

P6.5 Our Lady of Lourdes

Success Criteria from Core Learning

I know the Latin phrase, 'Ave Maria.'

I know what the religious term 'icon' means and can use an icon as a focus for prayer.

I understand that we can ask Our Lady to intercede for me with God, through prayers of intercession.

Curriculum for Excellence RERC Experiences and Outcomes & Core Learning

Signs of God: P6 RERC 2-08a

I have explored Christian heritage and my role in the Catholic community and I have reflected on how this role can affect my life.

Hours of God: P6 RERC 2-14a

I recognise the importance of personal prayer and communal prayer in the growth of all people's relationship with God. I can describe how prayer is an important part of the liturgical and devotional life of the Church.

Vocabulary

Ave Maria, Icon, Intercede / Intercession, Fatima, Knock.

Teaching and Learning

Introduction

Open by saying a Memorare together. Unveil an image of Our Lady. Have a general discussion on who this is and what the pupils know about her. Inform the children that this is what we call an Icon and describe the different forms these can take. Ask the pupils which Icons they have seen previously and where they can be seen.

Activity 1

Have the Hail Mary written or typed out so that the class can all see the words. Go through the prayer and ask the pupils if they understand what each section means. Ask the class if they understand why we say this prayer. We can pray together or pray alone. Discuss the term intercession. Have you ever been asked to pass on a message? Maybe to a teacher in another class? Or to your parents? Why were you chosen? The person must have trusted you to get the message right; that it wouldn't get lost on the way; that the person receiving the message would be happy to see you and would listen. The sender could have asked directly, but they trusted that the person would listen to you. People down the centuries have asked Our Lady and the saints to pass on messages to Jesus, as well as asking Jesus directly. This is called intercessory prayer. We feel secure that Jesus will listen to them, as they are his friends as well as ours.

Activity 2

Ask pupils to create mind-maps of the different things people may pray to Jesus or Our Lady for ill-health, a loved one, a job, someone who has passed away, help in an exam.

Activity 3

Discuss the particular places where we may go to pray to Our Lady. Fatima and Knock could be discussed. The key is looking for the pupils to identify that we go to Lourdes to pray to Our Lady to intercede on our behalf.

Activity 4

Look at the prayer 'Mary, Help of Those In Need.' Discuss the meaning of this prayer. You could look at a variety of prayers of intercession to Our Lady. Many of these can be found at <http://www.marypages.com/PrayerstoMary.htm>. It would also be very worthwhile to look at the hymn 'As I Kneel Before You.' Work with the class to translate the Latin section, and in particular focus on Ave Maria meaning Hail Mary.

Plenary

Invite the children to edit their KWL grid, as the images will hopefully have provoked further thoughts within the group.

This lesson could be finished by singing 'As I Kneel Before You.'

Assessment Opportunities

I can define the term Icon and translate some Latin words into English.

I can name a number of prayers of Intercession to Our Lady and describe why we pray to Our Lady to intercede on our behalf.

Prayer and Reflection

Hail Mary; Mary, Help of Those in Need; As I Kneel Before You; Immaculate Mary; The Bells of the Angelus

Understanding and praying with the icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

<http://www.cssr.com/english/whoarewe/iconmessage.shtml>

<http://www.cssr.com/english/whoarewe/novenaonline.shtml>

Icon painters always pray as they paint, and see it as a form of prayer: why not do any religious art exercise as a form of prayer e.g. have quiet music, stop every few minutes and say a class prayer etc.

Resources

Latin Translation Worksheet

Links to other curricular areas

Literacy

Additional Support

Research Challenge