

P3-1 – Being Catholic – Our Church

CfE Experiences and Outcomes & TIOF Core Learning

RERC 1-24a – Reign of God

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.

Success Criteria from Core Learning

- I know that my school is a Catholic school which, with God's help works together with my family, my parish and the whole church to show care for the world and for the needs of all people.
- I can identify practical ways to show how I can also care for the wider community, particularly during Lent and advent.

Key Vocabulary

Catholic school, Church, needs of all people.

Teaching and Learning

Introduction

Read the bible passage from Mathew 4:19 "Come and Follow me". Discuss how Jesus calls the disciples to follow him, leaving behind everything they have known. Carry out a circle time asking whether the children could leave their homes and families to follow Jesus.

Pose the question how can we follow Jesus without leaving our homes and families? Bring the discussion to focus on going to church and listening to Gods message and carrying out his good works.

What is a Catholic?

The Church Building

Display a variety of pictures of different areas of a Catholic Church (some can be found in AR3-1a or the children could be taken on a visit to their church to take photos of each area). Discuss the relevance of each area of the church; The Altar; The Baptismal Font; The Paschal Candle; Our Lady's Altar; The Reconciliation Rooms; The Lectern; The Tabernacle and the Altar candle

Going to Mass

Many children have different experiences of going to church, draw upon these experiences discussing the important elements of the celebration of a Mass. Display the PowerPoint about different elements of the Mass (AR3-1b) highlighting the significance of these to the children (Information sheet included in AR3-1c).

People in the Church Community

Through effective questioning bring the children to discuss the church community, in small groups they thought shower all the different people who play an important role in the church community and use their gifts and talents to help others. They can create a mind map of these on large flip chart sheets (Priest, altar servers, musicians, charity workers, children's liturgy helpers, pass keepers, coffee morning helpers, etc...). Bring all the children's ideas together and in a circle time style pass round the statement "I could help in my church community by..."

Highlight the role of the Catholic school in supporting the local church community and the close links that the school has with the local church perhaps through masses or charity events.

Catholic – What does it mean?

Write the word Catholic on the board and ask the children to think pair and share what the word Catholic actually means. Through discussion bring the children to realise that this word means "Universal" and therefore the Catholic church intends to bring the message of God's love to everyone and offers care and support for all people.

Following Me

Re-read the bible passage from Matthew. The children are each given a template of a fish to creatively personalise. On the back the children write how they could use their gifts and talents to follow Jesus and spread his love. These can then be displayed in the classroom on the altar signifying the children's intention to carry out God's work.

Resources

Bible passage Mathew 4
AR3-1a - Pictures of "our church" resource file
Flip chart sheets and pens.
AR3-1b - The Mass – powerpoint
AR3-1c - The Mass – information sheet
Fish template for each child

Research Challenge

- What is your local church?
- Do you have any pictures of your church?
- Can you sketch a picture of your local church for the other children to see?
- Can you visit your church and take a look inside? Do you spot any of the important areas of the church that we have been discussing?