



St Joseph's Catholic Middle School

Collective Worship



Bishop Wilkinson
Catholic Education Trust
Through Christ, in Partnership

Part of the Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust
Company Registration Number 07890590

Signed by Chair	T Neeson
Statutory Policy	Yes
Required on Website	Yes
Review Period	February 21
Next Review Date	February 22
Reviewed by	J Gelson

St. Joseph's Catholic Middle School

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

In line with the Mission Statement and Aims of St. Joseph's Middle School we recognise the importance of Collective Worship in the development of our pupils. We endeavour to provide a calm, prayerful and orderly moment each day when we can reflect upon the presence of God in our lives.

ASSEMBLIES

In accordance with legislation the pupils are involved in a 'daily act of collective worship which is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. At St. Joseph's we recognise that for some children school assembly is the only time and space that they have to think about God and his relevance to them. We try to provide an opportunity to help children to begin to see beyond the values of a material world and to develop an awareness of God - who is there, who cares about them and who has given us guidelines to help us to live together.

Assemblies are mainly of a religious theme during which Gospel values are explored, reflected upon and an attempt is made to make them relevant to today's world. Assemblies provide a calm and orderly moment in the school day. They include the opportunity to participate, to pray and to reflect.

Opportunities are also provided to enable pupils to consider spiritual, moral social and cultural issues.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

Whole school assemblies are led by the headteacher, deputy headteacher or assistant headteacher on a Monday and Friday. On Monday they introduce the theme of the week which is followed up in the key stage Collective Worships (see below). Friday is a celebration assembly where awards are distributed for noticeable achievement or progress in class. Other members of staff are most welcome to take an assembly if they wish to share or celebrate something with the school.

Key Stage (KS) Assemblies

KS2 and KS3 assemblies are led by form teachers and involve the pupils in the preparation and presentation of the assembly. A rota system ensures that each class and their teacher get the opportunity to contribute to Collective Worship.

CLASS LITURGIES

Each class regularly prepares and holds a class liturgy. For KS3 this is once per half term and for KS2 this happens at the end of each Come and See unit. Children plan in small groups and use the four part format for Collective Worship also choosing music, reflective responses, artefacts and liturgical colours.

YEAR GROUP MASSES

Each year group takes part in their year group Mass at our local church St. Mary's Catholic Parish Church. The parish priest celebrates this with the children.

SCHOOL MASSES

Masses are organised to celebrate special occasions and holy days of obligation. Masses involving our Catholic feeder first school are arranged and celebrated by the parish priest. In addition a Y8 Mass is organised for the end of the summer term. This Mass is usually celebrated away from the school and forms part of a day of reflection as our older pupils prepare to end their middle school years. Parents, friends, parishioners and members of the local community are invited to attend.

We involve the children in the preparation of the Mass taking an active role in the reading, singing and playing of musical instruments.

SERVICES OF RECONCILIATION

Key Stage II and III Services of Reconciliation are organised during the school year. The children are prepared by the Parish Priest and their RE teachers and they are encouraged to take an active part in the readings, prayers and examination of conscience.

PARISH LITURGIES

Every Sunday is a time of togetherness when home, school and parish communities come together to pray and celebrate. The children of St. Mary's Parish Youth Group are encouraged to be involved in the readings and music for the regular folk Mass.

RELIGIOUS PRODUCTIONS

The children take an active and enthusiastic part in the preparation of the readings, music, dance and drama. These celebrations take place at Christmas and Easter.

CONFIRMATIONS

Every few years the Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle visits the parish to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation. The children aged 13yrs+ (Y9) are invited to take part in a programme of preparation for this important occasion. Preparation takes place within the community using a number of catechists from the parish.

EXTRA SERVICES

Other services take place as and when required throughout the year for example, Ash Wednesday, Holy Days of Obligation and special retirement Masses.

As arranged with the Parish Priest

MONDAY	10.55 - 11.10	Whole School	Executive Headteacher / deputy headteacher / assistant headteacher
TUESDAY	10.55 - 11.10	KS2	Y5 & 6 class teachers Form assembly with class teachers
WEDNESDAY	10.55 - 11.10	Hymn Practice	Whole school led by PR
THURSDAY	10.55 - 11.10	KS3	Y7 & 8 class teachers Form assembly with class teachers
FRIDAY	10.55 - 11.10	Whole School Celebration	Executive Headteacher / deputy headteacher / assistant headteacher

Monday Whole school Collective Worship introducing the Theme of the Week.

Friday Whole School Celebration – Headteacher / Deputy headteacher / Assistant headteacher

MASSES

Lunchtime Mass every other Wednesday at 12.30pm First / Middle School Celebration

Holy Days of Obligation

Year Group Masses

Y8 Leavers' Mass

SERVICES FOR RECONCILIATION

As arranged with the Parish Priest