

THE VALUE AND PURPOSE OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP IN THE LIFE OF KINGSWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Collective worship can both reinforce and contribute to the ethos of the school, in addition to offering a unique occasion in the school day to pause and explore life beyond the prescribed curriculum.

It encourages members of the whole school community, teachers and learners together, to challenge assumptions and reflect upon issues which transcend normal day to day experiences, thus broadening understanding and contributing to our search for meaning in life. By enabling pupils to acknowledge the value of diversity in terms of race, gender, culture and differing abilities, it fosters inclusion and breeds tolerance.

Furthermore, whilst allowing those with religious commitment to enter into worship, those who have no such commitment are offered an opportunity to sense what worship can mean.

The aims of Collective Worship at Kingsway Primary School

Our Collective Worship aims to provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs. We also encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered; thus developing community spirit, promoting a common ethos, sharing values and reinforcing attitudes.

Government guidance circular 1/94 states:

Collective worship in schools should aim:

- to provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs;
- to encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered; and
- to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes.

Legal requirements

Daily

All community, foundation or voluntary schools, other than Pupil Referral Units, are required by law to provide a daily act of collective worship. Special schools should secure daily collective worship as far as is practicable.

Wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character

All pupils should take part in an act of worship which is 'wholly, or mainly of a broadly Christian character' in some appropriate grouping at some point in the day – unless they have been withdrawn by their parents. The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 defines 'broadly Christian' to mean that it should 'not be distinctive of any particular Christian denomination'. This does not apply, however in Church schools in which collective worship is defined by the Trust Deed. Not every act of collective worship is required to be Christian, provided that 'taking any school term as a whole' most are.

Whose responsibility is it?

In community or foundation schools without a religious character, the arrangements for collective worship are the responsibility of the Headteacher after consultation with the governing body. In foundation schools with a religious character or voluntary schools, the arrangements for collective worship are to be made by the governing body after consulting the head, and must by in line with the schools' Trust Deed or Diocesan guidelines in the case of church schools. SACRE's responsibilities include the monitoring and support of collective worship in county schools.

Withdrawals

In accordance with legal requirements, parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of collective worship on religious grounds. Parents should make their wishes known to the Headteacher who will ensure that any pupils who are withdrawn are appropriately supervised while the act of collective worship takes place. Pupils can be withdrawn wholly or partly from acts of collective worship only by parents. Schools should not use this time to withdraw pupils for other activities.

What do we believe is the difference between an assembly and collective worship?

Assemblies can incorporate collective worship, but there is a distinction between the two. A report on sporting achievements may come under 'assembly' but using the pupils' sporting achievements to explore and reflect on human potential, determination, loyalty, courage could be the stimulus for a 'worshipful response' and therefore could constitute collective worship.

It is helpful to establish some ritual for marking out collective worship from assembly – perhaps by involving pupils in lighting a candle or playing music.

School notices should be separate from an act of collective worship and these are better dealt with at the beginning rather than at the end. This enables pupils to continue to reflect on the essence of the act of worship as they leave the hall to continue with other school activities.

At Kingsway Primary School, Effective Collective Worship involves:

- 1 It has to be worship.
- i) A space in the school building which is conducive to a worshipful atmosphere
- ii) A clear focus on important issues or concepts such as love, forgiveness, peace etc.
- iii) Materials and approaches which connect with the pupils (heart and mind)
- iv) Space for reflection giving time to think about the issues raised and enabling those who want to, to pray.
- v) A feeling that this time is somehow special, out of the ordinary.
- **Plenty of participation**... both active and passive, by pupils and adults. This is a time for building up the sense of community and promoting the ethos of a school. It is clearly important therefore, that staff as well as pupils are in attendance.
- **Wide variety of approaches**... dramatic, readings, stories, music, dance, silence, reflections, songs, hymns, prayers, mime, visual images and artefacts that could used as a focus for worship.
- **4. Variety of leaders**... including visitors from outside the school local people from faith and community groups, representatives of charitable activities, school governors, parents... as well as different members of school staff.
- **Broadly Christian**... this does not necessarily mean prayers, hymns, Bible stories have to be used on every occasion but it will be important to include over the course of each term Christian stories, teachings and perspectives and to mark special days and seasons in the Christian calendar.

Organisation

All children attend the daily Collective Act of Worship, which takes place as follows:-

Monday Whole School Worship taken by Headteacher or Deputy Head

Tuesday Class based Worship

Wednesday 'Open the Book' stories in drama from the New Testament Thursday Choral Worship alternating with 'Kingfisher Church'

Friday Whole School Worship taken by Headteacher or Deputy Head and led by classes in rotation. Once each half term (9.00am) representatives from each class present a Parents Service.

It is acknowledged that, due to the needs and practicalities of school administration and teacher time, it is not always possible for all staff to attend all assemblies.

The law also requires us to provide pupils with an opportunity to worship God as part of our Collective Worship. We therefore try to provide an opportunity to respond in the form of a time of quiet reflection at some point in each act of collective worship. This time may involve spoken prayers but more often a time for each pupil and adult present to be quiet and think about what they have heard; this will provide opportunity for each to worship God if they should wish to do so.

Classroom, /Key Stage and Whole School worship

We organise our 'daily' act of collective worship, in a variety of ways. Whole school assembly is not always desirable because particular issues, relevant to the age group or curriculum may need to be explored in a slightly different ways. For this reason, we vary the groupings for our Collective Worship throughout the year.

The approach to Collective Worship

The acts of collective worship are planned to give pupils a variety of experiences to enable them to reflect on, and respond to,

- Monthly themes, which relate to the Christian Church Year
- Special events in the Christian Calendar.
- Issues which arise from the everyday life and ethos of the school.
- things which we, as a school community, believe are important.

Collective Worship time in school is distinct from other classroom activities, retaining a sense of occasion and togetherness. There is a small rectangular table to act as a focus for whole school acts of worship. This has a cloth upon which can be placed the candle and the cross to act as foci for prayer and reflection.

Children will be given the opportunity to consider familiar ideas and explore new ones. They will need to experience a wide diversity of worship practice, which encourages a variety of responses.

For example:- **Elements of Worship**

- Hymns, Songs & Music
- Prayer and silence
- Reflection and contemplation stilling
- Individual and group activities
- Stories from a wide variety of sources
- Readings, "sermons"
- A variety of visual aids
- Discussion, speech
- Procession and ritual action
- Dance/drama
- Use of the senses
- Artistic imagery
- Different seating plans

Senses and Feelings

- Sense of beauty, wonder and awe
- Understanding of the joy of love
- Feeling of pride both shared and self image
- Sense of pity and understanding sympathy / empathy
- Sense of thankfulness
- Sense of shared sadness or loss
- Sense of smallness in the face of the greatness of things
- Sense of grandness in the face of the smallest of things
- Sense of stillness and peace

Themes for Collective Worship

The acts of worship follow themes taken from The 'Values for Life' scheme of Gloucester County Council. The current year's themes are displayed on the staff noticeboard. While staff are encouraged to follow these, allowances are made for marking festivals or other newsworthy events.

The 'Choral Worship' assembly provides an opportunity to look carefully at some of the songs we use under the collective worship themes.

The role of the collective worship co-ordinator

- assisting the Governors and Headteacher to carry out their legal responsibilities with regard to collective worship
- reporting to the Governors and Headteacher on matters of concern and development
- communicating with members of the school community regarding the significance and content of acts of collective worship
- ensuring that there is a development plan for collective worship which may at times form part of the Whole School Development Plan.
- developing and maintaining documentation for the effective planning, recording, monitoring and evaluating of acts of collective worship.
- developing and maintaining effective procedures for planning, recording, monitoring and evaluating acts of collective worship.
- being responsive to the needs and views of other members of the school community.
- developing the resources available for collective worship including new and relevant books, posters, visual aids, artefacts, music, visitors, leader

Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring

Individual Acts of Worship will be recorded in the Assembly Record Book kept in the Headteacher's office. Collective worship will be monitored and evaluated on an annual basis at a staff meeting.

What is to be monitored?

- Is the documentation for collective worship in place and effective? This will include a
 collective worship Policy Statement, evidence of planning of acts of collective worship,
 records of each act of daily worship, evidence that the quality of acts of worship have
 been evaluated.
- Is sufficient time set aside to ensure that monitoring can take place? This may include
 observations of acts of collective worship. Discussions with those who lead worship
 i.e. Staff and visitors. Discussions with those who experience worship i.e. pupils. staff,
 parents, governors and other members of the school community.
- Is the documentation for collective worship consistent with observed practice?
- Is collective worship adequately resourced in terms of leaders, materials, visual aids etc.?
- Is there a record of, requirement for, Staff development or In-service training?
- Are the various groupings and environments for collective worship maximising opportunities for worship?

Resources

These are available in the staff room and from the headteacher. We use radio broadcast material from the BBC, some of the assemblies from 'The Assembly File' publication and also on-line assemblies form the internet.

The Gloucester Diocesan RE Resource Centre has a wide range of books, video and artefacts for loan.

Contact 9 College Green, Gloucester, GL1 2LX

Tel/Fax: 01452 385217

Email: glosrec@star.co.uk

Opening hours Monday to Friday 12 noon-5.00pm

Late opening until 6.00 Every Thursday

'Space for Reflection'

Collective worship materials published by RE Today includes collective worship outlines and a list of recommended resources. Contact: RE Today, 1020 Bristol Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham, B29 6LB

Tel: 0121 472 4242 Fax: 0121 472 7575 Email retoday@retoday.org.uk

Websites

A number of websites now exist and others will develop. Have a look at:

www.assemblies.org.uk/

www.natsoc.org.uk/

www.culham.info/index.html

www.christian-aid.org.uk/

www.cafod.org.uk/schools/default.asp

www.resite.org.uk/

www.stapleford-centre.org/

www.prayingeachday.org/

www.reep.org/

http://www.openthebook.net

Example of Guidance for Visitors

Kingsway Primary School Collective Worship

If you need any particular equipment for your talk, please let the Headteacher. know

Arriving in school

by.....

When you arrive at school please follow signs for reception and visitor parking. Please sign in at Reception by 8.50am. You will be met there by two students who will show you to the hall you will be using so that you can set up as necessary, and then take you to meet the member of staff responsible for the day's assembly.

Times of assemblies

Assembly begins at 8.55am and finishes at 9.15am Students will enter in silence, with music playing as they do so and sit in rows in their tutor groups. Teachers accompany their groups. If you would like particular music to be played, please let the Headteacher know by the day beforeand bring it with you. Notices will be given at the beginning of the assembly, but there is a clear demarcation between such school business and the collective worship you will be leading. You will have a full fifteen minutes.

Student participation

Students are accustomed to ending collective worship with a moment of reflection, with a prayer, perhaps, to which they may respond as individuals. They are accustomed to singing hymns. Pupils respond well to collective worship when they are able to participate – they should not simply be passive recipients. They prefer lively, interesting, clearly audible and well-constructed presentations. Contemporary references are often helpful but must be age appropriate.

We look forward to seeing you

Themes for the Act of Collective Worship

Themes	Themes Special Dates	
September Creation Beginnings Harvest Giving thanks Sharing, Unselfishness	6 Mayflower set sail 7 Grace Darling rescue 1838 14 Holyrood Day (finding by St Helena of relics of cross) 24 Harvest Home 21 St Matthews, Apostle 29 Michaelmas (Angels) 30 St Jerome	3 All things bright 7 All creatures of our God and King 138 Now we sing a harvest song 139 Now the harvest is all gathered Infants 32 Thank you Lord
October The animal world and animals in the Bible Healing, hospitals and medical missions Healing miracles Helping other people	4 St Francis of Assisi 6 William Tyndale (Translator of Bible) 12 Edith Cavell executed 1815 18 St Luke (Doctors, Painters) 24 United nations Day	24 Go tell it on the mountain 65 When I needed a neighbour 70 Cross over the road 79 From the tiny ant Infants 19 He's got the whole world
November Saints and Martyrs Remembering Dedication, giving your life for a cause Music in the Bible, in Worship and Churches	1 All Saints Samaritans founded 1953 11 St. Martins (torn cloak) Remembrance 15 St Malo (Hood as bird nest) 22 St Cecilia (Musicians) 23 St Columban 30 St Andrew (Scotland)	4 Autumn Days 43 Give me oil in my lamp 33 Praise the Lord in everything 63 Spirit of god Infants 40 Praise Him
 December Advent, preparing for a great event Light Christmas The poor, homeless and hungry Giving, giving one's best 	1 Mary Jones (Bible) 1784 6 S. Nicholas 13 St Lucia's Day (light) 21 St Thomas, Apostle 26 St Stephen (First Christian Martyr) 27 St John the Evangelist 28 Holy Innocents (Herod) 29 Thomas a Becket	120 As I went riding by 123 Mary had a baby 126 Little Star 117 I want to see your baby boy Infants 127 Christmas time is here (come and celebrate)

Themes for the Act of Collective Worship

Kingsway Primary School Collective Worship Policy June 2012 (Version 2)

Themes	Special Dates	Suitable Hymns
 January New Year resolutions Promises Parables Jesus the Child All God's World, different races 	7 St Bernadette has vision at Lourdes 1844 8 Lord Baden Powell died 24 Lord Baden Powell founded Scouts 1908 14 Dr Albert Schweitzer Missionary Doctor born 1875 15 Martin Luther King Day 25 feast of Conversion of Saint Paul	 10 God who mad the earth (Tune 2) 50 When a knight won his spurs 85 Spirit of peace 113 To everything turn, turn Infant 21 Come & Praise the Lord our King
 February Training for an event, responding to challenges, perseverance Doing good, helping others Jesus in the wilderness Prayer Reflection, contemplation, time to be alone, needing others 	1 St Bridget of Ireland 2 Candlemass day (Presentation of Christ) 14 St Matthias - the Apostle who took the place of Judas after he killed himself. Act 1:23-26	51 Lord's Prayer 60 I Listen and I listen 96 A still small voice 97 Simple gifts Infant 68 Kumba yah
 March Palm Sunday, Easter Telling the truth Temptations, survival and strength, sacrifice Times of difficulty, courage Physical difficulties Saying sorry, forgiveness 	1 St David's Day (Wales) 4 Royal National Lifeboat founded 1824 8 International women's day 16 Feast Day of Abraham 17 St Patrick (Ireland) 20 St Cuthbert 21 St Benedict	23 Jesus good above all other 48 Father hear the prayer we offer 130 All in an Easter Garden 132 When from the sky Infant 108 The Lord, the Lord

Themes for the Act of Collective Worship

Kingsway Primary School Collective Worship Policy June 2012 (Version 2)

Themes	Special Dates	Suitable Hymns
 April Spring, new life Families, relationships, working and living together Friends Virtues, codes of behaviour, honesty Rules, responsibilities, choices 	10 William Booth born 1829 (Salvation Army) 15 Father Damian, friend of lepers, died 1889 23 St George's Day (England) 25 St Mark the Evangalist	91 Breakout (you can build a wall) 105 God of the morning 131 Now the green blade rises 141 Shalom Infants 93 Morning Sun
 May Caring for our surroundings, environmental issues Feelings and emotions Needs or ourselves and others 	8 World Red Cross day 12 Florence Nightingale born 1820 21 Elizabeth Fry born 1750 24 John and Charles Wesley 26 St Augustine (First Archbishop of Canterbury)	6 The earth is yours O Lord 73 When your Father 89 Guess how I feel 101 In the bustle of the city
June Water, earth, air and fire Growing and changing Food and shelter Parables	7 Robert the Bruce died 1329 9 St Colomba (Iona) 11 St Barnabas, Apostle 15 World Children's day Saint Bernard 20 Father's Day? 22 St Alban 24 Birthday John the Baptist 29 St Peter and St Paul	2 Water of life 84 Waves are beating 144 Peace is flowing 147 Make me a channel
 July winning, losing, achieving through effort Congratulations and disappointment The sea and seashore Journeys and pilgrimages Moving on, moving up, turning points 	4 Dr Barnado born 1845 6 Feast - St Thomas More 11 St Benedict 15 St Swithin's Day 19 St Vincent de Paul (chaplain to galley slaves) 22 Mary Magdalen 25 St Christopher 29 William Wilberforce died 1833	45 the journey of life 47 One more step 49 We are climbing 87 Give us hope, Lord 98 You shall go our with joy "Servants song" for leavers

Some appropriate themes suitable for development over a week or longer

Desert Island Green issues Achievement Leaders and Adventure **Discs** Growing leadership Differences Aggression and Guiding light Learning hate Disability Guilt and suffering Leisure Aims and ambitions Discipleship Handicaps Lent All Saints Happiness is... Life and death Discovery **Ambitions Dreams** Hardship Life's challenge A time for everyone Easter Harvest Life's ups and downs Autumn Education and Haves and Have-Light **Barriers** learning nots Listen Beauty Education and life Health Living and loving Beginnings Enjoyment Helping Hands Living with Heroes and heroines Big and small **Epiphany** tomorrow Hobbies Blindness & sight Experience Love and hate **Books** Exploring the Holidays and travel Memories and Homes and families Bravery future reflections **Bridges** Exploring the past Hope and despair Messages and Building relationships Faith Human vices messengers Care and caring Fame Human virtues Method and Challenge **Fantasy** Humility madness Change Films I have seen Humour Miracles Charity I believe... Mothering Sunday Finding your way Food for thought Children Illusion and reality My favourite music Choice/Choices Forgiveness **Imagination** My favourite poem Christmas Freedom and Influences and Myself and others indoctrination **Neiahbours** Citizenship responsibility Invitations New life Communication Freedom and slavery Communion Friends/Friendship Jesus News Compassion Gifts **Journeys** New school year Conservation Giving up and Joy and happiness New year Joy and sorrow resolutions Courage going on Global issues Justice and fair play Obedience Creation Day and night God and gods Just thinking about it Obstacles God's world Democracy and Key people Old age Good and evil Government Language Old and new One world Good news Laws and rules

Kingsway Primary School Policy

Opportunity/ies	Riches	Strength and	Wealth, money
Optimism and	Rights and	weakness	and riches
hope	responsibilities	Success and	What God doesn't tolerate
Parables	Roots	failure	tolerate
Parents and	Sacrifice	Taking risks	What's it worth?
children	Saving life	Talk, talk, talk	Why are we here?
Passover	School and	Thanks	Windows
Past and future			Wisdom
	community	Thanksgiving	
Peace (and	School and	The apostles	Wise and foolish
tranquillity)	opportunity	The Arts	Witness
Personal qualities	School and	The future	Wonder and awe
People I have met	tradition	The good things	Words, words,
Pilgrimage	Science	in life	words
Places of worship	Seeing the light	The message	Work and play
Planet earth	Serving and	The natural world	Worship
Poetry	service	The outsider	Youth
Power and spirit	Signs and	The still, small voice	
Praise	symbols	The unexpected	
Prayer and	Sound of silence	The world about us	
meditation	Special books	Things to avoid	
Prejudice	Special interests	Treasures	
Preparations	Special people	Turning points	
Pride	Special places	Us and them	
Proverbs and sayings	Stepping stones and	Victory and defeat	
Rebirth	stumbling blocks	Views of	
Red letter days	Stories from the lives	education	
Relationships	of great leaders	Visits and visitors	
Responsibilities	Stories from the	Voices	
Reward and	New Testament.	Voices from the	
punishment	Stories from the	past	
Rhyme and	Old Testament	War and peace	
reason	Strain and stress	Wealth and poverty	

MONTHLY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE ACT OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

January

Promises of God:

To Noah (the rainbow) Genesis 9 vv8-17

To Abraham (to make him the founder of a host of nations) Genesis 17 vv1-8

To Moses (God speaking our of the burning bush promises Moses shall lead the Israelites our of

Egypt into a land flowing with milk and honey) Exodus chapter 3 vv 1-11.

Parables:

Mark 4 vv 1-20 (the parable of the sower, its explanation, and why Jesus taught in parables.

Jesus the Child:

Luke 2 vv 22-35 (presentation of Jesus, his parents' first-born, to God in the Temple, and

Simeon's recognition of the child as the Messiah)

Luke 2 vv 41-52 (Jesus the 12-year old tasks knowledgeably to the religions teachers in the Temple while his parents search for him)

All God's World:

Genesis Chapter 1 (the creation of the world)

Genesis chapter 2 (a slightly different account of the Creation, with the emphasis on Adam and Eve)

Psalm 8 ('... When I consider the heavens ...what is man, that thou are mindful of him...?)

* Psalm 15 (David describes an ideal citizen)

Psalm 46 ('God is our hope and strength, a very present help in trouble...')
Psalm 67 ('God be merciful unto us, and bless us)

* This 5-verse psalm is the only really short passage our of the foregoing. The first two chapters

of Genesis and both longish and difficult to shorten.

February

Training for an event, perseverance, meeting challenges:

1 Corinthians 9 vv 24-27 (training for a race)

Hebrews 12 vv 1-2 ('...run with perseverance the race that is set before us')

2 Corinthians 6 vv 3-10 (the trails and tribulations of a Christian)

James 1 vv 2-4 (testing breeds fortitude)

1 Peter 2 vv 19-25 (suffering because you have done right is a fine thing) Matthew 16 vv 24 - 28 (@if anyone wishes to be a follower of mine, he must take up his cross and come with me')

Doing good, helping others:

Luke 10 vv 25-37 (parable of the Good Samaritan)

Jesus in the wilderness:

Luke 4 vv 103 (the temptation of Jesus)

Prayer:

Luke 11 vv 11-4 (the disciples ask to be taught how to pray)

Luke 18 vv 9-14 (the parable of the Pharisee and the publican)

1 Timothy 2 vv 1-8 (Paul exhorts us all to pray)

James 5 vv 13-16 (occasions for prayer and its efficacy)

Philippians 4 vv 6-7 ('in everything by prayer and supplication let your requests be made known unto God....')

Reflection, time to be alone, contemplation:

Matthew 14 vv 22-23 (after the feeding of the 5000 Jesus goes to a mountain by himself to pray)

Matthew 26 vv 36-45 (Christ's agony in the garden)

March

Psalm Sunday and Easter:

Mark 10 vv 32034 Jesus tells his disciples what will happen to him when they reach Jerusalem: his betrayal, death and resurrection.

Mark 11 vv 1-11 Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem

Matthew 21 vv 1-11 (as above)

Mark 14 vv 32-42 The agony in the Garden of Gethsemane

John 18 vv 1-11 Jesus' betrayal and arrest

John 18 vv 33-4- Jesus and Pontius Pilate ('what is truth?')

Luke 23 vv 32-47 the death of Jesus

John 20 vv 1018 Mary and Peter and John discover the empty tomb

Telling the truth:

Psalm 15 vv 1-2 'Lord who shall abide in thy tabernacle ... he that ... speaketh the truth in his heart'

Zechariah 9 vv 16-17 'Speak ye every man the truth...'

1 Corinthians 5 v 8 'therefore let us keep the feast ... with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth'

Ephesians 4 vv 14-16 'We are no longer to be children ... No, let us speak the truth in love...

(much more understandable in a modern translation)

Temptations, survival, sacrifice:

Matthew 4 vv 1-11 the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness

Matthew 26 vv 36-39 '... if it be possible, let this cup pass from me ...' (the agony in the garden of Gethsemane!)

Mark 14 vv 66-72 Peter denies knowing the arrested Jesus ... and he went out, and wept bitterly'

1 Kings 19 vv 109 Elijah flees for hit life but is succoured by God

1 Kings 17 vv God sends a drought to punish Ahab, but commands the ravens to feel Elijah who is hiding by the brook Cherith

Acts 2 vv 1011 Peter's deliverance from prison by an angel

Acts 27 vv 39-44 Paul is shipwrecked on the island of Malta

John 15 vv 12-13 @Greater love hath no man that this ...'

Philippians 2 vv 5-8 Jesus was god but made himself humble ad accepted death - even death on the cross

Times of difficulty, courage:

1 Samuel 17 vv 32-51 Davis and Goliath

1 Kings 18 vv 21-40 Elijah and the prophets of Baal

Acts 8 vv 51-60 The death of Stephen

Physical difficulty:

2 Corinthians 12 vv 7-10 Paul accepts his physical pain as something to glory in

Saying sorry, forgiveness:

Luke 15 vv 11-32 the parable of the prodigal son

Matthew 18 vv 21-22 Peter asks how often he should forgive his brother Luke 15 vv 3-7 Joy in heaven over one sinner that repents - the lost sheep that is found

April

Spring, new life:

Song of Solomon 2 vv 11-13 'For how the winter is past ...'

Families, relationships:

Mark 10 vv 13-16 'Suffer the little children ...'

Genesis 45 vv 1-15 Joseph and his brothers

2 Samuel 1 vv 25-27 David's lament for the death of Jonathan

John 19 cc 25-27 Jesus from the cross commits his mother to John's care

Friends:

John 15 vv 13-15 '... but I have called you friends...'

Virtues, codes of behavior:

Micah 6 vv 6-8 '... and what doth the Lord require of thee ...?

Luke 6 vv 27-31 A new law of love

Luke 10 vv 25-37 The Good Samaritan

Matthew 7 vv 105 'Judge not ...'

Psalm 15 vv 1-5 A good citizen's values

May

Caring for our surroundings:

Matthew 6 vv 28-30 'Consider the lilies ...'

Feelings and Emotions:

1 Kings 19 vv 1-8 Elijah's despair

2 Samuel 18 vv 31-33 David's grief at the death of his son

Matthew 26 vv 69-75 Peter's cowardice and shame

June

Water, earth, air and fire:

Genesis 1 vv 1-12 god creates our world

Psalm 19 vv 1-6

Exodus 3 vv 206 '... the burning bush'

Daniel 3 vv 19-25 Shadrach, Meshac amd Abednego and the burning fiery

Psalm 107 vv 23030 '... They that go down to the sea in ships ...'

.Growing and changing:

Luke 2 vv 40-52 Jesus as a 12-year old

1 Corinthians 13 vv 11-13 'when I was a child ...'

Food and shelter:

Psalm 23 'The Lord is my shepherd ...'

Genesis 1 vv 29-31

Exodus 16 vv 11-15 God sends manna in the wilderness

July

Winning and losing, achieving through effort, congratulations:

Matthew 16 vv 24-28 'For what shall it profit a man...?

1 Corinthians 9 vv 24-27 Running in a race
Hebrews 12 vv 1-2 '... run with patience the race that is set before us
Luke 9 vv 61-62 '... putteth his hand to the plough ...'

The sea, seashore:

Psalm 107 vv 23-30 'They that go down to the sea ...'
Psalm 104 vv 24-27 '... so is the great and wide sea also'
Acts 27 vv 18-44 Paul is shipwrecked on Malta
Mark 4 vv 37-41 Jesus calms the storm

Journeys and pilgrimages:

Luke 24 vv 13-35 The journey to Emmaus Matthew 10 vv 5-14 Jesus sends his disciples out to preach Exodus 13 vv 17-22 God leads the Israelites out of Egypt

Moving on, moving up:

Acts 9 vv 10-18 Paul is converted

September

Creation:

Genesis 2 vv 4-9

Beginnings:

John 1 vv 1-5

Harvest:

Genesis 8 vv 20-22 God's promise after the flood Matthew 13 vv 24-31 The parable of the tares

Giving thanks:

1 Corinthians vv 55-58 '... but thanks be to God Psalm 95 vv 1-5 The Venite

Sharing:

acts 2 vv 44-47 Sharing in the early Church