

Classroom Prayer Areas

Altar Cloths should be green to indicate ordinary time.

The Church dedicates the month of June to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, one of the most popular Catholic devotions throughout the world. Images, icons and artwork can be displayed on prayer areas.

A splash of red, such as a red candle, can be placed on the prayer area to commemorate the feasts of the Martyrs that occur during this time and especially for St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More.

Prayer areas can also display images, icons, symbols and prayers of St. Peter and St. Paul, e.g. a key for St Peter or a scroll for St Paul on their feast day.



The Sacred Heart

The tradition of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is linked closely to the life of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque. Christ appeared to her and asked her to encourage people to:

- ◆ Show devotion to His sacred heart (a symbol of his love and sacrifice),
- ◆ Receive communion regularly and especially on the first Friday of the month
- ◆ Keep a holy hour.

In these apparitions, Christ made a number of promises to St. Margaret Mary for those that kept to these devotions. This included a blessing on every place 'where a picture of my heart shall be set up and honoured.' The tradition of having a picture of the Sacred Heart in the home became popular.

For additional information: www.jesuit.org.uk/margaret-mary-and-sacred-heart

This stained-glass window of the Sacred Heart is located in Maryvale, Birmingham formerly known as Oscott House. Maryvale House is a place of pilgrimage and devotion as well as an educational centre, the Sacred Heart of Jesus is the focus of devotion. It was here in the first seminary since the reformation (1794-1838) that the first public shrine to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the British Isles was established. When the seminary was moved to Oscott College in 1846, Cardinal Newman and his community were given the house to use as a place of retreat and study. It was at this time that it was renamed Maryvale.

The Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul (29th June)

St. Peter and St. Paul is an important day in the Church year and in normal times is a Holy Day of Obligation. Both of them had important roles of leading the Church in its early days.

St. Peter, one of the twelve apostles was chosen by Jesus to lead the early Church. Originally called Simon, Jesus renamed Peter and declared 'On this rock I will build my Church' (Matthew 16:18). Jesus also said 'I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven...' (Matthew 16:19), Peter is the first Pope and images of him show him holding keys. This symbol is also part of the Papal emblem.

St. Paul never actually met Jesus. However, following his dramatic conversion on the road to Damascus, he spent his life preaching the Good News to many places. His letters, written to these early Church communities can be found in the New Testament. Often, Images of St Paul show him holding the scriptures and a sword.

Cycle of Prayer: Ordinary Time: Summer

During each season the Church asks us to pray for specific intentions. Throughout Summer and especially on the 3rd Sunday of June (20th June), we are asked to pray for Human Life.

*O God, our past and future hope,
to you a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone.
Teach us to see the world through your eyes,
to recognise the faults of the past,
and, however dimly, to see the future with hope.
Let us seek out the places of hurt
where we can offer your love and compassion.
Find the places of darkness and despair
where your mercy can bring light and comfort.
May we be heralds of a new world
where every human life is treated with dignity,
where all can live and have abundant life.*

Day for Life 2017

Please see The Liturgy Office for all the prayer intentions for this season

<http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Calendar/Cycle/SummerCP.shtml>



Prayer at the end of a school year

God of wisdom,
we thank you for all the gifts you have given us
throughout this school year.
We praise you for giving us life,
for saving us in Christ,
and for choosing us to be your people.

As we come to the end of this school year,
we voice our gratitude
for the good things you have done in us,
and we praise you for all who have shared
in the work of this school.

We ask you to bless them in your love
and give them refreshment and peace.

We praise you, God,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen

Dates for the Diary*

June

The Pope's Prayer Intention for June: The Beauty of Marriage

Wed 9	Memorial of St. St Columba
Fri 11	Memorial of St. Ephrem
Wed 16	Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Fri 18	Memorial of St. Richard of Chichester
Mon 21	Solemnity of Dedication of the Cathedral
Tue 22	Memorial of St. Aloysius Gonzaga
Wed 23	Feast of St. John Fisher
Thurs 24	Feast of St. Thomas More
Mon 28	Memorial of St. Irenaeus
Tues 29	Solemnity of Ss. Peter & Paul
Wed 30	Memorial of the First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church

July

The Pope's Prayer intention for July: Social Friendship

Thurs 1	Memorial of St. Oliver Plunket
Mon 5	Memorial of St. Modwen
Tue 6	Memorial of St. Anthony Mary Zaccaria
Fri 9	Memorial of St. Maria Goretti
Tues 13	Memorial of St. Henry
Wed 14	Memorial of St. Camillus de Lellis
Thurs 15	Memorial of St. Bonaventure
Fri 16	Memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Tues 20	Memorial of St. Apollinaris
Wed 21	Memorial of Lawrence of Brindisi

*For a complete list of dates, readings and colours please refer to the Archdiocese of Birmingham Ordo 2020-2021.
Further prayer resources can be found on <https://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/>

Cafod & Missio

CAFOD

National Assembly: 10 June 2021: This online assembly will focus on Pope Francis' letter 'Fratelli Tutti'.

<https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/National-assemblies>

Everything's Connected: last chance to book FREE whole school CPD course: Everything is Connected: enrich school life through global learning (supported by the British Council). The course can be run as a series of 3 twilight sessions for schools who request bespoke dates (contact bfrillery@cafod.org.uk).

Missio

Day of Many Colours: This day is based on the five colours of the Mission Rosary and its aim is to strengthen children's understanding of their place as cherished members of God's Universal family, called by Jesus to love, pray, share, and care for their brothers and sisters everywhere. Mission Together's Day of Many Colours complements the feast of the two great missionaries, St Peter and St Paul (29 June) <https://missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/day-of-many-colours/>