



# **SS. Osmund & Andrew's RCP School**

## **Prayer & Collective Worship Policy**

***Together in Love, Growing in Faith, A Journey of Hope.  
Together in Love, Faith and Hope.***

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

— Matthew's Gospel 18:20

## **Mission Statement**

Together in Love, Growing in Faith, A Journey of Hope. Together in Love, Faith and Hope.

## **Introduction:**

St Osmund and St Andrew's R.C. Primary School is a welcoming Catholic community rooted in faith, love and hope. As a school within the Parish of Blessed Dominic Barberi, we are proud to work in close partnership with our parish community, our families and our wider community to nurture each child academically, spiritually and socially. Inspired by the Gospel and guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church, we are committed to ensuring that Christ is at the centre of all we do.

Our patron saints inspire and guide our work. St Osmund was a bishop, in faith he inspires us to pray. St Andrew was an apostle, in love he inspires us to serve, Blessed Dominic Barberi was a student, in hope he inspires us to study hard to become the best we can be. Through their example, we seek to nurture resilience, faithfulness and a spirit of discipleship in our children, ensuring they receive the very best holistic education.

Our mission statement, “Together in love, growing in faith – a journey of hope”, underpins every aspect of school life. Our school is a place where faith is lived and celebrated each day — through prayer, worship, service and the way we care for one another. We recognise that every child is a unique gift from God, and we are dedicated to providing a nurturing, supportive environment where all are encouraged to develop their God-given talents and to flourish spiritually, academically and personally.

Through the strong partnership between school, parish and parents, we work together to support our children on their journey of faith. In unity with the Parish of Blessed Dominic Barberi, we are committed to helping every child grow in love and faith, embracing hope as they become confident learners and compassionate members of the wider community.

## **Definition of Prayer and Worship**

**Prayer** is the personal and communal "raising of one's mind and heart to God." It is an act of communication where we offer our praise, petitions, and thanks to God.

**Worship** is the formal, public expression of that prayer. It is the highest form of Catholic life—specifically through the Mass—where the community gathers to give God the glory due to Him and to receive His grace.

## **The Aims of Collective Worship:**

We believe that Collective Worship in our school aims to provide opportunity for 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 experience a sense of belonging and to develop a common ethos and shared values
- To enrich religious experience
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development
- To reinforce prayers that are part of the Catholic tradition

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

— Matthew's Gospel 18:20

- To reinforce positive attitudes
- To make time to ‘wonder at’, ‘to come to terms with’ and ‘to give worth to’

### **Involvement in Collective Worship:**

We believe that Collective Worship considers the religious and educational needs of all who share in it:

- Those who form part of the worshipping community in church
- Those for whom school may be their first and only experience of church
- Those from other Christian traditions, or none
- Those from other faith backgrounds

It will be an experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain

### **Principles of Collective Worship:**

All acts of Worship in this school will:

- Give glory and honour to God
- Uses Scripture to contemplate God’s message
- Give children positive liturgical experiences appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church.

In order to do this, celebrations will:

- Be kept small wherever possible or appropriate, to personalise the experience, or as a group such as key stage and whole class
- Be short and appropriately paced
- Be simple, including a range of experiences offered in a variety of groupings and in a variety of settings. *“For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.”*

In order to achieve the above, Collective Worship is usually organised as follows:

**Monday** – Whole School Celebration of the Word to start the week with the Gospel Reading of the Week. Celebration of achievements in school. Parents join us.

**Tuesday** - Whole School Collective Worship – with emphasis on hymns current in the time of the Liturgical Year.

**Wednesday** – Class based Prayer and Liturgy.

**Thursday** – Whole School Celebration of the Word planned, written and delivered by the pupils and GIFT

**Friday** – Whole School Celebration of the Word to introduce the following week’s Gospel reading a link into Thought for the Week. Celebrations of achievements from the children and achievements outside school.

Any of these days may be replaced for an assembly from a visitor, such as CAFOD, etc.

### **Planning:**

- The word of God through Scripture, story, drama etc. will be the focus for most acts of worship
- This will relate to our school community through our Mission Statement

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

— Matthew's Gospel 18:20

- There will be flexibility to respond to changing situations within the school and the wider community e.g. special events, response to world issues, response to children's issues etc.
- We will aim to teach children the skills to enable them to prepare, organise and lead worship

## Planning and Organisation

- Children and GIFT Team members are given the responsibility of leading the school community in prayer and worship in classroom sessions and in assembly. At frequent times, children, parents and the parish community are invited to join together to share in a mass, liturgy or reflection together. Children are actively involved in the preparation and delivery of these prayerful opportunities.
- Each week provides various opportunities for whole school collective worship. These include whole school assemblies; hymn practices, school masses and class assemblies. Members of staff are invited to lead these gatherings along with the Headteacher, Deputy and Assistant Headteacher.
- Collective Worship connected to the class focus are used to allow children to work together in providing prayerful experiences. Children are given the opportunity to lead a class liturgy using a simple format of: Gather, Listen, Respond, Mission. Members of the Senior Management Team are invited to join these times of worship. Classes may also join together for a collective worship.
- All staff are asked to develop a prayer table/corner and religious displays that can be used as a source for the inspiration of prayer. Prayer cloths are used in line with the Liturgical Year.
- Children and staff pray together using both traditional and inspired prayers. These times occur at the beginning of the school day; before and after lunch and at the end of the day.
- Through P.S.H.E. and other times during the school day children are able to reflect on their behaviour, which in turn can lead to a focus for prayer.
- Each term individual classes prepare and present a class assembly, which they share with the whole school and parents.
- The 'Thought for the Week' gives the school community an opportunity to focus on an aspirational statement, supplied by the Catholic PSHE scheme Life to the Full.
- The school supports the parish with the Sacramental Programme and is led by our RE Parish Link Lead.
- The whole school shares in Holy week, with events such as Reconciliation and a Holy Week Liturgy/Play that all children are actively involved in along with a production by the Year 3 and Year 4 classes.
- During seasons of the Church's year, particular prayers are shared eg., The Stations of the Cross in Lent, the Rosary in the month of October and May. There is a Rosary Club open to all children during these months.
- School Masses, Class Liturgies and Class Assemblies enable us to celebrate as a 'home – school – parish' community.

## Moral Development

Prayer and collective worship help to develop good moral growth. Its aims are consistent with the teachings and values as given to us by Jesus. As such children are taught that each individual is a unique special creation of God and that for this reason all people, regardless of colour, creed or culture are worthy of their love and respect. Following on from this, children are taught that they should not judge and that reconciliation and forgiveness is a very important part of our faith. A fundamental belief of our faith is that all people have the right to choose. In terms of our moral teaching we try to give our children the knowledge, values and attitudes they need to make the best choices following the Social Catholic Teaching. To aid the children to do this we must constantly work towards creating an atmosphere which encourages trust and confidence to be able to ask questions and search for answers together.

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

— Matthew's Gospel 18:20

## **Prayer**

- Prayer is central to the life of the school
- Prayer will be taught as part of the RE curriculum
- Children will be given the opportunity to reflect on the place of prayer in their own lives, the life of the school and the catholic community
- Prayer will act as the focus for the start and finish of the school day and before and after meals
- Staff will pray together during staff briefings, staff meetings and governors' meetings

## **Worship and Liturgy will take the form of:**

- Prayers at the beginning and end of each day, and before and after meals
- Longer quiet times of prayer and reflection
- Celebration of the Word
- Christian Meditation
- Hymns

## **Structure of prayer:**

The following elements should be included:

- GATHER: - To ensure we all know we are together to speak and listen to God.
- WORD: - Scripture
- RESPOND: - Reflection on the word of God
- MISSION: - Go forth... how our words and actions may now be different.

## **Focal point for prayer and collective worship:**

There will be a prayer corner in each classroom to create and maintain an environment of prayerful mindfulness.

where prayer can be fostered and developed. Drapes and backgrounds will reflect the colours of the liturgical year:

- Purple: Advent, Lent
- Red: Pentecost
- White: Christmas, Easter, major feasts (could also use Gold/Silver or another precious material)
- Green: Ordinary Time
- Purple: Lent and Advent
- Other colours could be used to celebrate festivals in the year i.e. blue or Blue for May /Our Lady;
- Gold and White for Eastertide

Natural objects, plants, the Bible, prayer books, holy objects and music can be added to the setting as a focal point and stimulus for individual and collective prayer.

Assemblies, liturgies and Acts of Worship will also use focal points, music etc.

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

— Matthew's Gospel 18:20

### **Words for prayer:**

Children will experience a variety of prayer forms including traditional, and informal, personal prayers.

*Informal:* using the ordinary everyday language of praising, thanking, asking and saying sorry. This includes spontaneous prayer.

*Traditional:* these are part of the school liturgy celebrations and the R.E. programme.

### **Eucharist:**

Eucharist celebrations form a very important part in our Collective Worship strategy. Opportunities for children to participate are maximised and parents and other members of the school and Parish communities are encouraged to attend.

The celebrations will take the following forms:

- Whole school Masses- beginning and end of the year, on special feast days, these masses take place either in school or at St Osmund's church
- The whole school will also take part in the Mass on Holy Days of obligation if they occur in school time
- Classes have the opportunity to celebrate at St Osmund's church at least once per year.

### **Sacramental Programme:**

Children will be prepared for the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation, usually during Y3. Special Sunday Masses are arranged with the parish for these children to participate in.

### **Chaplaincy Programme:**

The GIFT Team have been appointed in Year 6 to support others in developing and leading prayer opportunities. They have regular meetings where they plan how to make valuable contribution to the prayer life of the school.

### **The Chapel:**

The Chapel provides a sacred place for prayer, reflection and acts of worship. Teachers take groups of children to lead liturgies and prayer. Opportunities for voluntary prayer in children's own time are also provided and led by the GIFT team.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation:**

Throughout the year, as part of the school's monitoring calendar, the school's provision of worship will be evaluated to consider whether it meets the needs of pupils and whether it truly reflects the aims and mission of the school. Members of the SLT are invited to class Collective Worship.

### **Resources:**

All classroom has the appropriate resources to support Collective Worship.

### **Traditional Prayers**

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

— Matthew's Gospel 18:20

As a Catholic school we have the responsibility to teach prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition. It is agreed that children should become familiar with or know the following prayers:

Foundation Stage	Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
Sign of the Cross Hail Mary The Lord's Prayer Morning Prayers Evening Prayers Grace before / after meals	Sign of the Cross Hail Mary The Lord's Prayer Morning Prayers Evening Prayers Grace before / after meals Eternal Rest Mass responses	Sign of the Cross Hail Mary The Lord's Prayer Morning Prayers Evening Prayers Grace before / after meals Eternal Rest Mass responses Act of Contrition The Apostle's Creed Angel of God Come Holy Spirit The Prayer of St Richard of Chichester	Sign of the Cross Hail Mary Our Father Morning Prayers Evening Prayers Grace before / after meals Eternal Rest Mass responses Act of Contrition The Apostle's Creed Angel of God Come Holy Spirit Come The Prayer of St Richard of Chichester The Rosary The Magnificat Act of Love Act of Faith Act of Hope

### **The Sign of the Cross**

*In the name of the Father  
and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

The sign of the cross is both an action and a statement of faith.

A physical reminder of our redemption in the cross and an expression of faith in the Trinity.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*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.*

The Lord's Prayer 'is truly the summary of the whole of the Gospel'. (CCC 2761.)

### **The Hail Mary**

*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,*

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

— Matthew's Gospel 18:20

*now and at the hour of our death.*

*Amen*

### **Glory be to the Father**

*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.*

### **The Apostles' Creed**

*I believe in God,  
the Father almighty  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen.*

### **Act of Contrition**

*O my God,  
because you are so good,  
I am very sorry that I have sinned against you,  
and with the help of your grace  
I will not sin again.*

### **Angel of God**

*Angel of God,  
my guardian dear,  
to whom God's love commits me here,  
ever this day be at my side,  
to light and guard, to rule and guide.  
Amen.*

The prayer is based on one by Reginald of Canterbury in the early 12th century.

### **Come, Holy Spirit**

*V. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.  
R. And kindle in them the fire of your love.  
V. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.  
R. And you will renew the face of the earth.  
Let us pray*

*O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit,  
did instruct the hearts of your faithful,  
grant that by that same Holy Spirit,*

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

— Matthew's Gospel 18:20

*we may be truly wise, and ever rejoice in your consolation,  
Through Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*

This prayer is a compilation of a number of liturgical texts drawn from the Mass and Office of Pentecost and the Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit.

### **Prayer of St Richard of Chichester**

*Thanks be to you, my Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the benefits which you have given me,  
for all the pains and insults which you have borne for me.  
O most merciful Redeemer, friend and brother,  
may I know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly,  
day by day.*

*Amen.*

### **The Rosary**

*For each mystery or decade, one Our Father, ten Hail Marys and the Glory be is recited.*

#### **The Joyful Mysteries**

*(Recited Monday and Saturday)*

The Annunciation (Luke 1:26–38)

The Visitation (Luke 1:39–45)

The Nativity (Luke 2:1–7)

The Presentation in the Temple (Luke 2:22–35)

The Finding in the Temple (Luke 2:41–52)

#### **The Mysteries of Light**

*(Recited Thursday)*

The Baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:13–17)

The Wedding Feast of Cana (John 2:1–12)

The Proclamation of the Kingdom, with the call to Conversion (Mark 1:14–15; 2:3–12)

The Transfiguration (Luke 9:28–36)

The Institution of the Eucharist (Matthew 26:26–29)

#### **The Sorrowful Mysteries**

*(Recited Tuesday and Friday)*

The Agony in the Garden (Mark 14:32–42)

The Scourging at the Pillar (Matthew 27:15–26)

The Crowning with Thorns (Matthew 27:27–31)

The Carrying of the Cross (John 19:15–17; Luke 23:27–32)

The Crucifixion (Luke 23:33–38, 44–46)

#### **The Glorious Mysteries**

*(Recited Wednesday and Sunday)*

The Resurrection (Matthew 28:1–8)

The Ascension (Acts 1:6–11)

The Descent of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1–12)

The Assumption (1 Thessalonians 4:13–19)

The Coronation of Mary Queen of Heaven and Earth (Revelation 12:1; 14:1–5; Isaiah 6:1–3)

#### **Prayer concluding the Rosary**

*[Hail, Holy Queen, etc. as above]*

*V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.*

*R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

*Let us pray.*

*O God, whose only-begotten Son,*

*by his life, death and resurrection,*

*has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life,*

*grant, we beseech thee,*

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

— Matthew's Gospel 18:20

*that meditating on these mysteries  
of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
we may imitate what they contain  
and obtain what they promise,  
through the same Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*

### **The Magnificat**

*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,  
for he has looked upon his handmaid in her lowliness;  
for behold, from this day forward,  
all generations will call me blessed.  
For the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.  
His mercy is from age to age  
for those who fear him.  
He has made known the strength of his arm,  
and has scattered the proud in their conceit of heart.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones  
and has exalted those who are lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and has sent the rich away empty.  
He has helped his servant Israel,  
mindful of his mercy,  
even as he promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his descendants for ever.  
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.*

Mary's song of praise was first sung to her cousin Elizabeth (Luke 1:46–55).  
It is sung daily at Evening Prayer.

### **Act of Faith**

*My God, I believe in you  
and all that your Church teaches,  
because you have said it,  
and your word is true.*

### **Act of Hope**

*My God, I hope in you,  
for grace and for glory,  
because of your promises,  
your mercy and your power.*

### **Act of Love**

*My God, because you are so good,  
I love you with all my heart,  
and for your sake,  
I love your neighbour as myself.*

### **Eternal Rest**

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.*

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

— Matthew's Gospel 18:20

## Developmental Plan

At SS Osmund & Andrew's we have a schedule to gradually allow children to take more and more responsibility for the delivery of prayer.

It is as follows:

Year Group	Worship – Developmental Plan
EYFS	To help in organising the prayer table / focus to be used in the collective Worship. To give spontaneous responses and prayers. Learn the Sign of the Cross. To show reverence during Collective Worship.
Year 1	To decide on symbols and objects for the table / focus to be used in the collective Worship. To make spontaneous prayer. To show reverence during Collective Worship. To gather silently and go forth silently.
Year 2	To decide on symbols and objects for the table. To make spontaneous prayer. To be able to write questions to help with the RESPOND segment and prayers for the MISSION segment. Where appropriate, to read the Scripture. To learn the responses to readings and the Gospel. The rest to be planned and written by staff.
Year 3	By the end of the year, being able to plan, lead and deliver Collective Worship to their class. To choose the Gospel to use and/or to use the school's Gospel Reading of The Week where appropriate. To organise symbols and give opportunities for spontaneous prayer. Children to evaluate the Collective Worship they have delivered or experienced.
Year 4	To plan, lead and deliver Collective Worship to their class. To choose the Gospel to use and/or to use the school's Gospel Reading of The Week where appropriate. To organise symbols and give opportunities for spontaneous prayer. Children to evaluate the Collective Worship they have delivered or experienced.
Year 5	To plan, lead and deliver Collective Worship to their class. To choose the Gospel to use and/or to use the school's Gospel Reading of The Week where appropriate. To organise symbols and give opportunities for spontaneous prayer. To consider the appropriateness of the session to the audience. Children to evaluate the Collective Worship they have delivered or experienced.
Year 6	To plan, lead and deliver Collective Worship to their class and to other classes / groups of classes across the school. To choose the Gospel to use and/or to use the school's Gospel Reading of The Week where appropriate. To organise symbols and give opportunities for spontaneous prayer. To consider the appropriateness of the session to the audiences from EYFS to Y6. Children to evaluate the Collective Worship they have delivered or experienced.

## Review

This policy should be read in conjunction with the RE Policy and the school's policies on equality. It will be reviewed in line with the school development plan cycle.

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

— Matthew's Gospel 18:20

**June 2026**

### **Our School Prayers**

#### **The Sign of the Cross**

In the name of the father,  
and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

#### **Morning Prayer**

Oh my God you love me, you're with me night and day,  
I want to love you always,  
In all I do and say,  
I'll try to please you Father  
Bless me through the day.  
Amen.

#### **Lunch**

God is great and God is good,  
And we thank Him for our food.  
By God's hand we must be fed,  
Give us Lord our daily bread.  
Amen

#### **After Lunch**

This is our school,  
Let it be full of love,  
Love of one another,  
Love of life itself,  
But, most of all,  
The love of Jesus Christ,  
Our Lord,  
Amen.

#### **Hometime**

God our Father,  
I've come to say,  
Thank you for your love today,  
Thank you for my family,  
And all the fiends you give to me,  
Guard me in the dark of night  
And in the morning, send your light.  
Amen.