**School/Classroom**

**A Teaching Approach to Religious Education**

**based on the Liturgical Year**

**& Grow in Love**

**Lent**

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| Lent & Easter | | |
|  | **Ash Wednesday** | **Easter Sunday** |
| 2023 | **22 February** | **10 April** |
| 2024 | **14 February** | **1 April** |
| 2025 | **5 March** | **21 April** |
| 2026 | **18 February** | **6 April** |

**Liturgical Year: Lent**

**Whole School:**

The Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts for 40 days approximately. Palm Sunday is celebrated on the 6th Sunday of Lent and marks the beginning of Holy Week which concludes on Easter Sunday. Lent is a time of preparation for Easter and is a seen as time to pray, fast and give to those who are in need. Lent is also a penitential season and so is an appropriate time to revisit the sacrament of reconciliation with the children at levels 3 & 4. Children preparing for First Holy Communion will celebrate their First Penance during Lent. You will find some additional resources for the celebration of Lent on <https://www.kandle.ie/resources/primary-resources/#collapse-10635>.

Trocaire resources are normally sent to schools in time for Ash Wednesday and are available for download on [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org).

**Prayer Space/Display Boards**

The colour associated with Lent is purple and Prayer Spaces should use purple cloth to mark the change to the Lenten Season. The Trocaire Box can be placed in the Prayer Space to remind us that we are called to look after and share with those who are in need. If the children are making Lenten Promises these might also be added to the Prayer Space. Some of the gospel stories associated with Lent may provide opportunities for integration with the art and English curricula.

**Grow in Love:**

The lessons on Lent in Grow in Love are contained in the Seasonal Lessons at the end of each book. There is also a theme on Holy Week and Easter in all programmes.

**Feast Days Celebrated in Lent:**

* **Ash Wednesday See table on page 2**

There are Prayer Service Resources in Grow in Love to celebrate Ash Wednesday

* 1st Class page 299 Lent
* 2nd Class pages 296-297 Lent
* 3rd Class page 363 Lent
* 4th Class page 431
* 6th Class page 499

**Curriculum & Ash Wednesday**

**Strand: Liturgy and Prayer**

**Level 1**

* Ash Wednesday is a time when ashes are placed in the form of a cross on our foreheads.

**Level 2**

* Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent when ashes are placed on the forehead of Catholics as a reminder to believe the Good News and to follow Jesus more closely.

**Level 3**

* The ritual of Ashes on Ash Wednesday reminds us of the need to turn back to God, to repent of our sin, and to live the gospel.
* On Ash Wednesday Catholics, fast as Jesus did in the desert.
* **Feast of St Patrick March 17**

There are Prayer Service Resources in Grow in Love to celebrate St Patrick

* Junior Infants pages 247-248 St Patrick
* 1st Class page 308 St Patrick
* 3rd Class page 373-374 St Patrick

**Curriculum & The Feast of St Patrick**

**Strand: Christian Faith**

**Level 1**

* The Saints: God’s special friends who are part of the family of the Church in heaven (CCC 828, 956-57, 960-62, 1195, 2013, 2030, 2683, 2692). **St Patrick**, St Brigid, St Columba (Columcille**)**

**Level 2**

* Saints: explore **St Patrick**, St Bernadette, St Francis of Assisi and a selection from the following list --------

**Level 3**

* Saints: explore **St Patrick,** St Mary Magdalene…….

**Level 4**

* Saints: explore St Brigid, **St Patrick,** St Vincent De Paul and a selection from the following or similar list: St Catherine of Siena, St Teresa of Avila, St Joan of Arc, St Benedict (patron of Europe), St Peter, St Paul, St Maximilian Kolbe, St Padre Pio, St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein). Other people who have shown Christian values at work e**.**g Rosa Parks, Jean Vanier, Dorothy Day, Nano Nagle, local holy people/saints

**Strand: Liturgy and Prayer**

**Level 2**

* On St Patrick’s Day we remember that St Patrick brought the ‘good news’ to Ireland**.**

**Level 3**

* On Saint Patrick’s Day, we celebrate the coming of Christianity to Ireland. The faithful are obliged to attend Mass on Sundays and certain Holy Days (Immaculate Conception, Christmas, Epiphany, **St Patrick’s day,** the Feast of the Assumption, the Feast of All Saints) and to receive the Eucharist at least once per year, if possible during the Easter season
* **Feast of the Annunciation March 25**

**Curriculum & The Feast of the Annunciation**

**Strand: Christian Faith**

**Level 1 & 2**

• Mary was called by God to be the mother of Jesus (LG 56; CCC 495).

**Strand: Word of God**

**Levels 1, 2, 3 & 4**

• Lk 1:26-38. The Annunciation.

**Strand: Liturgy and Prayer**

**Level 2**

* Feast Days of Mary: Annunciation (CCC 484). Our Lady’s birthday.

**Level 3**

* Liturgical feasts of Mary (the feast of Mary, the Mother of God**;** Our Lady of Lourdes; **the Annunciation;** Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary; the Immaculate Conception) and prayers such as the Rosary express devotion to Mary (MC 49).

**Revise & Learn Prayers & Responses**

***Encourage children to bless themselves properly and intentionally at the beginning and end of prayer times. Lead by example***

* **Level 1:**

Sign of the Cross

Glory be to the Father.

Responses at Mass: e.g. Amen. Peace be with you. Thanks be to God.

* **Level 2:**

Act of Contrition/Sorrow (CCC 1451-54)

Prayer for Forgiveness

Prayer after Forgiveness

* **Level 3:**

St Patrick’s Breastplate

Stations of the Cross (CCC 1674, 2699)

Prayer for Lent (‘This is the wood of the cross’)

* **Level 4:**

The Magnificat

Stations of the Cross (CCC 1674, 2699)

Prayer for Lent (‘This is the wood of the cross’)

**What the Curriculum says about Lent and Easter**

**Strand: Christian Faith**

**Level 1**

• Jesus celebrated the Last Supper with his disciples on Holy Thursday (Lk 22:14-23; Mk 14:17-25).

• Jesus died on the cross for us on Good Friday (Mk 15:37; Lk 23:46; CCC 624).

• Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday (Mk 16:6; Lk 24:5; CCC 638).

**Level 2**

**•** Jesus shared ‘The Last Supper’ with his friends on Holy Thursday and it was the first Eucharist (1 Cor 11:23-26).

• Jesus washed his disciples’ feet to show them how to serve others (Jn 13:4-14).

• Jesus died on the cross out of love for God his Father and for us on Good Friday (CCC 616).

• On Easter Sunday, God his Father raised him from the dead (CCC 638).

**Level 3**

* God promised to send us a Saviour (CCC 705-6).
* God sent Jesus to save us from our sins (CCC 620-21; GDC 102).
* On Easter Sunday, God the Father raised Jesus from death to new life in a glorious body. This is called the Resurrection.
* Jesus was tempted in the desert (Lk 7:11-17; CCC 538).
* Jesus revealed himself risen from the dead to Mary Magdalene whom he commissioned as **‘**apostle to the apostles’ (Jn 20:11-18; MD 16).
* Jesus was willing to suffer and die to show how much he loved God his Father and us (CCC 569, 608).
* Jesus offered Himself to God at the Last Supper and at Calvary (CCC 610, 621).

**Level 4**

* Though he was sinless (and could never sin), Jesus took upon himself our sins and died to save us. Because he is God, Jesus could give his life for each one of us personally and individually, and his sacrifice redeemed the whole world (CCC 604-608).
* The name Jesus means in Hebrew: ‘God saves’
* Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert where he was tempted and he returned full of the power of the Holy Spirit (Lk 4:1-15).
* Jesus suffered an agony in the Garden of Gethsemane where he accepted God’s will (Mt 26:36-46).
* Jesus descended into hell (CCC 631-637)
* Jesus’ Resurrection: Physical and transforming (CCC 631-58).

**Strand: Word of God**

**Level 1**

**•** Mt 26:26-29. Last supper.

• Lk 24:1-12. The empty tomb.

• Mk 14:12-17, 22-4. Last supper.

• Mk 15: 25-37, 15: 42-47. Jesus’ death and burial.

• Lk 22:7-19. Last supper.

• Jn 19:18, 25, 30. Crucifixion.

**Level 2**

• Lk 4:1-13; Mt 4:1-11. Jesus in the desert.

• Lk 22:7-20/Mt 26:17-29. Last Supper.

• Lk 22:47-53. Betrayal and arrest.

• Lk 22:54-62. Peter’s denial.

• Lk 23:33-49. Christ’s death and burial, good thief.

• Jn 13:3-15. The washing of the feet.

• Jn 12:12-16. Entry into Jerusalem.

• Jn 19:17-30. Christ’s death.

**Level 3**

* Mt 21:1-11. Entry into Jerusalem.
* Mt 26:36-66. Gethsemane – High Priest.
* Lk 22:13-23. The Last Supper.
* Lk 22:31-34; 54-62. Peter betrays Jesus.
* Lk 22:66-71, Lk 23:1-43. Trial and crucifixion.
* Jn 19:1-16. Crowning with thorns.
* Jn 19:18, 25, 30, 38-42. Jesus dies on the cross.
* Jn 19:26-27. Woman, here is your son.
* Mt 28:1-10; Lk 24:1-12. Women at tomb.
* Mt 28:16-20. ‘Go therefore …
* Jn 20:1-9. Peter and John at tomb.

**Level 4**

* Mt 26:20-30. Last Supper.
* Mt 26:36-46. Agony and acceptance of God’s will.
* Mt 26:47-56. Arrest of Jesus.
* Mt 26:57-68; Mt 27:11-26. Trial before Sanhedrin and Pilate.
* Mt 27:27-61. Crucifixion, death and burial of Jesus.
* Mt 28:16-20; Mk 16:14-18. Commissioning of the disciples.
* Mk 14:53-65 and Mk 15:1-15. Jesus’ trial.
* Mk 15:16-47. Crucifixion, death and burial.
* Lk 19:29-38. Entry into Jerusalem.
* Lk 22:7-20. Last Supper.
* Lk 22:47-53; Mk 14:10-11. Mk 14:32-50. Betrayal by Judas and arrest of Jesus.
* Lk 22:54-62; Mt 26:69-75/Peter’s denial of Jesus.
* Lk 23:26-31. Road to Calvary.
* Lk 23:34-43. Let him save himself if he is the Messiah.
* Jn 12:12-19. Entry into Jerusalem.
* Jn 13:1-20. Washing of feet.
* Jn 19:25-7; Mt 27: 55-6. Women at cross and ‘woman here is your son’.

**Liturgy and Prayer Strand**

**Levels 1 & 2**

• Jesus died on the cross for us on Good Friday

• Easter is a time to remember that Jesus rose from the dead.

• The Paschal candle reminds us that Jesus is alive.

**Level 3**

* Lent is a time to turn back to God, repent of our sins and believe the Good News.
* Lent lasts for forty days, beginning with Ash Wednesday and ending the day before Passion

(Palm) Sunday.

* Lent is a time to grow and change through prayer, fasting and almsgiving, to prepare for

Easter.

* Holy Week is a time to remember that Jesus shared the gift of himself: at the Last Supper/on the cross.
* On Holy Thursday, the Church recalls the events of the Last Supper.
* On Good Friday Jesus’ followers recall his death and burial by reflecting on the Stations of the Cross**.**
* The cross reminds Christians of the sufferings of Jesus and of his love for the Father and for us.
* Easter is the greatest feast of the Church’s year when Christians celebrate the death and

Resurrection of Jesus.

* During the Easter Season Christians celebrate their new life in the risen Lord.

**Level 4**

* Lent is a time of repentance and reconciliation which reminds Christians of Jesus’ call to

‘repent and believe in the gospel’

* By the solemn forty days of Lent, the Church unites herself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert.
* The Church celebrates Lent as a season of renewing our commitment to the mission of

Jesus/the Reign of God.

* Lent is a time to recall or prepare for Baptism
* Lent is a time for Christians to review how they live.
* Lent is a time when we participate in gestures of reconciliation including concern for the poor.
* The crucifix is a symbol of Jesus’ love for all people.
* Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday are known as the Easter Triduum, which

means three days.

* The Triduum begins with the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday evening and

concludes with the Evening Prayer of Easter Sunday.

* Easter is a time to celebrate Jesus’ death and Resurrection, his glorification and the sending of the Holy Spirit
* Easter celebrates Jesus’ Resurrection: the victory of life over death, good over evil.
* The Paschal candle reminds us that Jesus Christ has risen from the dead and has triumphed

over sin and death.

* At the Easter vigil, the Church awaits the Resurrection and then celebrates it in the Sacraments.
* Easter liturgy of light. Concepts of light and darkness, Easter candle, relate Easter to Baptism – receiving and living the light of Jesus. Jesus is the light of the world. Four parts of the Easter Vigil: the service of light, the liturgy of the word, the liturgy of Baptism, and liturgy of the Eucharist.

**What the Curriculum says about the Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Liturgy and Prayer Strand**

**Level 2:**

**•** The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a celebration of God’s forgiveness and love.

• In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we admit how we have failed to love God and each other

• God continues to love us even when we sin

• When we choose to do wrong we have sinned against God, whom we should love above all things

• God calls us always to be sorry for our sins and accept his forgiveness

• Jesus asked his followers to forgive (RP 12). We remember this when we pray the Our Father.

• Jesus gave us the Sacrament of Reconciliation to forgive our sins and to give us grace to do good and avoid future sins

• Christ, the Good Shepherd, always seeks out the lost sheep (Mt 18:12-14; Lk 15:1-7).

• The Lord Jesus forgives us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation

• The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a whole consisting in three actions of the penitent and the priest’s absolution. The Penitent’s acts are sorrow or contrition, confession of sins to the priest, and the intention to make reparation and improve behaviour. The priest’s role is to forgive sins in God’s name, give absolution and give act of satisfaction (penance)

• Through penance Christians seek to undo the harm caused by sin

• Sin is not living as Jesus asked his followers to live.

• Sin is not loving like Jesus.

• Sin is intentional not accidental. It means ‘I know and choose to do wrong’

• The Word of God helps me discern right from wrong

• When the priest says the prayer of absolution, we are forgiven in God’s name through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Level 3**

* In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the Church celebrates the gift of the love and mercy of God and calls people to confess sin, seek forgiveness and be reconciled to God and to one another (RP 31).
* Jesus forgave sinners and restored them to the community (Lk 15; 19:9; CCC 1443).
* Christians show their faith in Jesus by being forgiven and forgiving.
* Jesus calls his followers to turn the other cheek to the one who strikes them and to give their cloak to the one who has taken their coat
* The Law of forgiveness:
* Jesus said that his followers are to forgive without limit
* Jesus began his risen life by giving his apostles power to forgive sins
* The Sacrament of Reconciliation continues his work of forgiving and reconciling.
* In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we meet the risen Jesus (CCC 1484).
* The grace of forgiveness of sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation comes from the redemptive death and Resurrection of Jesus.
* Sin: anything you think, say, do or anything you should do and don’t, that spoils or breaks your friendship with God, other people and creation (sins of omission and commission).
* We sin when we refuse to love God and to love our neighbours as ourselves, and respect creation as Jesus taught.
* Sin is anything that breaks Jesus’ law of love
* While all sin displeases God, there are some sins which are less serious (venial sins) and some that are very serious (mortal sins)
* While the individual celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is the norm, this Sacrament may take place within the context of a communal celebration where ‘the personal confession of sins and individual absolution are inserted into a liturgy of the Word of God with readings and a homily, an examination of conscience conducted in common, a communal request for forgiveness, the Our Father and a thanksgiving in common’

**Level 4**

* We use many terms to describe the sacrament of Christ’s loving forgiveness. Three are: Confession, Penance, Reconciliation
* The process of conversion and repentance was described by Jesus in the parable of the prodigal son
* Reconciliation is principally a gift of the heavenly Father
* Sin is choosing to disobey God
* Sin is forgetfulness and indifference toward God
* We sin whenever we act against the loving law of God (sins of commission) and whenever we deliberately neglect to do something good (sins of omission).
* When we sin, we damage our relationship with God and with the whole community, the Body of Christ.
* When Christians receive the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation they obtain pardon from God for the offence committed against him and are at the same time reconciled with the Church, which they have wounded by their sin.
* By prayers or penances people can receive God’s pardon for penance owed for the bad effects of the sins they have committed.
* In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Christians receive God’s grace to amend their lives and follow God’s commandments more faithfully in the future.
* Regular confession of our sins strengthens our relationship with Jesus Christ, helps us form our conscience, to fight against temptation, and to live more like Jesus
* We prepare for Reconciliation by examining our conscience
* The Holy Spirit helps us to grow and change (conversion).
* There are many forms of penance in the Christian life that bring about reconciliation with God and others. These include prayer, fasting and almsgiving

Teacher: ­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| Lent | | |
| Information | | Notes |
| Liturgical Season | Lent: Purple |  |
| Feast Days  Other Themes | Lent  Ash Wednesday  St Patrick  Feast of the Annunciation  Trócaire |
| Prayer Space Elements  To be added during the Month | Purple Cloth; Candle; Bible; Trócaire Box  Lenten Promises  Crucifix |
| Prayer/s to be Revised/learned |  |
| Prayers to be prayed Morning, Lunch Time, Evening |  |  |
| Grow in Love Theme/s to be Explored |  |  |
| Homework to be Assigned |  |  |
| Opportunities for Curricular Integration |  |  |