

Spring 2026

Saint Mary's RC Primary School Religious Life Newsletter



Our mission statement

Our School Mission Statement



We live learn and grow together with
Jesus through:

- Showing **love** to all
- Encouraging **friendship** to include everybody
- Acting with **honesty** through prayer
 - Being **thankful** for all God's gifts
 - Remaining **respectful** through our actions
 - Forgiving** someone when they are sorry
- Displaying **patience** by being calm and caring
 - Demonstrating **compassion** to everyone in God's family
- Leading in **service** by supporting our school community

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Catholic Life and Mission

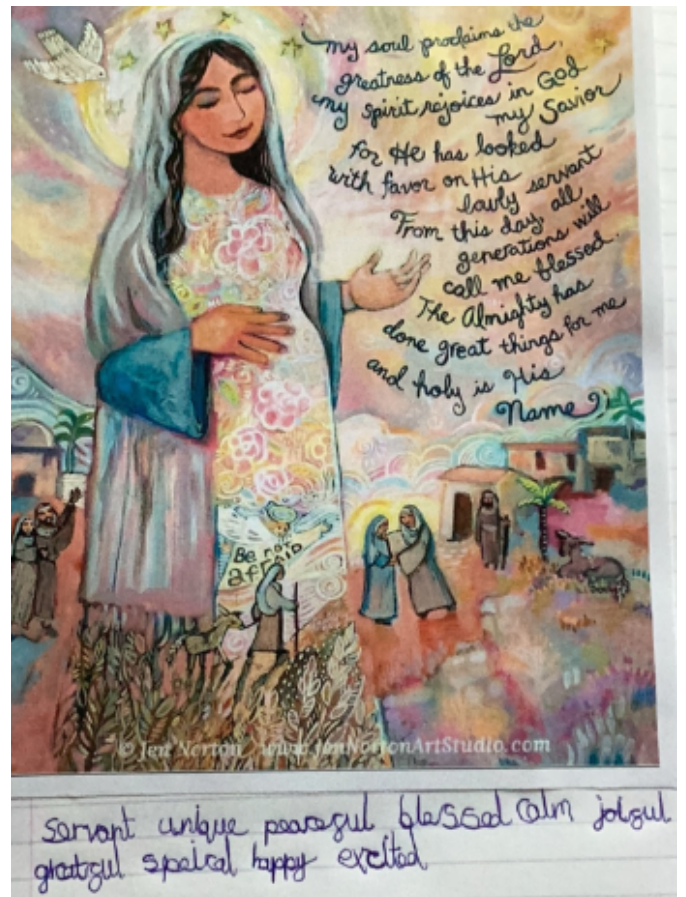
- We began the year of 2026 by collecting items for our local baby bank, Snowdrop Doula in Accrington. People were very generous and donated prams, baths, cot beds, toys and toiletries. The charity were shocked by how much we collected and were very grateful
- CARITAS mornings continue to take place every four weeks in school. These are morning where we focus on Catholic social teaching and how we can reach out to others like Jesus did
- In January, some of our pupil GIFT Team attended the viewing of the relics of St Carlo Acutis. The children had a fascinating time and were so inspired that on their return they produced a leaflet for others
- We all came together in February to think about how God loves us and how he is the perfect example of love. Each pupil made a clay heart to form part of a display in school
- Lent began and we attended a Mass in Church. We turned our thoughts to prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We challenged every class to fundraise for a charity or organisation of their choice., we raised money for Saint Joseph's Penny, the prayer leaders gave Lenten reflections to each class and we took part in the heart to heart campaign for loneliness
- During Lent we also held a competition to write a new school prayer. We had some great entries but the winner was Hallie Baldwin- well done!



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Religious Education

- All classes in school are now teaching from the new RE scheme Lighting the Path. The scheme is heavily based on Bible stories and will build on pupils' knowledge of these as they move through the years
- We are adding elements of Holy small world- small peg dolls to represent the stories for pupils and bring them to life. This also makes the stories more accessible for all pupils
- In January we all looked at the Epiphany and took home blessed chalk to write the Epiphany blessing on our doors at home. This act reinforced the Bible story the children know well
- We are working on making the curriculum as creative as possible to engage all pupils



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Collective Worship

- We continue to attend Mass when arranged with Father O'Brien. The children really enjoy going to Mass and it really helps bring to life the learning in their RE curriculum
- Celebration of the Word takes place three times per week. On Monday the whole school gather first thing to hear Mrs Wolstenholme introduce the Gospel from Sunday. On Tuesday, class teachers lead a Celebration of the Word in class, again, on the theme of the Gospel. Later that week, pupils have the chance to lead their own Celebration of the Word on a topic of their choice allowing for spontaneous prayer
- The GIFT Team continue to read at Masses and in Monday Celebration of the Word. They also plan and deliver a Family Worship almost every month looking at the liturgical year
- Prayer leaders in school support the prayer life of us all by guiding us on our prayer journey
- Staff attended an INSET before February half term by Gregg Finn from Mark 10 Mission. This was really inspiring and helped us all as staff develop our liturgies and practice

