

# UNIT L – YEAR 6

## CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MARY & THE SAINTS

### ABOUT THE UNIT

In this unit we explore some of the Church's beliefs about the Blessed Virgin Mary and the feasts that are celebrated in her honour. The children will consider why her role in the life of Christ was so important. Children will also learn about Mary and the saints being united with Christ in heaven. They will explore devotions and prayers in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints.

### WHERE THE UNIT FITS IN

This unit builds on lots of previous work about the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the lives of the saints.

### PRIOR LEARNING

It would be helpful if the children have:

- some prior knowledge of Bible stories about Mary
- some prayers in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

### SKILLS

Research skills, discussion skills, writing skills, thinking skills.

### VOCABULARY

Mary, saints, Immaculate Conception, Our Lady, Assumption, Litany of the Saints.

### ASSESSMENT

**At the end of this unit:**

**Most children will** know about the Church's feasts in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary and understand why such importance is attached to them. They will know that Mary and the saints enjoy the life of heaven and will also know some of the Church's prayers to honour them.

**Less able children will** know about some of the feasts of the Church in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary and some of the Church's prayers asking her intercession.

**More able children will** have a greater understanding of what the Church is celebrating on some of the feasts in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary. They will know that Mary and the saints enjoy the life of heaven which God's People on earth hope to enjoy in the future. They will be able to recall prayers that honour the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints.

**A.T.1**      **A.T.2**

**4a**      **4a**

**4b**      **4b**

**4c**      **4c**

**4d**      **4d**

**3a**      **3a**

**3b**      **3c**

**3c**      **3d**

**5a**      **5a**

**5b**      **5b**

**5c**      **5c**

**5d**      **5d**



PROGRAMME OF STUDY	TEACHING STRATEGIES	LEARNING OUTCOMES	FURTHER DEVELOPMENT
<p><b>C12</b> A variety of prayers and prayer forms, formal and informal used for personal and community prayer.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catholics ask Mary and the saints to pray for them through a special prayer called the Litany of Saints.</li> <li>• Children to Create a Litany of Saints from some of the information they have researched about saints during the school year.</li>   <li>• Introduce the children to other forms of prayer and devotion to Mary the Mother of Jesus.</li> <li>• Explore the words of the Hail Holy Queen, Memorare and the Angelus.</li> <li>• What do we ask of Our Lady in these prayers?</li> <li>• Why do you think that it is important to pray these words?</li> <li>• Share with the children different images of Our Lady from religious art. Children to choose the one they like the best and make a drawing or painting of it. Write a reflection about the image and what it might remind us about Our Lady.</li> </ul>	<p><b>C12</b> Of some traditional prayers; of the variety of forms of prayer in the Church.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Know a range of Church prayers to honour Mary the Mother of Jesus.</li> <li>• Understand the meaning of some of the words in the prayers.</li> <li>• Be able to write their own prayers and reflections about the life of Mary.</li> </ul>	<p>Revise previous work from Year Four on the Rosary and expand the children's knowledge and understanding of the structure of the prayer.</p>

## **RELATED SCRIPTURE**

*Lk. 1: 26-38* – The Annunciation

*Lk. 1: 38-45* – The Visitation

*Mt. 1: 18-25* – The Birth of Jesus

*Lk. 2: 22-38* – The Presentation in the Temple

*Jn. 25-27* – Mary at the Cross

*Jn. 2: 1-12* – Mary at Cana

*Revelation 7: 2-4, 9-14* – The Saints and Eternal Life

*1 John 3: 13*

## **COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

- Use the litany prayers created as part of Collective Worship.
- Use some of the Marian prayers identified in the unit.
- Learn some hymns about the saints and Our Lady.

## **OTHER LINKS**

School-parish links with patron saints

Look at some of the images of Mary found in the church building.

## **EVALUATION**

**What went well?**

**Which areas of planning need to be developed/adapted next time?**

**What needs to be revisited/developed in a later unit?**