

Term- Autumn Term 2 2022				
Theme: Journey through the Bible linked to Christian values				
Colours of the cross: Green				
Aims: to journey, discover and celebrate a year of the bible.				
Week	Week beginning	Weekly Theme	Reflection Activity	Prayer
1	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	<p><b>Theme:</b> Creation and Covenant- Joseph: slavery, dreams and freedom</p> <p><b>Message:</b> Worthy of a soap opera, Joseph's story sees him sold as a slave in Egypt because of sibling rivalry. Honest labour and integrity led to him becoming the top man in the household, but false accusation caused his fall from grace and prison.</p> <p>It was all about dreams, his brothers hated him because of his dreams, and in prison he accurately explained dreams of fellow prisoners from Pharaoh's court. So when Pharaoh had some nasty dreams Joseph was called upon to explain them. The dream warned of years of famine but Joseph, with God's help, was able to offer a solution – store any excess food in the seven years of plenty, then share it out in the seven years when the harvests would fail. He was put in charge of the whole country. Joseph's brothers eventually came seeking food and after a touching reunion the entire family chose to move to Egypt.</p>	<p>Use the broken friendships activity from Prayer Spaces in Schools and link it to today's story <a href="https://www.prayerspacesinschools.com/resources/106">https://www.prayerspacesinschools.com/resources/106</a></p> <p>You could begin this as part of your reflection time in collective worship and connect it with this activity in your reflection space <a href="https://www.prayerspacesinschools.com/resources/73">https://www.prayerspacesinschools.com/resources/73</a></p> <p>to encourage pupils to think about what reconciliation means through the week.</p>	<p>Dear God</p> <p>Thank you for the story of Joseph and how it can help us think about forgiveness. Help us to say sorry when we get things wrong, thank you that we can have a fresh start. Please help us to be forgiving people here in this school. Amen</p>
	Roots and Fruits	<p><b>Advent and Christmas:</b> The coming of Jesus is foretold</p> <p><b>Christian value - Hope</b></p> <p><b>Bible text:</b> Isaiah 9.6</p> <p><b>Message:</b> prophets are people who listen carefully to God and sometimes God tells them what will happen in the future. God spoke to a prophet called Isaiah 800 years before Jesus was born and told him about a new king who would be the saviour of the world.</p>	<p>Think of other names or titles that might describe Jesus.</p>	<p>Wonderful councillor</p> <p>We praise you for your great wisdom and guidance. Mighty God, we praise you for your power and courage</p> <p>Everlasting father, we praise you for loving us and being with us always.</p> <p>Prince of peace, we praise you for showing us how to make peace through justice and forgiveness</p> <p>Amen</p>
		<p><b>Theme:</b> Exodus &amp; Promised Land – Moses: born and hidden</p> <p><b>Covered by the Vicar in Aut1</b></p>		

2	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	<p>Theme: Exodus &amp; The Promised Land – Moses: Burning Bush</p> <p>Moses grew up as the adopted son of an Egyptian princess, but it was not an easy fit as he identified as an Israelite. Once he went so far as to intervene when a Hebrew slave was being beaten. Becoming aware that his secret was known he had little choice but to flee. He met and married a Midianite woman and settled to goat and sheep keeping, his past life forgotten. A bush on fire caught Moses attention, when he turned aside to investigate he heard the voice of God. Then God spoke to him, identifying himself as the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He set him a task – return to Egypt, persuade the king to let the Israelites go, and establish their own independent nation in the land God had promised them. Moses was not very eager, but accepted the challenge and returned to Egypt.</p>	<p>Moses was set a big challenge to make life better for others. We can often be faced with challenges – some harder than others if we want to make life better for others. Give each pupil a cut out of a flame. Encourage pupils to write down some big challenges they have and that are in the world that they would like to help make better for others. Encourage pupils to add them to the burning bush in the middle. Encourage pupils to reflect on one thing they can do this week that would make a difference to someone else.</p>	<p>Dear God</p> <p>Thank you for giving me the strength to tackle new things, help others and not be scared.</p> <p>Please help me as I take on new challenges that are important to me.</p> <p>Thank you for those at school and at home who encourage me and help me.</p> <p>Amen</p>
	Roots and Fruits	<p><b>Zechariah and Elizabeth</b></p> <p><b>Christian value</b> – hope</p> <p><b>Bible text:</b> Luke 1.5 -25</p> <p><b>Message:</b> Zechariah and Elizabeth hoped and prayed for many years to have a child. They were visited by the angel Gabriel and told they had been chosen by God to have a baby.</p>	<p>Consider why God chose Zechariah and Elizabeth to have his special baby</p>	<p>The morning prayer of St. Patrick</p>
3	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	<p>Theme: Exodus &amp; Promised Land – Moses: Passover Meal</p> <p>When Moses was instructed by God to return to Egypt he began negotiations with Pharaoh to release the enslaved people of Israel. The discussions didn't go well and God was forced to intervene with a series of disasters that affected only Egyptians, but not the Hebrews. The culmination of this campaign was to be the death of all of Egypt's first born, an awful judgement on a stubborn king and his people. In preparation each Israelite family was to prepare a feast, a symbol of their forthcoming freedom. This was the origin of the Jewish Passover Festival, full of symbolism and storytelling. That terrible night there was grief in every Egyptian household, and a chastened Pharaoh allowed the Israelites their freedom. Released from their slavery the people were led out of Egypt to a new future and the new land that God had promised them, a land that promised food and security.</p>	<p>Use the symbols from the Passover meal for your time of reflection. Light or turn on the battery candle and place in the middle – ask pupils to reflect on why light is important. Bitter Herbs symbolise the bitterness of slavery. Ask pupils to reflect on something in our world at this moment they would like to change. Matzah – a reminder that the Israelites left in a hurry as God set them free. Ask pupils to think about someone or something they are thankful for</p>	<p>Ask pupils to share their responses and say a simple prayer to finish.</p>

	Roots and Fruits	<p><b>The angel announces the good news to Mary</b></p> <p><b>Christian value</b> – Dignity</p> <p><b>Bible text:</b> Luke 1.26 -38</p> <p><b>Message:</b> Until a few hundred years ago people were unable to read and write. One way that people learnt about stories from the bible was by looking at art work in churches. Painters tried to put as much information in the pictures as possible. Sometimes they would use symbols to convey meaning. Today's pictures are called the annunciation.</p>	Discuss with a talking partner which painting you think tells the story best.	<p>Father God, give us Mary's trust in your love when we face the unknown.</p> <p>Give us Mary's dignity when we face the unexpected.</p> <p>Give us Mary's courage when we face challenges and hard choices.</p> <p>In the name of your son Jesus Christ.</p> <p>Amen</p>
4	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	<p>Theme: Exodus &amp; the Promised Land – Moses: Egypt to Sinai</p> <p>After four hundred and thirty years (12:40) over a million Israelites (12:37) left Egypt and started on their journey to the promised land. God was with them, leading them in a pillar of cloud during the day and fire at night. But their adventure was not yet over; Pharaoh had changed his mind as he had so many times before and pursued them with his elite chariot company (14:5-9). Trapped between a hostile army and the sea the Israelites despaired, but God had a plan. Moses held his walking stick over the water, and God moved it aside, offering a dry route through the water (14:21-22). Once the Hebrew nation were safely through, the waters returned, trapping the hapless Egyptian army. After twelve weeks travel Moses halted the entire company at the foot of Mount Sinai, here God gave him the Ten Commandments, rules for daily living.</p>	Give each pupil an outline of a person. Ask them to spend some time writing the name of or drawing a symbol for a person or people that they trust to help them and guide them.	<p>Play some reflective music.</p> <p>Ask pupils to put the outlines in the middle and say a thank you prayer for everyone named.</p>
	Roots and Fruits	<p><b>Mary visits Elizabeth</b></p> <p><b>Christian value</b> – joy</p> <p><b>Bible text:</b> Luke 1. 39-45</p> <p><b>Message:</b> every baby is unique and special. Every baby takes about 9 months to grow and every mother has a story to tell. Today's story is about two very different women, Mary and Elizabeth.</p>	<p>Mary said God has turned the whole world upside down.</p> <p>What do you think she meant?</p>	<p>Lord Jesus, you came to turn sadness into joy, fear into faith, despair into hope, and death into life. As we seek to walk in your ways, give us courage.</p> <p>Amen</p>

5	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	<p><b>Theme:</b> Journey into Advent Christians believe . . The circle and green represent God's never ending love</p> <p>Light the candles on the ring as you explain what it is but not the central one</p> <p>The first candle represents prophecy and HOPE. Christians have HOPE because God keeps his promises (Romans 15:12-13)</p> <p>The second candle represents FAITH. It is sometimes called the "Bethlehem Candle" as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem (Luke 2:1-7)</p> <p>The third candle is often pink, it is sometimes called the shepherds candle. Pink represents JOY. The angels sang a song of JOY (Luke 2:7-15)</p> <p>The fourth candle or Angel Candle represents LOVE. The angels share the good news that God sent Jesus because he LOVES us (John 3:16) The fifth (middle) candle placed in the middle represents Jesus. One of Jesus' names is The Prince of PEACE (Isaiah 9:6)</p> <p>The middle candle reminds Christians that Jesus said "I am the Light of the World" This candle is lit on Christmas Day</p>	<p>Waiting can be difficult, we don't always like waiting. Sometimes in life we go through hard times and things feel difficult. We often rely on those around us to light up our dark days, to encourage us and help us. But sometimes we need to be that light for others. Do you support and encourage others when they're having a hard time? Take a candle outline and write or draw a thought or prayer of what you could do to support someone else. It might be making someone smile, bringing a gift, and being a listening ear.</p> <p>Candle PDF</p> <p>Place your candles around the advent wreath.</p>	<p>Dear God</p> <p>As we journey through advent together Please help us to use this season of Advent to prepare ourselves so that we can enjoy Christmas. Help us to think about how we can be light to others.</p> <p>Amen</p>
	Roots and Fruits	<p><b>The long journey to Bethlehem</b> <b>Christian value – Peace</b> <b>Bible text: Luke 2. 1-5</b> <b>Message:</b> The Roman Empire stretched from Syria in the east to modern day Portugal in the west. The roman emperor Augustus wanted everyone to complete a census to give him information about his citizens in order to collect more taxes. Mary and Joseph had to make a difficult journey</p>	<p>Listening meditation</p>	<p>Sing little Donkey</p>

6	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	<p>Theme: Gabriel's Visit &amp; Mary's Journey to Elizabeth</p> <p>Mary's cousin Elizabeth and her husband Zechariah had not been able to have children, but in their old age, an angel visited Zechariah while he was serving in the temple and told him that God had heard their prayer and they were going to have a son. A special son who would be God's messenger – telling people to get ready for Jesus. Mary journeyed from Nazareth to a small town in the Judean hills to visit her cousin. When she arrived, the baby in Elizabeth's tummy leapt for joy. Elizabeth was overjoyed as the Holy Spirit told her how Mary's baby was even more special – God's big rescue plan. Mary stayed with them for three months before travelling back to Nazareth. When Elizabeth had her baby, Zechariah did what the angel had told him and he was named John.</p>	<p>Think about what the angel said, 'nothing is impossible with God.' Think about your hopes and dreams, however impossible they may feel. If you want to, you can write or draw them onto strips of paper, and then add link them together to make paper chains.</p>	<p>Dear God</p> <p>As we journey through Advent together Please help us to use this season of Advent to prepare ourselves so that we can enjoy Christmas. Help us to think about how we can be hope to others.</p> <p>Amen</p>
	Roots and Fruits	<p><b>Jesus is born</b></p> <p><b>Christian value:</b> Community</p> <p><b>Bible text:</b> Luke 2. 5-18</p> <p><b>Message;</b> Jesus was born in a stable with the humble shepherds and animals not in a palace surrounded by important people.</p>	<p>Listen to it was on a starry night</p>	<p>Mary's prayer</p> <p>Josephs prayer</p> <p>Shepherds prayer</p>
7	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	<p>Theme: The Journey to Bethlehem</p> <p>Israel was under Roman occupation. The Roman Emperor, Augustus, wanted to make sure that everybody had been counted and registered – probably to make sure that they paid their taxes. This was arranged by everyone returning to the place where their tribe originally came from. Joseph was from the line of David, and so he had to travel to Bethlehem. By this time Mary was heavily pregnant, but they took the journey which would have taken 4-7 days from Nazareth to Bethlehem. The Bible doesn't mention a donkey, but as there were many people travelling too, some kind person might have given a tired Mary a ride for a bit. When they arrived in the city, there was no room for them to stay in any of the inns, and so they ended up in an animal shelter. Not the place you would expect for the birth of the Saviour of the World!</p>	<p>n the Christmas story, Mary and Joseph travel at least 110 kilometres from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Life is a bit like a long journey, and we have lots of experiences along the way. This year is nearly over. What are the big things that you remember from this year? What happened? What was good about it? Was anything bad, or sad? If you want to, you can write or draw about an important moment onto one of the footprints . . . and then leave it behind as you begin your journey into the New Year.</p>	<p>Dear God</p> <p>As we journey through advent together Please help us to use this season of Advent to prepare ourselves so that we can enjoy Christmas. Help us to think about how we can be hope to others.</p> <p>Amen</p>

	Roots and Fruits	<b>The coming of the Magi</b> <b>Christian value;</b> wisdom <b>Bible text:</b> Matthew 2. 1-12 <b>Message:</b> Baby Jesus was visited by the Magi, who brought symbolic gifts in recognition that he was a very special baby.	All the gifts symbolised something important about the life that Jesus would live. Gold... Frankincense... Myrrh ...	Thank you Lord Jesus for being the king of love and for living a life of simplicity and service. Help us to follow your example in all that we do and say. Amen
Christmas Holidays				