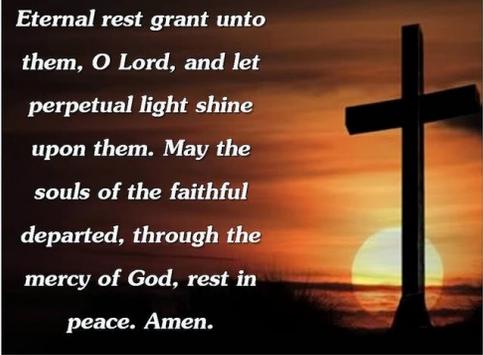




CLIFTON DIOCESE

Primary Newsletter November 2018



*Eternal rest grant unto
them, O Lord, and let
perpetual light shine
upon them. May the
souls of the faithful
departed, through the
mercy of God, rest in
peace. Amen.*

A Prayer of Remembrance

*Lord we remember all those who have died amongst our families and friends
It is hard to lose someone you love
But in our sadness, we remember that they are safe with you
We believe that that life
is merely changed not ended, that those
we love are still with us*

*We remember all those who have died in war
Help us work for peace
Help us remember that peace begins in our own lives
Help us to treat people fairly and work for justice*

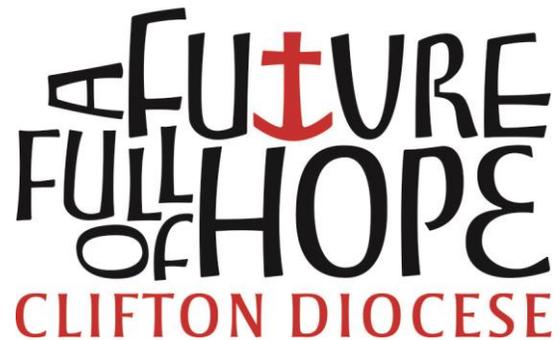
*Help us Lord to remember that you walk with us
Help us to build your kingdom*

In Catholic life November is called the **month of the Holy Souls**. It begins with All Saints day (1st Nov) and All Souls day (2nd Nov). November reminds us of the following things:

- Catholics do not believe that death is an end. We believe that we will be with God. Our hope is always in God.
- Those who die are still part of our families. They still need our prayers.
- We all make mistakes, we all at times hurt others, we need to be aware of that fact. We need to be aware of our need of God.
- Saints are not perfect people, but they are people who understand their need of God and want to live as fully as possible for God.

- When we pray for those who have died that we do not know then we are also reminding ourselves of those who suffer in this world and the need to do something about it.
- We reflect and think about our own future and about all those who have gone before us and are now with the Lord.
- Pope Francis has said: “The faith we profess in the resurrection makes us *men and woman of hope*, not despair, men and women of life, not death, for we are comforted by the promise of eternal life, grounded in our union with the risen Christ. This *hope*, rekindled in us by the word of God, helps us to be trusting in the face of death. Jesus has shown us that death is not the last word; rather, the merciful love of the Father transfigures us and makes us live in eternal communion with him. A fundamental mark of the Christian is a sense of anxious expectation of our final encounter with God.”
- Death is an uncomfortable subject at times, but it is a reality of our lives. It is right to celebrate our belief in the resurrection in school at this time.
- A service for November can be found in the Chaplaincy newsletter.

A Future Full of Hope



The Year of Prayer begins in Advent. The Bishop will be presenting documentation to schools and parishes on 27th November in Clifton Cathedral. Details of schools’ proposals for the Year of Prayer will be shared with Chaplains on the Chaplains Day on 15th November. Please try to see your school is represented. Please contact Graham for further details of this day.

Chaplaincy Commissioning 30th November

Full details of this are in the Chaplaincy Newsletter. Please make sure you have read this.

New Outcomes in RE

Most schools seem to be successfully using the new outcomes. For those schools using God Matters I would like schools to send me at the end of the Advent module 3 pieces of work from year 6 and year 2. One piece at greater depth, one at age related outcomes and one piece you consider working towards. If you do not have any greater depth, then don't worry it may take time to get there. Please send by post and remove all pupil names before sending but mark each piece with the level you think appropriate.

I would like to build up a portfolio of work that can go on the website. I will be looking at this work on 15th January, so I need the work by then. If any of you would like to work with me in moderating this work, then you are welcome to join me on the 15th. This will be a morning from 10 to 12.30. Please however let me know in advance if you are planning on coming. For those of you using 'Come and See' the outcomes for the Spring term will be on the website in early December.

The CCRS continues on Saturday 19th January and then again on the following Monday. New people are always welcome. Please consult the course booklet for details.

The Modular Course

The expectation of the diocese is that **all coordinators will either hold the CCRS or have attended this course.** (Others are invited.) Please consult the course booklet for full details. (It can be fun, and I hope it is interesting!)

Resources

For Remembrance Day

- Pax Christi has a useful pack of ideas for teachers about creating a culture of peace. There is a special section for primary schools. Please go to <http://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-education/primary-schools/> and look at some of the ideas there.

For Advent

- **Advent Extra.** This is produced by Redemptorist Press. It contains 28 daily reflections with children's activities and a pull-out Advent Calendar. A useful resource for teachers. It costs £2.25 Please go to www.rpbooks.co.uk to order. Also, from redemptorist press **Advent and Christmas Wisdom from Pope Francis (£8.50)** might be a useful source of reflection for staff whilst **Stations of the Nativity (£9.99)** might be a thoughtful way to approach the season. **Bambinelli Sunday: A Christmas Blessing by Amy Welborn (£9.95).**
- Bambinelli Sunday is the 3rd Sunday in Advent and children take the figure of Jesus from their crib to Rome to be blessed by the Pope. It is about considering what is it we are truly waiting for at Christmas and this little story is of one boy's journey through Advent.

- Try <http://www.vision4life.org.uk/index.php/bible-year/seasonal-selection/advent-resources/> This is intended for adults to be part of a Bible study course but it could be adapted. Specifically, the section called Mary's Yes provides lots of material that KS2 could use in thinking about Mary and the people around her.
- Cafod their interactive Advent calendar is on line now as well as many prayers and liturgies.
- If you go to <http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/SOS/index.shtml> you will find past editions of 'Spirit of the Season' newsletter from the liturgy office. If you click on any year and go to Advent you will find lots of useful notes and ideas. This year Advent begins Cycle C, so it is these readings you need to look up and use.
- If you go to the Mission Together Website <http://missiontogether.org.uk/advent/> you will find lots of useful stuff including some activities for young children like making Angels or peace paper chains.
- **For Liturgy**
There are a series of books called '**Celebrating the Lectionary- Supplementary Lectionary Based Resource**'. The books are aimed at different age groups and look at the Sunday liturgy. They include Gospel reflections and activities. These could be a very useful bank of information and ideas. You may want to note however that they are expensive. Each book retails at about £25. To cover the whole Lectionary Cycle you would need to buy 3 different years. Oddly they take the school year not the liturgical year as their basis. They are American and occasionally the language reflects this, and primary would probably need the Kindergarten version as well. (The books reflect the American school system - ages are slightly different). They are available from <http://www.mccrimmons.com> (If only buying one make sure you get 2017-2018 this takes you to the end of the summer term. You would then need to buy 2018-2019.)

Thank you for all you do

*Ann Fowler
Deputy Director
Department for Schools & Colleges*

Basic Facts about Advent

- Advent marks the start of the liturgical year
- The word advent means coming, it refers to the second coming of Christ at the end of time as well as the coming of Christ into our world
- Advent begins 4 Sundays before Christmas- the earliest it can be is November 27th and the latest December 3rd so there are always 4 Sundays but not necessarily 4 weeks.
- The liturgical colour of Advent is purple –this indicates a penitential season-a time to change
- The 3rd Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday which means rejoice hence the change to the colour rose colour on this Sunday (Gaudete is the first word of the Entrance Antiphon at Mass: “Rejoice in the Lord always...”)
- Some of the themes running through Advent are Waiting, Preparation, Penitential, Expectation
- Advent isn’t simply marking a 2000-year-old event it celebrates a truth about God, that through Christ all might be reconciled to God. This is a process in which everyone now participates. We prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ 2000 years ago, we prepare to open our hearts to Christ now and we prepare for the second coming of Christ in the future.
- We are building the kingdom, and we anticipate its completion, scripture readings in Advent therefore anticipate the second coming and reflect the themes of choice, judgement and eternal life. These are not necessarily easy themes for children
- The last week of Advent leads us to the O Antiphons. These are based round the O Antiphons which are normally used by the church in the last week of Advent. The complete O Antiphons are:

O wisdom	in Latin Sapientia
O Ruler or Lord	in Latin Adonai
O Root of Jesse	in Latin Radix
O key of David	in Latin Clavis

O Rising Dawn	in Latin Oriens
O king (of all)	in Latin Rex
O God with us	in Latin Emmanuel

ERO CRAS: Tomorrow I shall be here

The O antiphons are used to build up a sense of expectation and waiting. In the church they are used in the last week of Advent but in school you could use them before. Attached is an example of how these traditional prayers could be adapted.



Wisdom: Cards with life situations appropriate to the age group, blank cards, the wisdom prayer and bands with WWJD on. (Note in the traditional symbol for wisdom used one possible explanation of the symbolism would be: the circle represents God and his everlasting care, the triangle me, God and his guidance through the spirit and the eye represents my ability to discern the will of God) Bands with WWJD (What would Jesus Do) are obtainable from e bay and amazon amongst others)



O Wisdom

***“O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High,
Pervading and permeating all creation, mightily ordering all
things:
Come and show us how to live.”***

Chose a card and read the description found there.

Does this apply to your life in anyway? (For young children you may want to have one child read out the card then ask them to think about whether that situation applies to their own lives.)

In this situation **What Would Jesus Do?**

Reflect on this for a few moments, are you doing the right thing? Are you allowing God to speak to you in your life?

Take a blank card. On it describe or draw an image of a situation you need guidance with in your life?

Ask for God’s help by saying the following prayer:

***Come O Wisdom come, come into my life.
Help me make the right decisions and take the right action
Help me to choose the path that leads to you.***

As you leave take a band to remind you of the presence of Jesus in every situation in your life.

<p>You see images of people suffering through hunger/poverty/war/disaster. You feel sorry for them. How far do you go in helping? Do you Pray? Do you give a little? Do you give so that it affects your life? What would Jesus do?</p>	<p>There is someone in your life that you don't get on with. How do you respond? By ignoring them? By arguing? By trying to get to know them? What would Jesus do?</p>
<p>People are gossiping. Do you join in? Do you pass the gossip on? Do you stay out of it? What would Jesus do?</p>	<p>You are worried about the future in some way, illness, money, job, relationships. How do you deal with your fears? Do you pray? Do you do nothing? Do you let the fear affect you? Do you talk to others? What would Jesus do?</p>
<p>Someone you know is doing something you don't approve of or don't think is right. Do you tell them what you think? Do you support them anyway? Do you stop seeing them? What would Jesus do?</p>	<p>Someone has hurt you, badly. Do you forgive them? Forgive them if they say sorry? Hold a grudge against them? Get your own back? What would Jesus do?</p>
<p>Your friends have more than you do. Do you feel jealous? Do try to live as they do? Does it make you discontented with your own life? Are you able to be happy with what you have? What would Jesus do?</p>	<p>Your parents/ family live a distance from you, they want to see you, but it means giving up weekends/holidays. Do you go visit anyway? Put them off with vague promises? Phone and tell them how busy you are? What would Jesus do?</p>