

September 2025

ST AMBROSE PREPARATORY SCHOOL RE NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new academic year. This newsletter should provide some information about what we will be covering in Religious Education in the autumn term. This term we will be studying the first two branches of the Religious Education Curriculum.

AUTUMN 1 – BRANCH 1 CREATION AND COVENANT

In EYFS and Key Stage 1 the children will become increasingly familiar with Genesis, the creation story, and will learn about prayer, drawing them closer to God. They will begin to understand the importance of taking care of the world and the responsibility this brings.

In Key Stage 2, the children will deepen their knowledge and understanding of Scripture from the Book of Genesis. They will learn about Laudato Si and learn more about the intertwined relationships with God, our neighbour and with the Earth itself.

Suggestions for activities at home

Go on a nature walk and spot all the things that God created. Think of ways you can help the world and work together as a family to do this e.g. turning taps off while brushing teeth to save water. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Suggestions for activities at home

Discuss the story of Jesus' birth and the key people involved in it. Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent, e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree. Use the CAFOD or Missio websites to get a religious Advent calendar. Look out for the 'Travelling Nativity' bags which will go home with the children throughout Advent

AUTUMN 2 – BRANCH 2 PROPHECY AND PROMISE

In EYFS and Key Stage 1, the children will hear about the Annunciation, The Birth of Jesus and The Shepherds visiting Jesus. The children will become more familiar with these stories and be able to retell and describe the key events. They will learn about the significance of Advent and that during this season, we can show God's love by helping others. In Key Stage 2, the children will further develop their knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures of Jesus' birth. They will also learn Scripture passages from the Old Testament such as David's life and how Jesus is the fulfilment of the promise to David. They will build upon their knowledge of the signs, actions, prayers and symbols.

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Key Dates

START OF THE YEAR MASS – Friday 5th September 9.15am

HARVEST MASS – Monday 6th October 9.15am

ALL SAINTS (Saturday 1st November)

THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS) (2nd November) Throughout the rest of November we pray for those who have died. 'Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.'

Christ the King (23rd November)

ADVENT Mass – Monday 1st December 9.15am
Advent means 'coming'. We think of the coming of Jesus when he was born but we also think of his promise that he would come again at the end of time. It is a time of waiting and preparing. It is only in the last week of Advent that we focus upon the events to be celebrated at Christmas.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (8th December) This feast marks the first stage of the existence of Mary, the mother of Jesus. She was 'full of grace' from the very beginning and trusting in God throughout her life.

KS2 CAROL CONCERT – Tuesday 16th December 6pm

CHRISTMAS DAY, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (25th December) On this day we begin our celebration of the birth of Christ.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH (28th December)

Harvest

Can you help the foodbank? St Ambrose are aiming to collect some much-needed goods for the food bank in our local areas. We are asking that each child brings an item from the list below, by 3.10.25. All items will be gratefully received. Thank you for your support! Items needed: • Sweets • Jellies / jams • Rice pudding • Sponge pudding • Tinned spaghetti/ravioli • Tinned tomatoes/meat • Toilet rolls • Toothpaste / Toothbrushes • Shampoo/body wash • Nappies (any size) (Please ensure all items are in date)

Sacramental Programme

This year, children from Prep 1 and above who are baptised Catholics, are invited to prepare for the Sacraments of First Forgiveness and First Holy Communion.

In Autumn 2, We will be holding a meeting with the parents to talk through the programme, explain the importance of parental support and answer any questions you might have. The meeting will take place on Tuesday 4th November at 3.20pm.

Our Sacramental Programme preparation sessions will take place straight after school in the Prep 2 classroom until 4.00pm. The sessions will start the week commencing the 17th of November. The day for the Sacramental classes will be confirmed closer to the time.

Only children who have been baptised Catholic will be able to participate in the programme.