

## **Religious Education Curriculum Focus Areas - PREP**



During the year the students will engage in units of work based on these focus areas. Class teachers will advise which units are being covered in the Term Overview, distributed at the start of each term.

### **How do we live in our school community? What is our school community like? What do we do together in our classrooms and in our school?**

Students learn more about rules, covenants, prayer, the Church building, celebrations, and rituals. They share significant family symbols.

### **Why do we remember the Easter story?**

What stories do we hear and see in our school or Church? Students are introduced to the liturgical season of Lent and the story of Easter. They explore how Jesus was a Jew with his own family and friends, and how he suffered, died and rose again.

### **Who made the world? How do we live in our world today?**

What stories tell about how the world was created? Students explore the creation story and identify God as the creator of all. They develop an understanding that the Bible is a sacred book to Christians and that Jewish people remember the story of creation through Shabbat.

### **How can I be like Jesus in the world? What do the stories of the Bible tell us about making good choices?**

Students explore Jesus' message of love, compassion and forgiveness through the story of the Good Samaritan. How do we make good choices in our lives? Students explore the idea that God created people with freedom to choose right or wrong. Students engage in the story of the story of the Ten Lepers.

### **How can we share the story of Jesus' birth? How is the birth of Jesus remembered in the Church?**

Students explore the infancy narratives through comparing and contrasting the accounts in Matthew and Luke. They learn how this story fits into the liturgical year in the season of Advent.

## **Religious Education Curriculum Focus Areas – Year 1**



During the year the students will engage in units of work based on these focus areas. Class teachers will advise which units are being covered in the Term Overview, distributed at the start of each term.

### **Who is Jesus? What was his message and his mission?**

Students explore Jesus' mission and ministry through an exploration of Gospel stories about his life. Students also explore aspects of Jewish daily life in the time of Jesus, including the importance of prayer.

### **What does the Easter story tell us about Jesus? What was he saying and doing in these stories of Holy Week?**

By comparing different versions of the Easter story, students identify similarities and differences between accounts of key events, characters and teachings of Jesus.

### **How can the Sacraments help us know what God is like?**

Students learn about the Sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist. They explore the words, actions and symbols associated with the Sacraments and how they communicate God's presence. With an integrated focus on personal and communal prayer, students also learn about the different roles in the local parish community.

### **How do we live in harmony with God's plan for creation?**

Students explore the wisdom of some Old Testament stories to understand God's presence in the lives of individuals and communities and connect these to their own experiences. They are challenged to look at how they can take responsibility for their own actions and reach out to help others at home, at school and in the local community.

### **How do we remember Mary?**

Students explore the importance of Mary as mother of Jesus. They recognise ways in which Catholics honour Mary through prayer, images and music.

Through the exploration of the Hail Mary, students learn about, participate and engage in meditative prayer.

## **Religious Education Curriculum Focus Areas – Year 2**



During the year the students will engage in units of work based on these focus areas. Class teachers will advise which units are being covered in the Term Overview, distributed at the start of each term.

### **Who is God and who are His people? Understanding covenant through stories of the Old Testament.**

How is the nature of God revealed in the Old Testament? What does God promise His people? What is a covenant? How does God want us to act? Students explore God's relationship with the Jewish people as described in Old Testament texts and make connections to their own lives.

### **What is the story of our Church?**

Students examine the history of Holy Spirit Church in the development of the local community and explore the lives of the Mercy Sisters and their relationship with our school.

### **What does Jesus teach us about God? Forgiveness and Healing.**

Students recognise God as loving and forgiving. They identify choices that harm loving relationships and investigate ways people seek to heal relationships through reconciliation. This will include learning about Catholic Christian traditions including the Sacrament of Penance and prayers for forgiveness.

### **What is our role as caretakers of creation?**

How are we called to be co-creators and stewards of God's creation? Students look at the sacredness of life and their responsibilities. They explore how to nurture their relationships with God, others and creation.

### **What does Jesus want for our Church community today?**

By exploring the teachings and actions of Jesus in New Testament texts, students develop a greater understanding of Jesus' mission and ministry in

bringing about the Kingdom of God. They make connections to the lives of the saints and the way people live in community today.

### **Religious Education Curriculum Focus Areas – Year 3**

During the year the students will engage in units of work based on these focus areas. Class teachers will advise which units are being covered in the Term Overview, distributed at the start of each term.



#### **How is God’s relationship with people revealed in the stories of the Old Testament?**

Students explore images of God in the stories of the Old Testament (such as God as potter, mother, Creator) and in the Psalms. They learn about how Jesus would have grown up with stories from the Torah highlighting the special relationship between the Jewish people and God.

#### **How do we experience God in the created world?**

Students recognise God’s presence and action in daily life through the created world. They identify the diversity of God’s created world and the order and harmony of creation and link these to prayers of praise and thanksgiving. They explore the relationships that exist in the created world.

#### **How is the life and message of Jesus remembered in the Sacraments of the Church?**

The Sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation remember key stories in the life of Jesus, and through them, people are welcomed and strengthened in the Church community. Students explore the sights, sounds and actions of the Sacraments of Initiation and discover how members of the parish and Diocese support Sacraments in the local Church community.

#### **How can we live a ‘good’ life? What does Scripture say about making good decisions?**

By exploring the Decalogue and Beatitudes, students recognise how Jesus’ messages continue to be relevant for people today. They investigate how individuals and groups (within and beyond the parish) have put their faith into action in the world.

#### **Who is Jesus in the Gospels? Christians believe that Jesus is the Messiah.**

Students explore the cultural contexts in which the Gospels were written and the text types used by the human authors of New Testament texts. They use the information about texts to discuss ideas about the life and teaching of Jesus, including the Christian belief that Jesus is the Messiah.

#### **Religious Education Curriculum Focus Areas – Year 4**



During the year the students will engage in units of work based on these focus areas. Class teachers will advise which units are being covered in the Term Overview, distributed at the start of each term.

#### **What does it mean to be community? What does it mean to be a faith community? How do we live in community?**

Students explore the significance of community through a focused look at the Decalogue and the wisdom of St Paul. What rules do communities need? How did early Church communities in Australia live? How did Jewish communities live in first century Palestine? How are the messages and actions of Jesus lived in the Church today?

#### **How does the Bible work? How do the different stories and texts in the Old Testament help us understand God?**

Students investigate the structure of the Bible to become familiar with the referencing system and variety of books and text types in the Old and New Testaments.

#### **What's in a parable? How do the stories of the New Testament help us to understand who Jesus is?**

The books of the New Testament contain a variety of text types such as parables, miracle stories and narratives. Understanding the text types, as well as the world behind and of the text, helps readers better understand God's Word. The Bible's referencing system helps us to locate books, people and places in the Bible.

#### **How do Christians explain what God is like?**

Students explore the Christian understanding of Trinity as seen in scripture passages that recount the actions of God the Father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit.

### **Religious Education Curriculum Focus Areas – Year 5**



During the year the students will engage in units of work based on these focus areas. Class teachers will advise which units are being covered in the Term Overview, distributed at the start of each term.

#### **How do people live the experience of their faith week to week?**

Students explore how faith is shared and strengthened in communities of believers through personal and communal prayer and worship, including Eucharist, the Psalms and Sabbath rituals, prayers and the writings of Saints.

#### **How can the Holy Spirit move my world?**

Students investigate the action and names of the Holy Spirit as described in Scripture. They learn about the Sacrament of Confirmation through words, symbols and actions that link to the Holy Spirit and explore the gifts and fruits of the Spirit in the lives of believers.

#### **How do we remember Mary, the Mother of Jesus?**

Students explore what they can learn about Mary, mother of Jesus and mother of the Church through Marian prayers, the Rosary, litanies and the story of Mary in Scripture. They focus on using these for their own experience of meditative prayer.

#### **What does Jesus teach us?**

Believers live according to Jesus' new commandment of charity (love) and make and act upon informed moral choices. Formation of conscience with the Decalogue and Beatitudes as guiding scripture. Develop and explain a personal choice or action that demonstrates how Jesus' teaching can apply to the world today.

## **What did Catherine McAuley – Mercy Sisters teach us?**

Students locate and record information about the contribution of pioneering Catholics, particularly the Mercy Sisters and St Mary MacKillop in Australia, to the preservation of faith and the shaping of particular communities, including indigenous communities.

## **Religious Education Curriculum Focus Areas – Year 6**



During the year the students will engage in units of work based on these focus areas. Class teachers will advise which units are being covered in the Term Overview, distributed at the start of each term.

## **How can our understanding of Jesus help us to be better leaders?**

How do we make sense of the picture of Jesus? How can his 'light' inspire us to be better leaders? What is the relationship of the Trinity? Students explore how a deeper understanding of Jesus can support them as leaders of Holy Spirit School. The new law was given by Jesus is a law of love, grace and freedom.

## **What does it mean to live in communion?**

What is communion? How are we in communion with others in our class, our school? What is the communion of saints? As students investigate these questions they develop a deeper understanding of their connection to others.

## **What does it mean to be a prophet?**

Students explore key messages and understanding of the social, cultural and historical contexts of the Old Testament prophets with the support of biblical tools such as timelines, atlases and commentaries.

## **How have Catholics helped shape Australia through the action of the Holy Spirit?**

Students investigate the evidence of the Holy Spirit at work through the Sisters of Mercy in Australia and particularly the parish of New Farm. They focus on Jesus' New Law and the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, which are foundational to the Church's teaching about concern for the common good.

## **How do people live their faith through the year?**

As the students prepare to Holy Spirit School, they consider how they will continue to nurture their faith. They investigate how prayer and worship supports people of Christian and Jewish faiths through each year.