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**Prayer Focus**

The liturgical colour for this half-term is green. Green, as the colour of Ordinary Time, reminds us that we continue to grow and develop in faith. Whilst you may not be able to use cloths at this current time, your focus for prayer should reflect this colour. The Season of Creation includes giving thanks for the harvest of the land and sea. Images and objects which remind us of the ongoing nature of Creation can be displayed from simple ones such as pinecones, conkers from the horse chestnut tree to awe inspiring images from around the globe. If you want to venture into outer space NASA have an image of the day which can often take your breath away. Go to [www.nasa.gov/multimedia/imagegallery/iotd.html](http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/imagegallery/iotd.html)

During October ensure The Rosary is your focus and use images of the different Mysteries of the Rosary. Look out for different works of art from around the world to reinforce the global aspect of this prayer.

**Staffroom/ Tutor Noticeboard Autumn 1 2020**

**CAFOD The World We Want Assembly - Thursday 10 September**

**(9:30 Primary 10:00 Secondary)**

“Join us to hear how the lives of others around the world are being impacted by coronavirus.

***Be informed*** about what is happening

***Be inspired*** about how we are all interconnected, working together for the common good

***Become active*** in making a difference

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Our inspiring assembly will reflect on the changes we’ve all experienced and the opportunity we now have to transform our world, together.

Gather together, virtually, and be uplifted by the powerful voices of children and young people who are working together to build a better world.

An advanced viewing for teachers can be seen 24 hours in advance via a Vimeo link in the YouTube description. The assembly will still be available to view on our YouTube channel, after the premiere date.”

More information including assembly notes and pledge cards available here: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/World-we-want-assembly>

**The Liturgical Year: Holy Days, Solemnities, Feasts, Memorials and Ferias**

Throughout the Liturgical Year Christians celebrate and commemorate key events in the life, death and resurrection of Our Lord. During the year key people and events within the story of the Church are also celebrated or commemorated. Some of these are celebrated by the universal Church throughout the world whilst others are celebrated on a more local basis within specific countries, dioceses or even counties.

These events are afforded a particular status by the Church according to their importance and therefore this has an impact upon how Mass is celebrated. The hierarchical structure is as follows.

**Sundays:** all Sundays are a celebration of the Resurrection and are therefore Holy Days of Obligation when Catholics are required to go to Mass. The celebration of Mass on a Sunday includes additional readings and prayers such as The Gloria.

**Holy Days of Obligation:** important Solemnities marking key events in the life of Jesus’ such as The Epiphany and The Ascension are additional days when Catholics are obliged to go to Mass and can fall on any day. The Solemnities of All Saints and Ss. Peter & Paul are also Holy Days of Obligation. These Solemnities will be celebrated like a Sunday Mass.

**Solemnities:** these are important celebrations or commemorationssuch as St. Joseph or The Annunciation but the faithful are not obliged to go to Mass on these days. Mass will be celebrated like a Sunday Mass.

**Feasts:** these are days on which moments in the life of Christ, such as The Presentation are celebrated, or specific saints are commemorated such as The Feast of St. Catherine of Sienna. Specific readings are designated for these days and The Gloria will also be said/sung.

**Memorials:** are days when we commemorate saints in the universal Church and those which are particular to each diocese. The Mass will be an ordinary weekday Mass e.g. St. Francis of Assisi. Some memorials are optional.

A **Feria** is an ordinary day of the week with none of the above assigned to it. The Mass on these days is an ordinary weekday one and the readings of the day would be used.

**The Season of Creation 1 September - 4 October**

**Jubilee for the Earth**

The Season of Creation is an Ecumenical season during which “we are encouraged to pray and engage in community events in order to deepen our relationship with our God, our neighbour and the earth we share, being ever more attentive to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor” (Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales).

This year the season has even greater significance as the Church is celebrating the 5th Anniversary of Pope Francis’ encyclical letter Laudato Si by having a focus upon it for a whole year (running from May 24 2020 - May 24 2021).

To find out more watch and share these two short videos:

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Description automatically generatedA picture containing person, player, person, game

Description automatically generated

The **Justice & Peace Commission** of the Archdiocese of Birmingham have also provided some information and resources

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/season-of-creation-september-2020>

You can also visit the CAFOD website to look at their resources for schools [www.cafod.org.uk/News/UK-news/Laudato-Si-five-years](http://www.cafod.org.uk/News/UK-news/Laudato-Si-five-years)

**“In the beginning the Word already existed;**

**the Word was with God, and the Word was God”**

**John 1:1**

[www.humandevelopment.va/en/news/let-us-unite-in-the-celebration-of-the-season-of-creation.html](http://www.humandevelopment.va/en/news/let-us-unite-in-the-celebration-of-the-season-of-creation.html)

[www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-08/pope-francis-video-prayer-intention-september-respect-planet.html](http://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-08/pope-francis-video-prayer-intention-september-respect-planet.html)

**A Prayer for Schools**

God of all knowledge,

whose wisdom unfolds for us

the meaning of the world in which we live,

be the inspiration and the end of all our efforts

to know, learn, and teach.

Through the seeds of inquiry and wonder

which you have implanted,

may we continue to grow in your wisdom.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God for ever and ever.

Amen.

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**Dates for the Diary\***

**September**

**The Pope’s Prayer Intention for September:** Respect for the Planet’s Resources

The Season of Creation 1 September - 4 October

Tues 1 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

Thurs 3 Feast of St. Gregory the Great

Fri 4 Memorial of St. Cuthbert (optional)

Tues 8 Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Weds 9 Memorial in Coventry of St. Osburg

Thurs 10 Memorial in Oxfordshire of Blessed Agnellus of Pisa

Memorial in Worcestershire of St. Egwin

Mon 14 Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Wed 16 Memorial of Ss. Cornelius and Cyprian

Sun 20 Home Mission Day

Mon 21 Feast of St. Matthew

Thurs 24 Memorial of Our Lady of Walsingham

Sun 27 Day of Prayer in Thanksgiving for the Harvest

Tues 29 Feast of Ss. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

Weds 30 Memorial of St. Jerome

**October** The Month of the Holy Rosary

**The Pope’s Prayer Intention for October:** The Laity’s Mission in the Church

Thurs 1 Memorial of St. Therese of the Child Jesus

Fri 2 Memorial of the Guardian Angels

Harvest Fast Day CAFOD

Weds 7 Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary

Fri 9 Feast of St. John Henry Newman

Sun 11 Prisons Week

Mon 12 Memorial of St. Wilfrid (optional)

Tues 13 Memorial of St. Edward the Confessor (optional)

Thurs 15 Memorial of St. Teresa of Jesus

Fri 16 Memorial of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (optional)

Sun 18 World Mission Day

Mon 19 Memorial in Oxfordshire of St. Frideswide

Thurs 22 Memorial of St. John Paul II (optional)

*\*For a complete list of dates, readings and colours please refer to the*

*Archdiocese of Birmingham Ordo 2019-2020*