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| Policy for  |   |   |
| <h1>Prayer and Liturgy Policy</h1> <h2>22.24</h2> |   |   |
| Date of policy:                                   | September 2022                            | Committee:<br>Full Governing Body   |
| Next review:                                      | September 2024<br>Review period – 2 Years |   |

**Excellence For All Through Jesus' Love**

**MISSION:**

To aim high and achieve our God given potential as socially responsible citizens, loving one another as Jesus loves us.

**Aims of Collective Worship**

At St. Modwen's, we aim to provide high quality experiences of prayer and liturgy ensuring our children develop a comprehensive understanding of our Catholic Faith, in line with Gospel values which underpin the ethos of the school. We aim for pupils and staff to develop a good understand of Catholic Prayer life and its importance to our school and our faith. We aim to provide ample opportunities for prayer and spiritual development throughout school. We aim to increase our pupil's prayer portfolio, deepen their understanding of different types of prayer and equip them with the skills necessary to plan, deliver and evaluate class liturgies and individual prayer sessions. Celebrating our faith in all that we do and by our actions provide witness of God's love to the world.

**Legal requirements**

- Collective worship is a legal daily requirement which is distinct from curriculum time. For Catholic schools this requirement is made explicit within the Trust Deed of the Archdiocese of Birmingham which states:  
"Religious worship is to be in accordance with the rites, practices, discipline and liturgical norms of the Catholic Church. At all times the school is to serve as a witness to the Catholic Faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ."
- Parents reserved the legal right to withdraw their child from all or any part of Collective Worship.

**How we meet our aims**

**Principles**

All Acts of Worship in this school will:

- Give glory and honour to God based on Scripture.
- Follow the four-part planning format (gather, listen, respond, go forth).
- Be a quality activity, fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic character.
- Give children positive liturgical experiences, appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church giving children opportunities to plan prayer and liturgy.
- Foster pupil's personal relationship with God.
- Highlight the importance of prayer to the Catholic faith.
- Be appropriately paced.

## Organisation of Prayer and Liturgy

### Daily

- Four prayers said throughout the day (morning, before lunch, after lunch, home time). These prayers are on display in every classroom.
- RE lessons begin/end with a prayer from the list of prayers to be learnt in each year group.

### Weekly

|           |                         |              |                      |
|-----------|-------------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Monday    | Worship Assembly        | Whole School | 9:00-9:30            |
| Tuesday   | Singing through Praise  | Whole School | 9:00-9:30            |
| Wednesday | Wednesday Word Assembly | Whole School | 9:00-9:30            |
| Thursday  | Whole School Mass       | Whole School | 9:15-10:15           |
| Friday    | Class Liturgy           | Class        | Various (20 minutes) |

### Annual

- Remembrance Service
- Reconciliation Service during Advent and Lent led by parish priest.
- Carol Service (KS2)
- Easter Play (LKS2)
- Prayer Leaders in KS2 host prayer sessions at break times during Advent and Lent
- Stations of the Cross
- Year 6 Spiritual Retreat Trip
- Termly Spiritual Retreat days delivered by older pupils for younger pupils.

### Planning Class Liturgy and Prayer

- Prayer themes follow the religious calendar. Themes set by the diocese or parish are shared with staff and pupils by the senior leadership team at the beginning of each half term.
- Class Liturgies are planned using the diocesan template which all staff have access to via the Collect Worship folder on the schools shared drive. Pupils plan using the diocesan child-friendly template.
- Class teachers are responsible for weekly class liturgy planning. They train and support pupils to carry this out independently especially in KS2.
- Class teachers are responsible for gathering Collect Worship evidence from their own class. This is stored in the RE Journal.
- Monday's Mission assembly is led by the Headteacher every week.
- Wednesday Word assemblies are on a rota. In autumn term, teachers plan these assemblies together in year group pairs and later plan these independently. NQTs and new staff are supported through this process by the SLT.

### Mass

- Masses are timetabled every Thursday.
- Three Liturgy meetings take place each year with the Parish Priest (Father Stan), Headteacher and RE Subject Leader. At these meetings, the themes and readings for each Mass will be selected.
- A Mass rota is created and sent to all teaching staff.
- Teachers then take responsibility for their class Mass. This includes preparing pupils to read, writing an introduction and bidding prayers with their class, selecting suitable hymns, creating a Mass PowerPoint, setting up the altar etc. A checklist is provided and all staff are trained during

autumn term by the SLT. The parish priest is readily available to help in the planning of Mass at any stage.

### **Links to Parish and Parents**

- Celebration assemblies performed by each class to their parents. These are always rooted in prayer and liturgy.
- Carol Service.
- KS1/KS2 visit to the parish church.
- Year Group/ Phase Masses at the parish church.
- Prayer resources attached to the school newsletter to encourage family prayer.
- Sacramental programmes for Y3 and Y6 and their parents.

### **Prayer Areas/Sacred Spaces**

- All classrooms must have a prayer table, decorated and themed to match the religious calendar, it must be kept tidy and contain a Bible.
- Prayer areas (formally Prayers Under the Stairs) in each concourse (KS1/KS2).
- The school hall is used for the celebration of Mass, it must be tidy and decorated appropriately before any celebration.
- A prayer table must be a focal point in any assembly.

### **Resources**

- Prayer resources (clothes, candles, religious iconography) are stored in a central location on the KS2 concourse.
- Regular audits are carried out by the Prayer Leaders (pupils) under the supervision and direction of an SLT member.
- New resources are purchased when necessary.

### **Monitoring**

- Prayer and Liturgy monitoring is the responsibility of the Governors, the parish priest and the Headteacher (SLT).
- A monitoring schedule is agreed upon and shared with staff at the beginning of each term. This includes a mixture of observations, learning walks, planning monitoring and pupil and staff questionnaires.
- A termly progress report should be given to governors and discussed three times a year.
- The link governor should meet with the SLT termly to discuss the progress of Collective Worship at the school.

### **Inclusion and Health and Safety**

- The beliefs of all pupils and staff are respected.
- All pupils are encouraged to develop morally and spiritually.
- Collective Worship must be accessible to all pupils and the school is responsible for ensuring reasonable adjustments are in place to make this possible.
- Risk assessments and care plans are put in place to allow this to happen.

### **Review date**

This policy will be reviewed and updated in two years (September 2022). If Diocesan guidelines change, the review period will be brought forward.