



R.E.

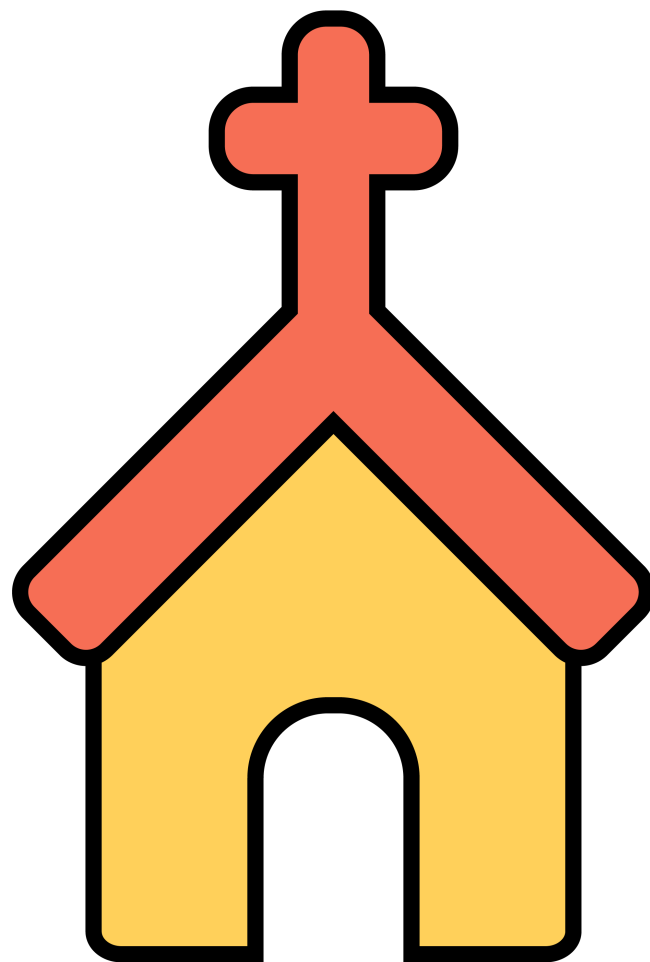
w/c 29th June 2020

This week we will be learning all about our church community.

This week we will be learning all about the people who make up our church community and the work they do.

Our church is not just a building. It is made up of lots of people who form a community.

We live in the parish of Our Lady and All Saints in Stourbridge. A parish is a church family that is looked after by a priest.



Who is part of our church community?

Fr Des.

Fr Des is our parish priest. He is a very busy man because we live in a large parish. Fr Des looks after our parish for Archbishop Bernard and he is responsible for our faith. He cares about each and every member of our parish. His main job is to say the Mass and bring the Sacraments to the people. He is always thinking of us.

Deacon Tom

A Deacon's job is to help the priest. Our Deacon is Deacon Tom. He can do many of the things that a priest can do, but he can't say Mass.



The Eucharistic Ministers

The Eucharistic Ministers help Fr. Des to give out the bread and wine (the Eucharist) at Mass. They also take the Eucharist to people who cannot come to Mass because they are old or ill. We have lots of Eucharistic Ministers in our parish, including Mrs Hounsell, Mrs McCole, Mr. Carry and Dee who work in our school.



The Readers

These are the people who read the Scriptures – but not the Gospel – at Mass. Mrs. Riley is one of the Readers at our church.

Our Musicians

We have wonderful musicians in our church community. The organist, choir and music group play and sing at our Masses.



Catechists

These are the people who help you to prepare to receive the Sacraments for the first time. You will work with a catechist in Year 3 when you get ready to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion.

Ushers

These are the people that help you find somewhere to sit at Mass and take the collection.

Hospitality Ministers

These are the people who make you feel welcome when you arrive at Mass. They might give you a hymn book or sheet or make you a cup of tea after Mass. They are always happy to chat to you.

Although all these people have a particular job to do, we are all part of our parish community and we all have the job of bringing the good news of Jesus' love to everyone we meet.



Cleaners

There are a group of volunteers who give up their time to keep our church spick and span. They Hoover, polish and sweep. They make sure all the altar cloths are clean and keep everything very tidy.

Flower arrangers

Our church is often decorated with beautiful flowers. This is because we are lucky enough to have a group of people who create amazing flower arrangements.

As you can see, a church is more than a building. It is a community that shares their faith and spreads God's love.

Your task:

Make a poster to explain why we call our church a community.

Include details of the different jobs people do.



Why do you think it is important to have a church building to visit?



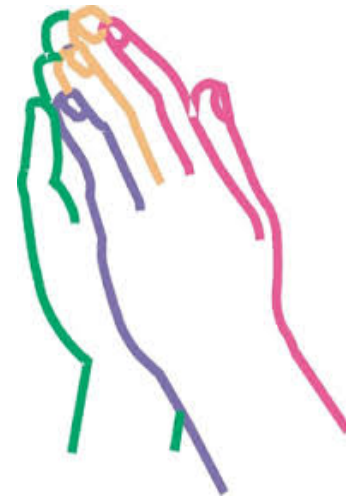
Prayer

It is important for us to have a church building as it gives us a place to meet together to share our faith.

A church is a place where we pray. Prayer is communicating or talking with God. We may not be able to call God on the telephone or send Him a letter, but prayer is just as real as e-mail or newspapers.

Why should we pray?

Because it makes our relationship with God stronger. Could you imagine trying to have a best friend without communicating with them? Prayer is seeking God and His direction for our lives.



Teach us how to pray

Pope Francis has come up with an easy and simple way to pray that children can remember! It's called "The 5 Fingers Prayer" and children simply use the fingers on their hand to remind them to pray, not just for themselves and their family, but for their teachers, leaders, and the forgotten people in the world who need prayer!



Have a look at the example on the next page to help you understand what to do.



The thumb is the closest finger to you. So start praying for those who are closest to you.

The next finger is the **index finger**. Pray for those who teach you, instruct you, and heal you. They need God's help as they offer direction for others.

The following finger is **the tallest**. It reminds us of our government leaders and others who have authority. They need God's guidance.

The fourth finger is the **ring finger**, which is also our weakest finger. It should remind us to pray for the weakest among us—the sick, the poor, those who are ignored and those who are sad or scared.

And finally we have our **smallest finger**, the smallest of all. Your **pinkie** should remind you to pray for yourself. When you are done praying for the other four groups, you will be able to pray for your own needs in a better way.



Your Task:

Write your own 5 finger prayer that we can add to our class prayer book.

Well done Year 2. I am so proud of all your hard work. I love seeing what you have been doing, so please send photos to me at info@st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk.

WELL DONE! *well done*