

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
AND SIXTH FORM



# RE TRANSITION BOOKLET

## **Our mission statement**

Holy Family is a Catholic community embracing the clear Christian values of respect, service and justice. We are a family of many cultures sharing one faith. We exist to educate young people towards excellence in all dimensions of their lives, recognising the uniqueness of each and the equality of all.

# THE HOLY FAMILY



Our school is named after the Holy Family which refers to **Jesus, Mary and Joseph**.

They are depicted on our school logo. The candle is a reminder that Jesus, as the **light of the world**, is with us and our families always. It is also a reminder that we are all part of **God's family**.

This booklet is designed to give you an idea of what is taught in RE at Holy Family and why it is important to us. There are a few activities too!

**You are expected to bring this booklet to your RE lessons when you join us in September.**

# Welcome to the Religious Education Department!

Religion is about life. We do religious studies in order to live a life with better direction and purpose. In order to find direction and purpose for our lives, we have to look at some big questions such as:

- What is our life for?
- How should we live?
- How should we relate to other people and our world?

In Key Stage 3, starting in September, we begin our studies together and will continue this as long as you are in Holy Family School. Our life is too important not to study R.E. Each lesson in the school should begin with a prayer, often that prayer is to learn from the lesson and bring that knowledge to our own lives. That's the whole purpose of R.E.

Our school was built for Catholic students to grow to become the best people they could be, both in education and in their spiritual life. So, in coming to answers the big questions of life, we are guided by the teaching of the Catholic Church, although much of this is common to all Christians.

We also welcome and respect people whose beliefs are different from those of the Catholic Church and as much as possible try to understand their different ideas. In fact many teachers in Holy Family come from other Christian traditions and other faiths, and some from no religious faith –

## ALL ARE WELCOME AT HOLY FAMILY!

We hope that when you come to an R.E. lesson that you can take some idea or insight away with you. The lesson should make you think, that thinking should lead to understanding and the understanding to gently shape your life. The school has generously provided many capable and knowledgeable teachers to teach and guide your lessons. That shows how much R.E. is valued. We hope that you will also see the value for yourself.

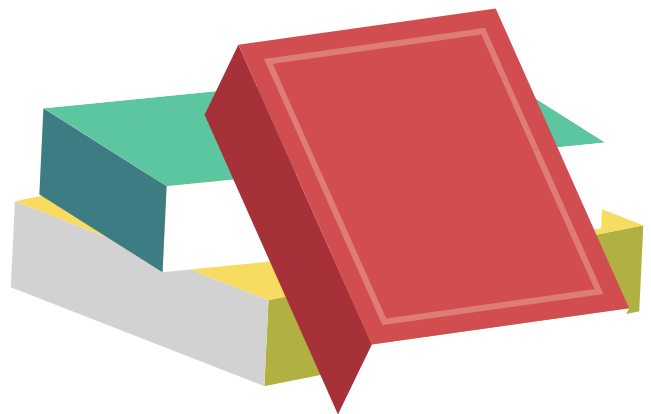
Oh, by the way... did you see our mission statement on the front cover?

We want you to learn this off by heart It's what makes us the HOLY FAMILY!

# What we teach in RE

## YEAR 7

- Being a member of the Holy Family; (our ways, our faith, our prayers and our saints)
- How to use the Bible
- Revelation & Faith
- The saviour
- The Church
- The Sacraments
- Christianity and other faiths



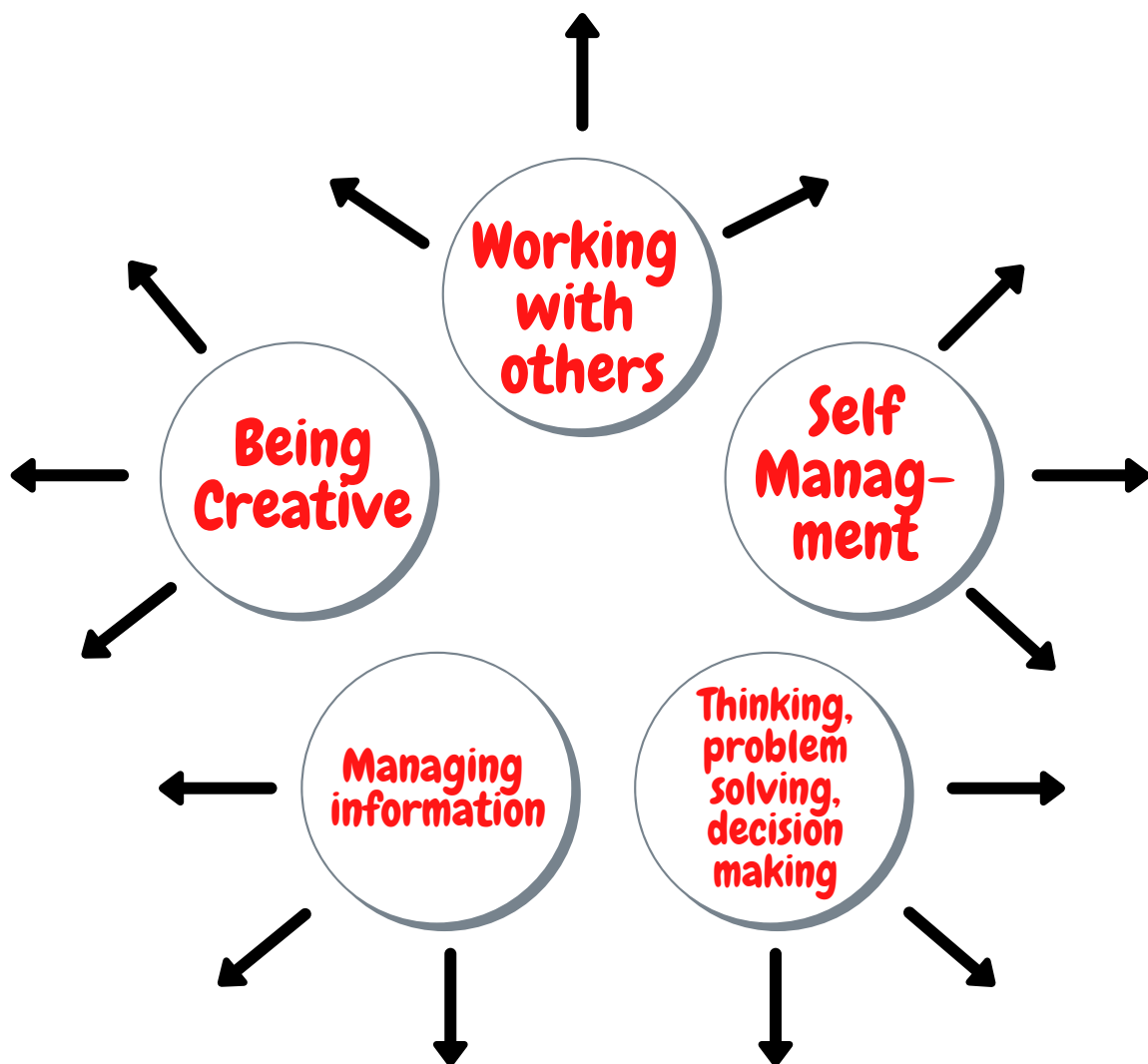
Our wish is that your studies this year will help you to grow closer to Jesus in **faith**, **hope** and **love** and that you will discover the promise his call holds for you.

# Key Skills in RE

In RE lessons you will master many key skills.

We have divided them into 5 categories for you. Using the word banks, allocate three skills to each category.

- Which skills have you already mastered?
- Which skills do you need to improve on?



Questioning - Seeing Patterns - Curiosity - Learning from others - Review and improve - Using sources - Reasoning - Exploration - Examining evidence - Flexibility - Influencing and negotiating - Goals and targets - Roles and responsibilities - Time management - Evaluating information

# AMDG

## (AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM)

Ad majorem Dei gloriam (AMDG) is the Latin motto of the Society of Jesus, a religious order of the Catholic Church. The motto is translated into English as “For the greater glory of God”.

The origin of the phrase is attributed to the founder of the Jesuits, Saint Ignatius of Loyola. It is a summary of the idea that any work that is not evil, even one that would normally be considered of no advantage to the spiritual life, can be spiritually good if it is performed in order to give glory to God.

When images of Saint Ignatius depict him carrying a book, the motto is often inscribed upon it, representing the religious writing of the saint.

It is common for students at Jesuit schools and universities to write AMDG at the tops of their exercise books, to remind them that even their schoolwork ought to be dedicated to the glory of God.

At Holy Family Catholic School we want you to put the letters AMDG at the top of each page you write on as you come to use it, in the top left hand corner. By doing this you are dedicating your work to God.

**Explain below why it is a good idea to dedicate your class work to God, each lesson?**

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# Prayer



The Rosary is a Catholic form of prayer using beads. It is a cycle of repeated formal prayers, such as the Lord's Prayer and the Hail Mary, done while thinking about important events in the lives of Jesus and Mary. These are called 'Mysteries'. There are four 'mysteries' of the Rosary; the Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful and Glorious. According to Catholic tradition Mary gave the Rosary to St. Dominic when she appeared to him in 1214.



We make the sign of the cross when we pray. We are inviting God into our prayer and daily lives.

We do this by joining our hands together and saying in the name of "the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen" The sign of the cross in words and actions reminds us of the important aspect of our faith. The belief that the one God is a Trinity of three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, Full of Grace, The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.



# WELCOME TO CHAPLAINCY!

## MRS GRIERSON

Chaplaincy offers opportunities to grow in our friendship with Jesus through prayer, worship, retreats and pastoral support. The Chaplaincy, based in the Emmaus Room, offers an "open door" providing a welcome for all people in all situations, working with a team of student "Liturgy Leaders", staff and our local clergy.

The Emmaus Room is open before school and break times for quiet prayer or a listening ear. There are a number of opportunities for pupils to become more engaged with their faith, the faith life of the school, and the local community. Years 7 and 8 and join Peace Club and Years 9 and above, the Justice & Peace club.

*"The weekly Justice and Peace club is filled with many activities, discussions and events surrounding societal issues and things going on around the world. Having attended the Justice and Peace group from year 7 to year 12 I can most definitely say that it has encouraged me to think more actively about social and humanitarian issues and has helped me to develop into a more aware and well rounded person. As well as discussing and debating subjects that matter, the group often organises charity events to contribute to wider society and we have raised lots of money for charities such as WaterAid and CAFOD. We have also attended many exciting and spiritual trips for our own personal development as well as to widen our knowledge and understanding of the world around us. Lastly, building friendships within the group alongside those who are like minded and have similar passions is something I will always cherish; I've built stronger friendships and have formed many new relationships right from year 7. The club is a space of comfort and ease, I've made endless joyful memories through attending the Justice and Peace club and it is always filled with a positive and calm atmosphere." Chloe Contaldo, Year 12 and 2020/21 Head Girl*

## I look forward to seeing you in september!





# Holy Family liturgy leaders

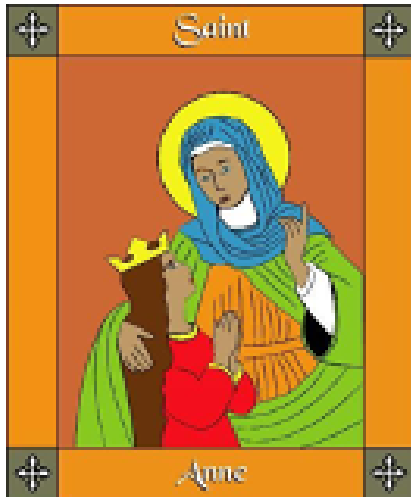
Dear Year 7s,

In Holy Family Catholic School, pupil's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, built upon a Catholic ethos, is at the heart of school life. This is what Liturgy Leaders is about. We are a group of students who do a number of things in school to uphold and cherish our Catholic values. Some of the things that we have done include helping in the mass, talk in assemblies, read out passages, attend meetings and more. Things that we are planning to do include a mass, Easter and Christmas events and possibly a pilgrimage. *"Becoming Liturgy Leader is one of the best memories I have made in my school life."* Vira Vitiv, Year 10 (2nd from left, below)



# Holy Family House Saints

## ASPIRE



The mother of the Virgin Mary and grandmother of Jesus.  
Feast Day July 26th



The first martyr of Christianity who was stoned to death.  
Feast day December 26th



Martyred around the age of 14.  
Patron saint of young people.  
Feast day August 11th



Founded the Society of Jesus (The Jesuits).  
Feast day July 31st



Kind, cheerful and courageous. He loved people and they loved him.  
Feast day June 16th



Mother of John the Baptist and cousin to Mary, mother of Jesus.  
Feast Day November 5th

Every member of Holy Family including students, teachers, support and administrative staff are allocated to a house. This is to give everyone a sense of **identity** and **belonging**.

# Meet the Department's Favourite Saints

WELCOME TO THE RE DEPARTMENT!

THERE ARE LOTS OF TEACHERS IN OUR DEPARTMENT AND WE ALL HAVE A FAVOURITE SAINT. HERE ARE SOME OF THEM



**Mrs Howard's** favourite saint is Martin de Porres was born in Lima, Peru in 1579. He was of dual heritage and sadly suffered discrimination because of it. He became a Dominican Lay Brother at the age of 24. He is known for his care and compassion for the sick regardless of wealth or race.



**Mr. Norman's** favourite saint is Saint Pope John XXXIII. He was often called good Pope John. He was a very friendly, and funny man. He was wise and down to earth. He brought the Church into the modern world by calling the Second Vatican Council.



**Ms Minnock's** favourite saint is St Josephine Bakhita who was kidnapped from her home in Sudan and enslaved at 7 years old. She was given the name Bakhita meaning 'fortunate' by her captors. After 13 years she became free while living in Italy. Fun fact: she received her first Holy Communion and Confirmation from the future Pope Pius X.



**Mr Skelton's** favourite saint is Saint Peter. He often misunderstood, was heading the wrong way escaping from Rome (see the photo which is called "Quo Vadis" but still managed to do what God wanted of him. He walked on water, but nearly drowned. He was at the Transfiguration but didn't recognise what was happening. Famously, he denied Jesus three times. However, in Rome, he turned back and gave his life for his faith in Jesus.



**Ms Nordans** favourite Saint is Saint Brigid. She is shrouded in mystery, has empowered women in the church and was born in Dundalk, where the Nordons migrated to. It was said: 'Thus, by fire,' Ultan wrote, 'she put out fire, and by pain extinguished pain.' I feel empathy is an essential human trait, in these times more so than ever.



Saint Therese of Lisieux is **Dr Wilkinson's** favourite saint. 'This is not only because she holds a rose flower, which I love, but she is known as the "Little Flower" and because of her belief in the importance of love. What she did came from the heart, and not from self-importance'.



**Mr Becket's** favourite saint is St Francis Xavier. He was the patron of my secondary school, St Francis Xavier's College in Liverpool, so I have a strong affiliation with him and his works. St Francis Xavier travelled throughout Asia to places such as India, China and Japan, evangelising and spreading the gospel during a time when people in these countries didn't know Christ and were hostile to Christianity missionaries. However, St Francis Xavier lived the great commission to spread the Word and make disciples of all nations.

# The Bible

**The Bible** is no ordinary book! It tells the stories of thousands of characters, covers thousands of years of history and is the best selling book of all time. The Bible is the Christian Holy Book. The word Bible means book. The Catholic Church counts 72 books in the Bible. These are divided into the Old Testament and the New Testament. **You need to have your own copy of the Bible, we suggest the Good News version.**

## The Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament):

- 45 books;
- Written mostly in Hebrew;
- They are about God and Israel before the time of Jesus

## The Christian writings (New Testament):

- 27 books;
- Written in Greek;
- They are about how God became man in Jesus; the stories of the apostles and beginnings of the Church.

Each book tells a story and has its own style.

Retell a story you can remember from the Bible.

[illegible]

# Challenge time!

Can you find, and highlight, 30 books of the Bible hidden in this passage? (You will need the contents page of a Bible to help you. The first two have been done for you, 'Amos and Mark')

This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an aeroplane seat pocket on a flight from L.A. to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much that he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his John-boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it, she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column.

Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving that she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the books are not necessarily capitalised. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in these paragraphs. During a recent fundraising event, which features this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phil Lemonade booth set a new sales record.

The local paper, the Chronicle, surveyed over 50 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, "the books are all right here in plain view, hidden from sight". Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books Timothy and Samuel appear without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you complete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mass exodus, there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in these paragraphs waiting to be found.

PS One book is misspelt slightly.

# Art Competition

## GOD'S GOOD EARTH

Do you have a flair for art (painting, drawing, sketching etc), poetry, photography, dance, music, drama or sculpture?

If so, we would like you to enter our art competition.  
The theme is God's Good Earth.

Are we spoiling God's good earth? Should we be thankful for it? Can we save it in time from the threats of climate change? The beauty of the earth is celebrated in many religions, but the human spoiling of the earth is a danger and a coming crisis. In this theme, you are invited to explore ideas and beliefs about the natural world, human responsibility for the earth and ways of praying about climate justice.

Your entry should be accompanied with a write up of 100-300 words explaining your creation and how it links to the theme.

Deadline 18th August

Email all photos/ video of entries and write ups with the subject 'Year 6 RE' to [ms.minnock@holyfamilycatholicschool.co.uk](mailto:ms.minnock@holyfamilycatholicschool.co.uk)

