%20Saint%20Card.pdf">https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/2449/1/175828/version/4/file/St%20Oscar%20Romero%20Saint%20Card.pdf</a>	"Whoever out of love for God gives oneself to the service of others will live, like the grain of wheat that dies, but only apparently... Only in undoing itself does it produce the harvest." <i>St Oscar Romero</i>	Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> World Water Day - <a href="https://www.unwater.org/what-we-do/inspireaction/">https://www.unwater.org/what-we-do/inspireaction/</a>  <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-and-youth-resources/Water-resources">https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-and-youth-resources/Water-resources</a>
<b>EASTER HOLIDAY 24th March - Palm Sunday; Maundy Thursday – 28th ; Good Friday – 29th ; Easter Sunday – 31st March</b>					
25 March	<b>Good news</b>	"Wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.' <i>Mark 14:1-15, 47</i>	<b>Palm Sunday</b> 28 <sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday	"Don't just count your blessings. Be the blessing other people count on." <i>Anonymous</i>	Holy Week
<b>Pope Francis' prayer intention for April - FOR THE ROLE OF WOMEN We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognised in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.</b>					
15 April	<b>Trust</b>	"He then opened their minds to understand...." <i>Luke 24:35-48</i>	<b>3rd week of Easter</b>	"Our doubts are traitors and make us lose the good we oft might win by fearing to attempt." <i>William Shakespeare</i>	
22 April	<b>Finding the lost</b>	'I am the good shepherd.' <i>John 10:11-18</i>	<b>4th Week of Easter</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup> St George <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/9674/77748/version/3/file/Secondary_prayer%20card_St%20George.pdf">https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/9674/77748/version/3/file/Secondary_prayer%20card_St%20George.pdf</a> 25 <sup>th</sup> St Mark	"I think about how the Lord never sleeps nor slumbers as He watches over us. When I lie across the door of the sheep pen to guard the sheep, I remember that He is my protection." – <i>Emmanuel Onimisi</i>	<a href="https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/22nd_Earth_Day">https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/22<sup>nd</sup> Earth Day</a> <a href="https://www.earthday.org/earthday/countdown-to-2020/">https://www.earthday.org/earthday/countdown-to-2020/</a>
29 April	<b>Our values</b>	"I am the vine, you are the branches." <i>John 15:1-8</i>	<b>5th Week of Easter</b> 29 <sup>th</sup> St Catherine of Siena <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/9573/77082/version/3/file/St_Catherine.pdf">https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/9573/77082/version/3/file/St_Catherine.pdf</a> 1st May - St Joseph the Worker	The purpose of pruning is to improve the quality of the roses, not to hurt the bush." <i>Florence Littauer</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> May St Joseph the Worker – Day of Prayer for Human Work

WEEK BEGINNING		LITURGICAL THEME	FEAST DAYS/ SPECIAL DAYS	THOUGHT FOR WEEK	OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROMOTING CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING
<b>Pope Francis' prayer intention for May –FOR THE FORMATION OF RELIGIOUS AND SEMINARIANS We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.</b>					
6 May	<b>Friendship</b>	"You are my friends if you do what I command you." <i>John 15:9-17</i>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> The Ascension of the Lord	"I don't need a friend who changes when I change and who nods when I nod; my shadow does that much better." <i>Plutarch</i>	
13 May	<b>Courage</b>	"They belong to the world no more than I belong to the world." <i>John 17:11-19</i>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter</b> Sunday – World Communications Day Mental health awareness week	"Have the courage to 'swim against the tide'. Have the courage to be happy." <i>Pope Francis</i>	<a href="https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/public-engagement/mental-health-awareness-week">https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/public-engagement/mental-health-awareness-week</a>
20 May	<b>Spirit filled</b>	"As the Father sent me, so I am sending you: receive the Holy Spirit." <i>John 20:19-23</i>	<b>Pentecost Sunday</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup> Lord Jesus Christ Eternal High Priest	"If you are what you should be, you will set the whole world ablaze!" <i>St. Catherine of Sienna</i>	
<b>HALF TERM</b>					
<b>Pope Francis' prayer intention for June - FOR MIGRANTS FLEEING THEIR HOMES</b>					
<b>We pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them.</b>					
3 June	<b>Community</b>	"Take it, this is my body." <i>Mark 14:12-16,22-26</i>	<b>Corpus Christi – the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ</b>	"In union there is strength." <i>Aesop</i>	<b>Tuesday 8th World Oceans Day</b> <a href="https://www.worldoceansday.org/">https://www.worldoceansday.org/</a> <a href="http://www.webofcreation.org/SeasonofCreation/ocean.html">http://www.webofcreation.org/SeasonofCreation/ocean.html</a> <a href="https://www.arocho.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Prayer-for-the-Oceans.pdf">https://www.arocho.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Prayer-for-the-Oceans.pdf</a>
10 June	<b>Family</b>	'Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.' <i>Mark 3:20-35</i>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time</b>	"Those who have a strong sense of love and belonging have the courage to be imperfect." – Brené Brown	
17 June	<b>Making a difference</b>	"The Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed." <i>Mark 4:26-34</i>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant." <i>Robert Louis Stevenson</i>	

WEEK BEGINNING		LITURGICAL THEME	FEAST DAYS/ SPECIAL DAYS	THOUGHT FOR WEEK	OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROMOTING CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING
23 June	<b>Refugee Week</b>	"Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.". <i>Mark 4:35-41</i>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time</b>	"It is better to make a thousand failures than to be too cowardly to ever undertake anything." <i>Clovis G. Chappell</i>	<b>World Refugee Week</b> <a href="https://refugeeweek.org.uk/resources/education-resources/">https://refugeeweek.org.uk/resources/education-resources/</a> 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sts Thomas More and John Fisher – Day of prayer for those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights.
30 June	<b>Having faith</b>	"Who do people say the Son of Man is?" <i>Matthew 16:13-19</i>	<b>SS Peter and Paul</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> July St Thomas	"I would have preferred someone else to have been in charge of rescuing this story, but once again life has taught me that my role is to be a witness, not the leading actor." – Carlos Ruiz Zafón	
<b>Pope Francis' prayer intention for July- FOR THE PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK -We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all</b>					
8 July	<b>Accepting others</b>	"They would not accept him." <i>Mark 6:1-6</i>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time</b>	"One of the secrets of life is that all that is worth the doing is what we do for others." <i>Lewis Carroll</i>	
15 July	<b>Going out into the World</b>	"Take nothing with you." <i>Mark 6:7-13</i>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time</b>	"The best portion of a good man's life is his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and of love." <i>William Wordsworth</i>	
22 July	<b>Taking rest</b>	"You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while." <i>Mark 6:30-34</i>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time</b>	"Take rest; a field that has rested gives a bountiful crop." <i>Ovid</i>	

**The colour of the shading is indicative of the Liturgical colours used by the Church at different times or seasons of the year.**

**Green:** 'Ordinary Time' refers to the part of the year outside the seasons of Advent-Christmas and Lent-Easter. There are 33/34 weeks of Ordinary Time. During this time the Church helps us to reflect on the life and work of Jesus. The liturgical colour for Ordinary Time is green, a colour seen everywhere in trees and plants and a symbol of life and hope.

**Purple** is used during Advent and Lent as a sign of penance, sacrifice and preparation. At the midpoint of both of these seasons—Gaudete Sunday (the third Sunday of Advent) and Laetare Sunday (the fourth Sunday of Lent—rose (pink) vestments are traditionally worn as a sign of joy: we rejoice at the midpoint because we are half-way through the preparation and anticipate the coming joy of Christmas or Easter.

**Rose** is a lighter version of purple because it signifies the penitential purple is mixed with the white of the approaching festival. In both Advent and Lent there is a moment when the atmosphere of penance is brightened by a glimpse of light from the glorious season for which we are preparing ourselves. The third Sunday of Advent tells us 'Gaudéte, rejoice!' because the Lord is near and the fourth Sunday of Lent says 'Laetáre, lerúsalem, be joyful, Jerusalem, and all who love her!' because she herself is loved by the Lord.

**Red** symbolizes the shedding of blood and is therefore used on Palm Sunday (when Christ entered Jerusalem to prepare for His death), Good Friday, any other commemoration of the Lord's passion, the votive Mass of the Precious Blood, the days marking the martyrdom of the apostles (except St. John), and the feasts of other martyrs who offered their lives for the faith. However, red also signifies the burning fire of God's love. For this reason, red vestments are worn on Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles and tongues of fire rested on their heads and for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

**White or gold**, a colour symbolizing rejoicing and purity of soul, is worn during the liturgical seasons of Christmas and Easter. White vestments are also used for feasts of our Lord (except those pertaining to His passion), the Blessed Virgin Mary, the angels, and the saints who were not martyrs.