


# Collective Worship Policy



St Clare's Primary School,  
A Catholic Voluntary Academy

*Come, let us bow down and worship him; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!*

Psalm 95:6

Version	1
Dated	November 2021
Next review due	November 2023
Approval	Chair of Governors  K McHugh

# Contents

1. Mission Statement.....	2
2. The Nature of Collective Worship .....	2
3. Aims of Collective Worship.....	3
4. Collective Worship Planning and Delivery.....	3
5. Monitoring, Evaluation, Recording and Reporting .....	4
6. The Role of the Collective Worship Leader .....	4
7. Leadership and Monitoring .....	4
8. Links with other policies.....	5

---

## 1. Mission Statement

### ‘Learning Through Faith’

Learning develops independent thinking children, through exciting challenges, expecting success with faith at the centre of all we do.

- To build and develop our Catholic faith community and actively promote the partnership of home, school, parish and the wider world.
- Leading by example, we encourage all members of our community to value, respect and co-operate with each other and others, learning to show love, kindness, tolerance and patience. To develop team- work between children, families, staff and governors, so that we can improve and develop.
- To learn about the world we live in, promote democracy and celebrate the rich diversity of our community and wider world.
- To provide a safe; welcoming; stimulating and healthy environment.
- To facilitate achievement by developing life- long learning skills through an enjoyable, balanced, differentiated and creative curriculum, which nurtures a positive self-image and regard for others.

## 2. The Nature of Collective Worship

We believe that Christian worship in a Catholic School is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our loving response, in word and action, to God’s invitation to enter into relationship with him.

### Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement that there must be a daily act of worship for all pupils. (This can take place at any time during the school day and can be either a single act of worship for all pupils, or

separate acts of worship in school groups.) We understand that simply holding an assembly that includes a prayer, said either by the teacher or everyone present, does not fulfil this requirement. We also acknowledge that collective worship and assembly are distinct activities. They may sometimes form part of the same gathering, but the difference between the two will always be made clear.

The act of worship is not designated curriculum time under regulations and will not be subsumed under any part of the curriculum, including religious education.

In this school, as with any Voluntary Aided School, responsibility for arranging Collective Worship rests with the Governing Body after consultation with the headteacher.

Parents have a right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. However, given the importance of Collective Worship in a Catholic school, parents and prospective parents will be made aware of the fact that it can never be confined to 'timetabled slots' but may take place in a variety of contexts other than those which are specifically structured, within Come and See RE curriculum.

### 3. Aims of Collective Worship

We believe that Collective worship in our school aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff:

- To contemplate something of the mystery of God
- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- To explore their own beliefs
- To respond to and celebrate life
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development
- To reinforce prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition
- To participate fully
- To enrich religious experience
- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit
- To develop a common ethos and shared values
- To take time out 'to wonder at', 'to come to terms with' and 'to give worth to'
- To encounter Christ in our daily lives

### 4. Collective Worship Planning and Delivery

#### Whole School

A yearly plan for whole school collective worship has been devised in line with the Liturgical Year and other significant events, such as the start of the school year, Year 6 Leavers and Remembrance Day. This includes those held at school and those held at St Wilfrid's Parish Church. It also ensures that all children have the opportunity to plan and lead whole school Acts of Worship during the year. This plan includes both liturgies and Masses. (see Appendix 1)

## Class Level

Every class plans and leads a class liturgy every week from EYFS to Year 6. During the year, every child will have the opportunity to plan and lead liturgies. A progression document is in place to ensure that by the time children are in Year 6, they can independently plan and lead a liturgy. Children use the Let Us Pray 2Gether resource to support their planning which is recorded on the NCDYS planning sheet.

## 5. Monitoring, Evaluation, Recording and Reporting

The headteacher is responsible for the monitoring of Collective Worship. They will undertake half-termly evaluations of class liturgies and will oversee whole school Acts of Worship.

Each whole school Act of Worship will be recorded in the Collective Worship book displayed at the spontaneous prayer area in the corridor. It will contain photos and reflections from parents or pupils and/or a formal evaluation completed either by the headteacher, a class, the Chaplaincy Team or another adult, such as a governor.

Every two weeks, a Class Liturgy will be entered into the class Collective Worship book. It will contain the completed planning sheets, photos and a completed evaluation sheet. At the end of each half term, a "next steps" sheet will be completed with targets gathered from these completed evaluations. These will form the targets for the following half term's class liturgies.

## 6. The Role of the Collective Worship Leader

- To be responsible for a whole school programme of Collective Worship
- To manage resources and facilities for Collective Worship
- To ensure that all staff have appropriate CPD opportunities in order to best support the pupils to plan and lead Collective Worship
- To attend appropriate training and to keep up-to-date with current developments and feed these developments back to staff.
- To advise individual colleagues and induct new members of staff as required on Collective Worship.
- To monitor the Collective Worship that takes place across the school and also the class Collective Worship books.
- To liaise with the Parish Priest with regards to Collective Worship.

## 7. Leadership and Monitoring

This policy is the responsibility of the Collective Worship Leader. They will monitor the planning and delivery of Collective Worship across the school and update the RE action plan accordingly, ensuring actions are undertaken and that Acts of Collective Worship continually improve.

## 8. Links with other policies

This Catholic Life policy is linked to the following policies:

- Catholic Life Policy
- Religious Education Policy
- Relationship and Sex Education Policy

## Appendix 1 – Whole School Collective Worship Plan

	Date & Time	Event	Venue	Attendees
Advent 1	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September – 1pm	Start of Year Mass	School Hall	Whole school (led by Father Gabriel & Y5)
	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September – 1pm	Bishop's Theme Assembly - Encounter	School Hall	Whole school (led by JB)
	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> October – 1pm	Harvest Liturgy	School Hall	Whole school (led by Y6)
Advent 2	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November – 10:00am	All Saints Mass	St. Wilfrid's	Whole school (led by Father Gabriel & Y4)
	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> November – 10:55am	Remembrance Assembly	School Hall	Whole school (led by chaplains)
	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> November – 1pm	Advent Liturgy	School Hall	Whole school (led by Y3)
	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December – 2:15pm	Christingle Liturgy	School Hall	Whole school (led by Y5)
	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> December – 9:30am	Christmas Celebration	St Wilfrid's	Whole school (led by all classes)
Lent 1	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> January – 2:30pm	Epiphany Liturgy	School Hall	Whole school (led by Y1)
	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> January – 9:30am	Start of term Mass	St. Wilfrid's	Whole school (led by Father Gabriel & Y6)
	Monday 17 <sup>h</sup> January – 1pm	Bishop's Theme Assembly – Discipleship	School Hall	Whole school (led by JB)
	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> January – 1pm	St Thomas Aquinas Assembly	School Hall	Whole school (led by school chaplains)
	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> February – 1pm	St Valentine Liturgy	School Hall	Whole school (led by school chaplains)
Lent 2	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> March – 1pm	Lent Liturgy	School Hall	Whole school (led by Y2)
	w/c 28 <sup>th</sup> March and 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Stations of the Cross	In class	Whole school (led by school chaplains)
	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> April – 1pm	Confession	School Hall	Whole school (led by Father Gabriel)

	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April – 1pm	Easter Mass	School Hall	Whole school (led by Father Gabriel & Y3)
Pentecost 1	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April – 1pm	Bishop's Theme Assembly – Missionary Discipleship	School Hall	Whole school (led by JB)
	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April - tbc	Start of term Mass	St. Wilfrid's	Whole school (led by Father Gabriel & school chaplains)
	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> May – 1pm	Month of Mary	School Hall	Whole school (led by TBC)
Pentecost 2	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> June – 1pm	Pentecost Liturgy	School Hall	Whole school (led by EYFS)
	TBC	First Holy Communion Mass	St. Wilfrid's	Year 3 (led by Father Gabriel)
	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	End of Year Mass	School Playground	Whole school (led by children from all year groups)
	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July – 2:30pm	Leavers' Liturgy	School Hall	Whole school (led by Y6)