



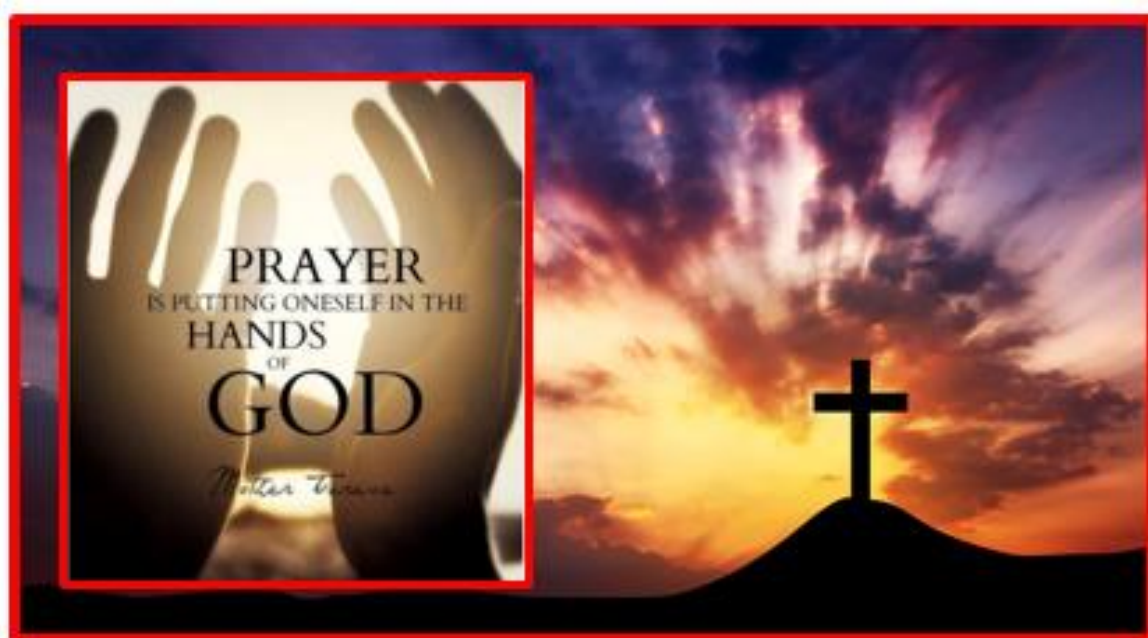
St Margaret Clitherow

Catholic Voluntary Academy

"Love One Another as I have Love You"

John 13:34-35

Collective Worship Policy

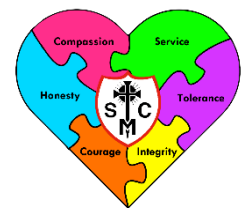


"GO *everywhere* in the world and **TELL** the good news to *everyone.*"

Mark 16:15

Collective Worship Policy

The principles underpinning the spiritual development of our children are based on the gospel values of justice, compassion, service, tolerance, integrity, courage and honesty. Children learn to encounter and appreciate the love of God in their everyday lives and in the world around them.



The life of the school is underpinned by the school's Mission Statement:

Our Mission Statement



St Margaret Clitherow Academy is a loving, caring and serving Catholic community ambitious to educate our children to thrive personally, academically and spiritually.

By placing the person and teachings of **Jesus Christ at the centre of all that we do**, we will:

- Embrace the Gospel Values so that by aiming high everyone fulfils their potential and our differences are respected and celebrated.
- Like St Margaret Clitherow, have the **integrity, faith** and **courage** to show our **love** of God to all.
- Make the best use of our gifts to **serve** God, our Church and those who need us.

'Love one another as I have loved you'

John 13:34

The Nature of Collective Worship

Christian worship is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our loving response, in word and action, to God's invitation to encounter and enter into relationship, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the witness of the Holy Spirit.

"Collective worship is an important part of a Catholic school's distinctive ethos. Taking part in daily collective worship helps build community cohesion by creating a consistent structure around the core values and symbols of Christianity" (CES)

The Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement that there must be a daily act of worship for all pupils. This can take place at any time during the school day and can be either a single act of worship for all pupils, or separate acts of worship in school groups. We understand that simply holding an assembly that includes a prayer, said either by the teacher or everyone present, does not fulfil this requirement. We also acknowledge that liturgical prayer and assembly are distinct activities. They may sometimes form part of the same gathering, but the difference between the two will always be made clear.

The act of worship is not designated curriculum time under regulations and will not be included under any part of the curriculum, including Religious Education.

Parents have a right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. However, given the importance of Collective Worship in a Catholic school, parents and prospective parents will be made aware of the fact that it can never be confined to 'timetabled slots' but may take place in a variety of contexts other than those which are specifically structured.

We support the belief that Collective Worship takes into account 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 educational activity or experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain. Worship in St. Margaret Clitherow is more than just a legal requirement. It is an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic tradition.

The Place of Collective Worship in the Life of our School

The Aims of Collective Worship

As a Catholic school, we will provide opportunities for pupils and staff to:

- Give honour and praise to God
- Develop the school as a community of faith, developing a common ethos and shared values
- Encounter and develop their relationship with God, creation and the community of the Church
- Witness the community and the wider world
- Contemplate something of the mystery of God
- Reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- Explore their own beliefs
- Grow in spirituality, liturgical understanding and development

Collective Worship is well planned, adequately resourced, recorded, monitored and evaluated in order to ensure that the Collective Worship experienced within the school is a relevant, meaningful and makes a positive contribution to the religious, spiritual and moral development of all members of the community.

Principles of Collective Worship at St Margaret Clitherow:

- Follows a structure (Gather, The Word, Respond, Mission)
- Is linked to the Liturgical Year, Come and See or other significant event.
- Scripture is the key focus in most acts of worship. Scripture guides and shapes every other aspect of liturgy.
- Develops pupils' skills which enable them to prepare, organise and lead worship.
- Responds to changing situations within the school and the wider community.

All Acts of Worship:

- Give glory and honour to God
- Are quality, valued moments of time, fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic character
- 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 and their mission within it

Wherever possible Acts of worship are:

- Varied in size, space, location and prayer form to engage children in their faith in varying ways
- Short and appropriately paced
- Simple, including a range of experiences offered in a variety of groupings and in a variety of settings

Planning, Content and Celebration

Whole School Provision

At St Margaret Clitherow collective worship themes are planned following the Church's seasons, Come and See, feast days, the curriculum and significant dates, for example Remembrance, Anti-Bullying Week and The Harvest and they may be guided by the themes of the Bishop's Mission. All collective worship follows the same sequence: gather, Word, response and mission. A variety of prayer styles will be used appropriate to the age of the children and the occasion. Parish and parents are invited to participate in celebrations wherever possible.

Day	Session	Times/length	Venue
Monday	Whole School Liturgical Prayer led by a member of the school staff with the support of the chaplaincy team. Liturgical Prayer based on the Word of the Week, the school values and links to scripture.	9:30am 30 minutes	Hall
Tuesday	KS2 child – led Liturgical Prayer based on an agreed theme EYFS/KS1 – Class led Liturgical Prayer	9:00am 30 minutes	Hall Classroom
Wednesday	Worship Assembly Worship through singing prayers, singing in response to the wonder of God's love.	9:30am 30 minutes	Hall
Thursday	EYFS/KS1 - adult led Liturgical Prayer based on an agreed theme KS2 – Class led Liturgical Prayer	9:00am 30 minutes	Hall Classroom
Friday	Celebration Assembly – Whole School Community Assembly Class teachers celebrate the talents and achievements of the children, offering their good work and deeds. Values champions of the week are recognised.	9.30 am 30 minutes	Hall

The Place of Collective Worship in the Life of our School

Class Provision

Class Liturgical Prayer occur every week in classes. During class based Liturgical Prayer, a small group of children lead a planned liturgical prayer based on an agreed theme. Children use the 'See, Hear, Think, Do' planning grid and are supported by the Let Us Pray resources. Like in all liturgies, the child-led liturgy follows the standard sequence: gather, Word, response, mission. After leading the liturgical prayer, the children keep a record of this in their class folder (approximately every third session). Children participate in an evaluation session in order to create further depth and opportunities next time their turn to plan comes around. As children move through the school, there is a clear, progressive shift in class-based liturgies regarding adult support and child-led independence. Staff support to facilitate and lead certain parts gradually decreases. Our Liturgical Prayers are 'pupil powered' allowing children to be leaders of their faith and inspire others. Staff facilitate and enable rather than dictate. Roles and expectations of the children for each year group when planning collective worship can be seen on our School progression grid.

Eucharist Celebrations

Eucharist celebrations are held of significant importance at St Margaret Clitherow Academy. School masses are held to celebrate the end of each academic year. All Holy Days of Obligation are celebrated in school and members of our parish community are invited to attend. These Masses provide a wonderful opportunity for school and parish to worship together. The staff and children prepare the music, prayers and readings for these celebrations.

Other opportunities

We take every opportunity to seek chances to visit groups within the local community, in order to share prayers and offer Jesus' love and friendship beyond our school building. Some examples of this are: Our EYFS and Y1 children put on a wonderful Christmas Nativity each year, telling the story of the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ. This is exceptionally well attended and a wonderful opportunity for our school and Parish community to gather together to celebrate the joy of His birth. The year 4 class lead Stations of the Cross in school during Holy Week. We regularly contribute to Sunday mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour parish and The Good Shepherd parish by taking responsibility for the liturgy of the word.

Recording, Monitoring and Evaluating

- Class liturgical prayer is recorded in each classes folder. The folders include NCDYS Liturgy planners which keep a record of themes, leaders, pupil groupings and resources.
- Key Stage Liturgies are recorded on the staff server so a record of themes and resources can be seen.
- Liturgical prayer is monitored using the WWW and EBI proforma found in the class folders.
- Class based liturgical prayer is monitored by the class teacher and children together to create targets to move collective worship forward.
- The Chaplaincy Team with the support of SLT evaluate Key Stage Liturgies once every half term.
- Following monitoring, training needs will be identified and outcomes used to inform the current CSED/Action plan.

Resources

The St Margaret Clitherow Academy Head Teachers and CW Lead have overall responsibility for the liturgical prayer resources. However, each class has a Liturgy Box, which is accessible to staff members and children. Included in the class resources are liturgical cloths (green, white and purple) representing the colours of the liturgical year; crucifix, crosses, rosary beads, candles, pictures (e.g. images of Mary, the Holy Spirit, the Sacred Heart of Jesus...) and a variety of different resources to be used in collective worship (pebbles, chalk, mirrors etc.).

Responsibilities

Miss Reilly (Head Teacher), Mrs Sweeney-McGinty and Zoe O'Neill (CW Lead) work closely together to ensure Collective Worship is of an outstanding standard at St Margaret Clitherow Academy. Responsibilities are outlined in Appendix 1.

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

Matthew 18:20

The Role of the Co-ordinator for Collective Worship

- Formulate a written policy for Collective Worship
- Ensure that there is a development plan for Collective Worship which may at times form part of the school development plan
- Ensure that Collective Worship is appropriate to the age, aptitudes and family backgrounds of pupils
- Ensure that Collective Worship takes account of the religious and educational needs of all who share in it and is rooted in the principles of the 'Directory for Masses with Children'
- Organise themes for Worship
- Assists the governors and head teacher to carry out their legal responsibilities with regard to Collective Worship

Planning, recording, monitoring and evaluating

- Maintains and develops effective procedures and documentation
- Observes Acts of Collective Worship
- Informs the Head Teacher of standards and developments in Collective Worship

Communication

- Communicates to members of the school community the significance and content of Acts of Collective Worship
- Reports to and consults with the governors and Head Teacher regarding matters of concern and development
- Acts as consultant to colleagues
- Encourages positive attitudes towards Collective Worship
- Informs newly appointed colleagues of school policy regarding Collective Worship
- Communicates with parents, governors and the parish community
- Liaises with the school chaplain
- Liaises with the Diocesan RE Centre

Professional Development / Ongoing Formation

- Leads and organises in-service training and ongoing formation for Collective Worship
- Attends appropriate in-service courses and reports back
- Keeps up to date by personal reading

Resources

- Evaluates existing resources
- Develops the resources available for Collective Worship including visual aids, artefacts, drapes, music, visitors, leaders, new and relevant books, posters etc.
- Makes recommendations to SLT regarding visits/visitors/resourcing requirements