

In Week 10 all year levels will do a mini focus on the Easter Story looking at the significance of the events of Holy Week in the Church's liturgical year.

Term 1 Religion Overview for each year level:

Prep

During this term, students will explore ways in which believers pray together during special celebrations and rituals that mark important times in the life of believers and in the Church Year. The Church has important ways of praying together through celebrations and rituals, marking special times in the life of believers (e.g. Baptism, Eucharist) and in the Church year (the liturgical seasons). The Church building is a sacred place. Believers gather in the Church to pray, to be together and to celebrate various rituals (e.g. Baptism, Eucharist, Marriage). Unfortunately due to Covid-19 restrictions there is limited opportunity to take the students to Church but we hope that families may do so on a Sunday perhaps.

Year 1

In Term 1, our students will look at why Christians believe God is creator and sustainer of life and that all people therefore have a responsibility to care for creation. Morality is about living in accordance with God's plan for creation. God's gift of the freedom to make choices is to be used responsibly. Based in Scripture, the Church teaches that all people are created in the image of God. The Church teaches that all people have dignity and natural rights and deserve respect, regardless of their religious, social or ethnic background. God created human beings in God's own image, in order to form a loving relationship with them. God's plan is that people help each other to live safely and happily in community.

Year 2

During Term 1, our students will realise each parish community has its own past, which is revealed in many ways (for example in its priests and people, buildings, sites or parts of the natural environment). The Church community draws from the teachings and actions of Jesus (e.g. actions of Jesus: praying, forgiving and helping people in need; teachings of Jesus: love, justice and peace) to guide the way they live. The New Testament consists of 27 books that proclaim the life and teaching of Jesus and the early Christian Church. Knowledge of the historical, cultural and geographical context of the first century Mediterranean world assists the reader of the Gospels to better appreciate the life and times of Jesus. Jesus lived a truly human life. His mission and ministry was to preach and bring about the Kingdom of God, including through his teaching, healing, and forgiving.

Year 3

In Term 1, the students will look at how The New Testament is a collection of text types (e.g. Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, letters, other apostolic writings) which differ, depending on the intention and context of the human author. The intention of the human author is important in

determining the nature of the truth revealed in the text (e.g. historical truth, factual truth, religious truth). They will explore how the Scriptures provide a foundation for moral living, specifically the Decalogue, Beatitudes and the fruits of the Spirit. The Decalogue (Ten Commandments) is a guide for making moral decisions. Jesus' teaching in the Beatitudes provides a basis for Christian morality. It does not abolish the Decalogue but fulfils it, making clearer what is required of one who loves God. The fruits of the Spirit enable Christians to live a moral life. Jesus' great commandment requires Christians to respect basic human rights and acknowledge responsibilities. Concern for the poor and disadvantaged is a key message in Scripture (including Luke 4:16-21) and church teaching. They will also explore different types of prayer across the year. Meditative prayer uses silence and stillness to assist believers to listen and talk to God. There is a range of practices (including guided meditation and mindful listening) that help believers prepare the body and the mind for meditative prayer and engage in the 'work of meditation'.

Year 4

This term, our students are learning how to understand God's Word which is aided by an awareness of the books and text types of the New Testament. There are a variety of text types in the New Testament, each with particular textual features. The use of different language features (images, characters, setting, and vocabulary) in retelling key parables from the New Testament (e.g. Lost Sheep, Lost Coin, Two Sons) can assist the reader to make meaning of Scriptural teachings. The Bible's referencing system is structured according to book, chapter and verse. The contents and index of the Bible assist the reader to locate books, people, places and things. They will also explore how Scripture speaks of God in many ways but most significantly for Christians as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Christians name this understanding of God as Trinity.

Year 5

In Term 1, the students study pioneering Catholics who overcame challenges to preserve the faith of their fathers and mothers. Catholics took their place in colonial Australian society (c.1850 CE - c.1900 CE). Being Catholic in a new, free society raised challenges. Jesus makes charity (love) the new commandment: "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love...." "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you" (John 15: 9 - 17). Charity is the source and goal of Christian practice. Christian charity calls people to go beyond existing laws to care for the well-being of others. The wisdom of the saints, in particular St Mary of the Cross. MacKillop, helps people understand about caring for the wellbeing of others and the faith of the community of believers. This wisdom guides and gives strength to believers past and present.

Year 6

This term in Year 6, students will consider that Christians believe that faith is a virtue freely gifted by God. Faith is a free and personal response to God that is lived out in the life of the believer, including Jairus' daughter (Matthew 9:18-26//Mark 5:21-43//Luke 8:40-49). Spiritual and corporal works of mercy are foundational for understanding the Church's teaching about concern for the common good. Works of mercy are charitable actions at the service of others. The spiritual works of mercy are: instructing, advising, challenging injustice, consoling, comforting, forgiving, bearing wrongs patiently and praying for the living and the dead. The corporal works of mercy are: feeding

the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick and imprisoned, clothing the naked and burying the dead. Catholics helped form the new Australian nation (c.1900 CE to present). Catholics initially set themselves apart. A uniquely Australian Church emerged. New ways of being both Catholic and Australian were encouraged.