



# Catholic Schools Week 2019

Catholic Schools: Celebrating the Work of Our Local Catholic Schools

## Catholic Schools: Celebrating the Work of Our Local Catholic Schools 27 January - 3 February 2019

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‘An education in the  
fullness of humanity  
should be the  
defining feature of  
Catholic schools’

Pope Francis





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## Catholic Preschool and Primary Religious Education Curriculum for Ireland (Level 2)

CHRISTIAN FAITH	PRAYER AND LITURGY
<p><b>Mystery of God</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God sent Jesus to show us how much he loves us and to teach us how to love others (LG 3; RDEC, 80; Jn 17:21).</li> </ul> <p><b>Mystery of Jesus Christ</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus showed us God's love (1 Jn 4:9).</li> <li>• Jesus taught his disciples how to pray (Mt 6:9-13; Lk 11:1-4).</li> </ul> <p><b>Mystery of the Church</b> (family: domestic Church, community: local Church)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God's family includes people of every age, race, culture and ability (CCC 775).</li> <li>• Catholics come together to worship as a community in the parish (CCC 1069, 1071, 2179).</li> <li>• Introduce the Pope as the visible head of the Church on earth (CCC 880-82; 936-37).</li> <li>• Explore the Catholic school as part of the Church community. What happens in our Catholic school. Patron Saint of the School.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other Religious Traditions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are members of one human family and community on earth.</li> <li>• Each person is unique and precious in God's sight.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Prayer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Praying is listening and talking to Jesus (GDC 139).</li> <li>• In the 'Our Father' Jesus taught his followers how to pray (CCC 2607).</li> <li>• Catholics have customs and traditions to remind them that God is present in all of life (e.g. making Brigid's crosses) (CCC 1180; CCC 1674).</li> </ul> <p><b>Formal Prayer (from Level 1)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign of the Cross</li> <li>• Glory be to the Father</li> <li>• Hail Mary (CCC 2676)</li> <li>• Our Father (CCC 2759)</li> <li>• Morning Prayer</li> <li>• Night Prayer</li> <li>• Grace before and after meals</li> <li>• Prayer to the Guardian Angel</li> </ul> <p><b>Sacraments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus asked his followers to forgive (RP 12). We remember this when we pray the Our Father</li> </ul> <p><b>Mass</b></p> <p>4. Praise and Thanksgiving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mass: a special time for saying thank you to God the Father for everything and especially for the gift of Jesus.</li> </ul>
WORD OF GOD	CHRISTIAN MORALITY
<p><b>Bible</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God speaks to us through the Bible which is the Word of God (DV 11-13; 21-26).</li> </ul> <p><b>Jesus' Public Life (CCC 543-56; 857-62)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mt 4:23-5. Jesus and the sick.</li> <li>• Mk 1:29-31. Cure of Simon's mother-in-law.</li> <li>• Mk 5:21-24; 35-43. Jairus' daughter.</li> <li>• Lk 19:1-10. Zacchaeus.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Human Dignity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God's plan is that all people would love and respect one another and be happy together.</li> </ul> <p><b>Social Teaching of the Church</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus cared for creation.</li> <li>• Each person has a responsibility to care for the environment (CCC 373; 2402, 2456; RH 15).</li> <li>• God gave us the intelligence and skill to care for the earth.</li> </ul>



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## Monday: Living Tradition of Our Catholic School

28 January 2019

*Let us thank all those who teach in Catholic schools.  
Educating is an act of love; it is like giving life.*

Pope Francis tweet, 1 March 2014



### ► Consider: Our Catholic School

- What is the name of our school?
- Is it named after a saint or holy person? (If not investigate the name of the parish church)
- What does our school look like?
- What makes our school special?
- List all the different groups/people you would find in our school?

### ► Prayer moment

Let us take a moment to remember all the people in our school. (pause)

When we talk to God, we pray.

We begin by blessing ourselves: In the name of the Father...  
(Repeat after teacher)

*Loving God, hear our prayer;*

*Keep everyone in our school in your loving care*

*Today and always.*

*Amen.*

### ► Explore: How we belong in our school

- List all the different activities that we take part in during the day.
- Recall events/activities that we are involved in as a whole school/class group.
- Consider our favourite activities.
- Who might visit our school?
- How do we treat each other in our school? at play? outside? in the classroom?
- How do we treat the environment in our school?

### ► Reflect

In our Catholic school we learn to live like Jesus. We remember what Jesus has taught us about loving God our Father. When we love each other we are sharing God's love. Jesus teaches us to be kind and helpful.

He teaches us to always show respect to each other and to the world that God has created for us.

Every day we pray. When do we pray in our school?

What is your favourite prayer?

Jesus taught us to pray to God our Father.

We pray together:

Our Father, who art in heaven ...

### ► Act

Recall the children's favourite story about Jesus.

You may wish to choose from the following:

#### Grow in Love, 1st Class:

- Jesus Heals a Man who is Paralysed (Mt 9:1-2, 6-8; Mk 2:1-4, 10-12) Theme 2, Lesson 3
- The Boy Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:41-50), Theme 4, Lesson 1
- Jesus Visits Martha and Mary (Lk 10:38-42) Theme 6, Lesson 2

#### Grow in Love, 2nd Class:

- Cure of Simon's Mother-in-Law (Mk 1: 29-31), Theme 2, Lesson 2
- Jairus' daughter (Mk 5:21-24; 35-43), Theme 2, Lesson 3
- Zacchaeus (Lk 19:1-10), Theme 5, Lesson 2

Write, print or draw your favourite prayer, decorate it and display it.

Pray your favourite prayer at home and at school.



**Teacher Tip:** Investigate if the children are familiar with a variety of prayers that they may have learned at home or in the parish.

# My favourite prayer is...



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## Tuesday: Welcoming Diversity in our Catholic School

### 29 January 2019

*Dialogue, in fact, educates when the person relates with respect, esteem and sincere listening, and is expressed with authenticity without obscuring or softening one's own identity nourished by evangelical inspiration ... Schools and universities are called to teach a method of intellectual dialogue aimed at seeking the truth.*

Pope Francis, February 9 2017



#### ► Consider: Our welcoming in school.

Jesus teaches us that we are called to share God's love with everyone. In our Catholic school everyone is treated with respect and dignity. Think of how we treat the people in our school. What words do we use?



Pope Francis, who visited Ireland last August, reminds us to always say 'please', 'thank you' and 'I am sorry'. This week we will try to use these words every day.

#### ► Prayer moment

We bless ourselves: In the name of the Father...

(Repeat after teacher)

Loving God, hear our prayer;

Help us to always use kind words

Today and always. Amen.

#### ► Explore

Let's learn a new language!

Ask parents and guardians to share their knowledge of different languages.

English	please	thank you	I am sorry
Gaeilge	le do thoil	go raibh maith agat	ta brón orm
Polish	proszę	Dziękuję Ci	przepraszam
Arabic	raja رجاء	shukraan شكرا	'iinaa asif انا اسف
Filipino	pakiusap	salamat	patawad
Chinese	请 Qǐng	谢谢 Xièxiè	对不起 Duìbùqǐ
Lámh			



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## ▶ Reflect

Think about all the times today we can say please, thank you and I am sorry.

## ▶ Act

**Sing** 'I'm Sorry God' (Grow in Love, 2nd Class, Theme 5)

**Watch** the video on the life of Pope Francis on [www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/Pope-Francis/Pope-Francis](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/Pope-Francis/Pope-Francis)

Pray Hail Mary using actions (Grow in Love, Teacher Manual, 1st Class p.99; 2nd Class, p.107)

**Draw** a picture of you saying please, thank you or I am sorry.

**Teacher note:** explain to the pupils how they might use speech bubbles.

Make a collage/word web of all the kind words and phrases that are heard in your school.





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## Thursday: Our Catholic School in Service of our Community

### 31 January 2019

*Growth in holiness is a journey in community, side by side with others.*

Gaudete et Exsultate (141)



#### ➤ Consider: The Community we Live In

A community is a group of people who live together and care for each other. Make a list of all the different people who care for us in our community. Chat about how they show that they care for us.

#### ➤ Prayer moment

In the name of the Father...

(Repeat after teacher)

God our Father,

Thank you for all the people who care for me in our community.

Help me to show that I care for them too.

Amen.

#### ➤ Explore

We also care for others in our community.

In our family we are loving and respectful.

In our school community we are kind and helpful.

In our parish community we pray for each other and celebrate together in the church.

Explore how we care for:

- each other in the community groups that the children may belong to.
- those who are not part of our local community (e.g. donations, prayers, fundraising).
- the environment (e.g. Green Flag initiatives, litter pick, recycling etc)

#### ➤ Reflect

We also belong to a special community that is called God's family.

At Mass, God's family comes together to say thank you for the gift of Jesus.

When is Mass celebrated in your community?

We also say thank you when we pray. When do we pray? Who do we pray for?

What will we thank God for today?

**Teacher Tip:** you may wish to revise the daily prayers eg. Morning Prayer, Grace before and after Meals, Night Prayer, etc.

#### ➤ Act

Sing 'Circle of Friends' (Grow in Love, 1st Class, Theme 2; 2nd Class, Theme 1)

Watch the video on *Laudato Si: Care for our Common Home* on

<https://vimeo.com/140633325>

Draw, write about, make a collage of how you care for your community.

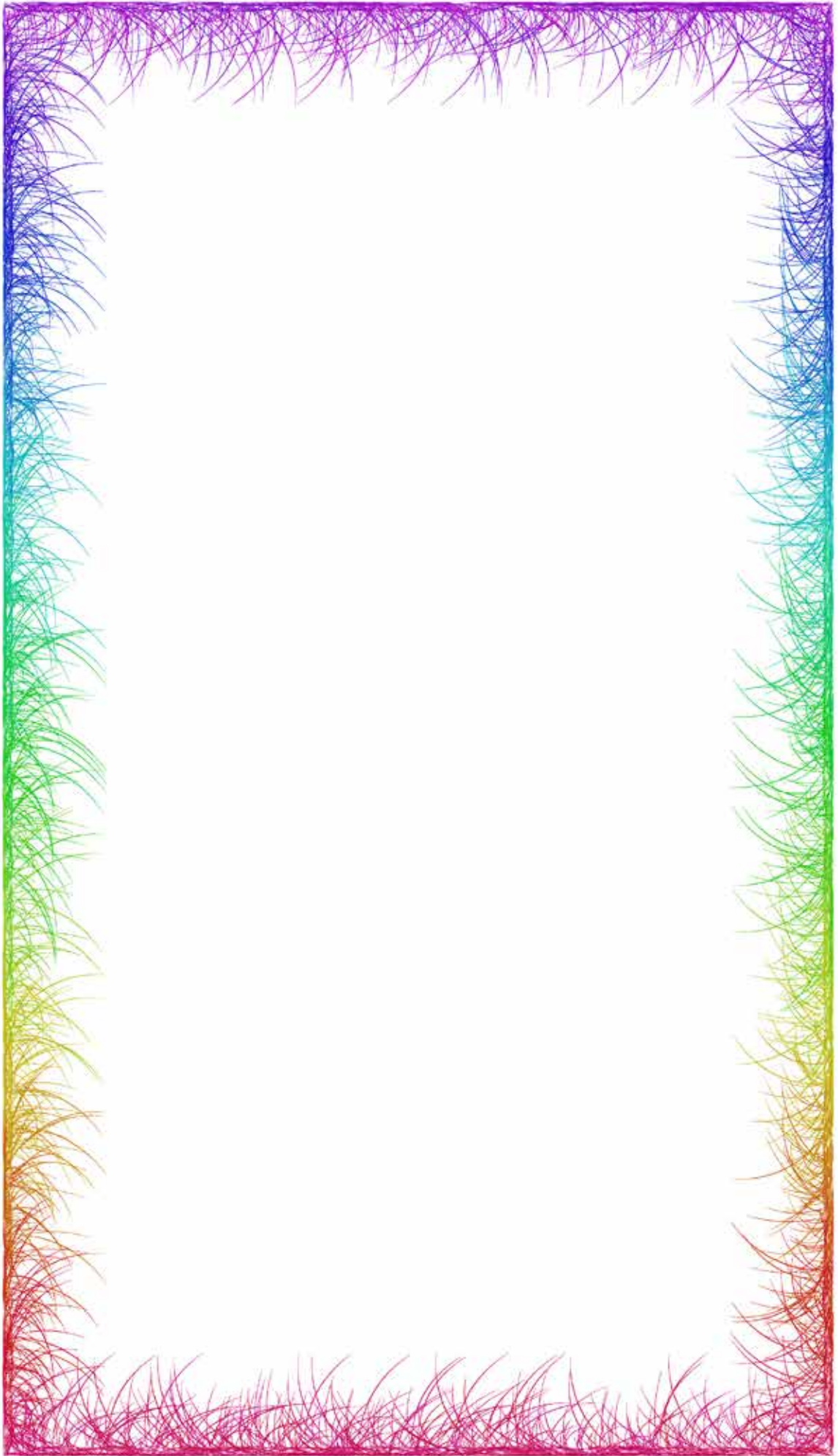


# I care for my community...



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## Friday: Supporting Faith in Our Catholic School

### 1 February 2019, Feast of St Brigid

*Faith makes us open to the quiet presence of God at every moment of our lives, in every person and in every situation. God is present in every one of you, in each one of us.*

Pope Francis, New York, September 2015



#### ▶ Consider: When something very special happens we celebrate.

There are lots of different ways of celebrating.

- Chat to each other about something that you celebrated.
- What do we celebrate?
- When do we celebrate?
- Who do we celebrate with?
- Where do we celebrate?

#### ▶ Prayer moment

In the name of the Father...

(Repeat after teacher)

God our Father,

Thank you for all the times we celebrate.

Bless those who do not celebrate.

Amen.

#### ▶ Explore

Today we celebrate St Brigid's feast day.



**Teacher Tip:** Recall what the children know about St Brigid.

- Can you remember other feast days or holy days that we celebrate?
- How do we celebrate feast days and holy days?
- (e.g. pray/sing/symbols/visit church/prayer service/ritual/Mass/customs/traditions etc.)

#### ▶ How do we celebrate St Brigid's feast day?

What feast days or holy days do we celebrate on the following dates?

- 17 March?
- 25 March?
- 25 December?
- 4 October?
- 1 November?
- 14 February?
- School's/parish's patron saint feast day?

#### ▶ Act

**Sing** 'A Song to Brigid' (Grow in Love, 2nd Class, Seasonal Lesson 4)

Go on a class walk to investigate the signs of spring.

**Pray to St Brigid.**



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## Colour the picture of St Brigid

