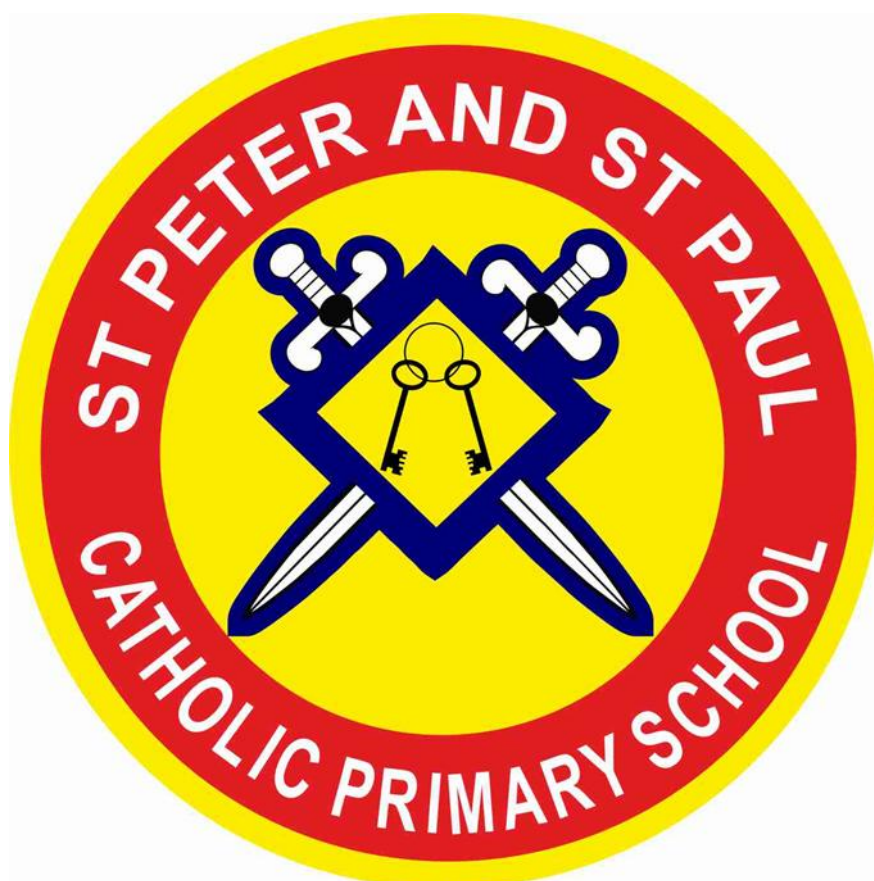


St Peter and St Paul Catholic Primary School



Prayer & Liturgy Policy

***'With Christ as our guide, we Love, Aspire
and Serve'***

Date Agreed	July 2026
Signed	<i>J McNamee</i>
Next Review	July 2027

Policy Contents

- 1. Context**
- 2. Statement of Requirement**
- 3. Responsibilities**
- 4. Overview of Prayer and Liturgy Provision at St Peter and St Paul**
- 5. Resourcing**
- 6. Training and Formation**
- 7. Monitoring and Evaluation**
- 8. Review**
- 9. Annex 1- St Peter and St Paul Yearly Overview of Prayer and Liturgy**

St Peter and St Paul Mission Statement

“With Christ as our guide, we Love, Aspire and Serve”

1. The context of this prayer and liturgy policy

‘The celebration of Catholic liturgies and prayers as an integral part of the learning and teaching should enable the school community to become reflective, experience the presence of God and should develop a mature spiritual life.’ (Marcus Stock (2012), Christ at the Centre, Catholic Truth Society, 23.)

2. Statement of requirement

The law requires all maintained Catholic schools to provide an act of daily collective worship (prayer and liturgy) for all pupils, including those in the sixth form (Section 70, 1988 Education Act) that is in accordance with the rites, practices, disciplines, and liturgical norms of the Catholic Church (School Standards and Framework Act 1998, schedule 20; 70 Instrument of Government, clause 2). Academies in England are required by their funding agreement and Articles of Association to comply with similar requirements (The Mainstream Academy and Free School: Supplemental Funding Agreement, December 2020; Model Articles for Catholic Academies, February 2019).

The law requires all maintained schools to recognise and respect that parents have the legal right to withdraw their children up to the age of 16 from prayer and liturgy (School Standards and Framework Act 1998, s.71(1A)). Sixth-form pupils can choose to withdraw themselves from prayer and liturgy (School Standards and Framework Act 1998, s.71(1B)). The school’s provision for prayer and liturgy will fulfil pupils’ entitlement to experience the range of liturgical treasures of the Church, including a shared repertoire of prayers and liturgical music with which pupils in the school will be familiar.

Prayer and liturgy are not designated curriculum time. In the context of the Catholic school,

this means that times of prayer and liturgy are not considered to be part of the allocation of curriculum time for Religious Education.

3. Responsibility

(a) Governance

The governors, as guardians of the Catholic school's life and mission, have a responsibility to ensure that:

- prayer and liturgy are central to the Catholic life of the school and therefore are in line with the guidance set out by the Prayer and Liturgy Directory
- there is a named person(s) who is responsible for prayer and liturgy in the school (the Prayer and Liturgy Coordinator)
- the prayer and liturgy policy is updated regularly and shared with all stakeholders
- there is a budget for prayer and liturgy that reflects its centrality to the life of a Catholic school.

(b) Headteacher

The headteacher, as the spiritual leader of the school as a Catholic community, ensures that:

- prayer and liturgy are central to the Catholic life of the school and therefore are in line with the guidance set out by the Prayer and Liturgy Directory
- they work in partnership with the leader(s) for prayer and liturgy
- those responsible for prayer and liturgy in the school have been given appropriate training and formation to ensure that all guidance is followed and adhered to
- there are suitable resources for prayer and liturgy in the school.

(c) Prayer and Liturgy Coordinator

Those responsible for prayer and liturgy ensure that:

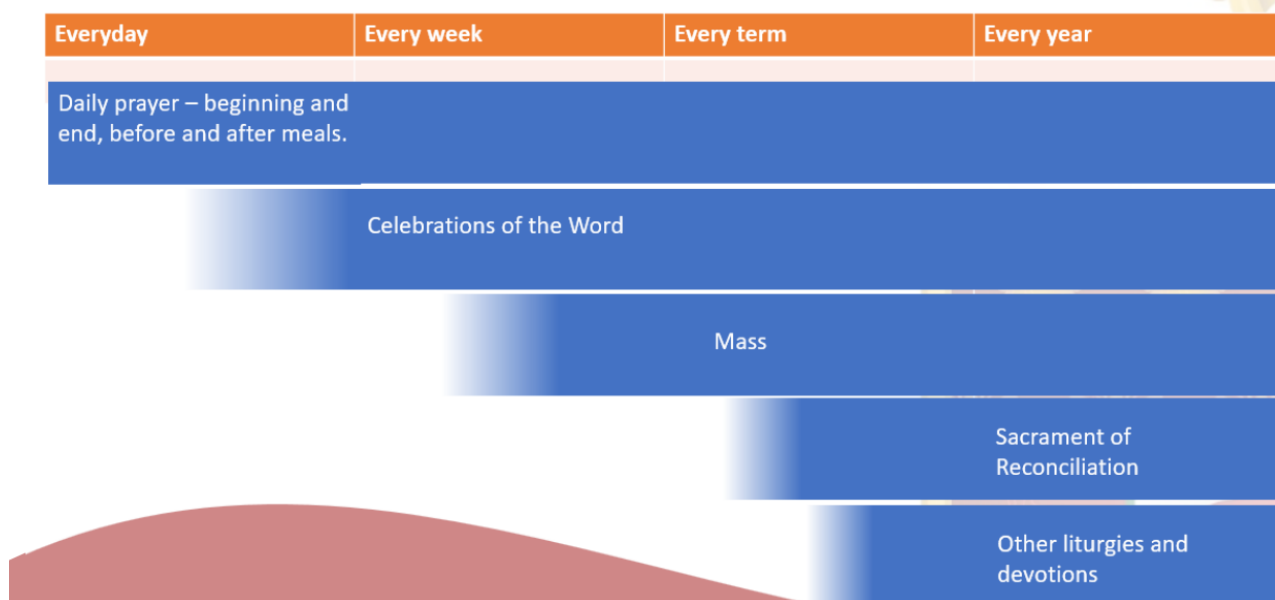
- prayer and liturgy are central to the Catholic life of the school and therefore are in line with the guidance set out by the Prayer and Liturgy Directory
- there is an Annual Plan of Provision for prayer and liturgy across the school year which identifies liturgical seasons and key celebrations, as well as opportunities for the celebration of the Sacraments
- there is daily planned prayer for all pupils, appropriate to age and ability, as outlined in the Prayer and Liturgy Directory
- pupils are supported in their liturgical formation to take an active role in the planning, preparation, and delivery of prayer and liturgy according to their age and capacity, and in a manner which facilitates their progressive participation
- resources to support the planning of prayer and liturgy are appropriate and readily available to staff and pupils
- induction on prayer and liturgy takes place for new members of staff as required
- staff have access to effective training and formation opportunities
- monitoring and evaluation of prayer and liturgy take place regularly and feed back into planning for future liturgies

- monitoring of prayer and liturgy is reported to the headteacher and governing body to support whole-school development and the Catholic life of the school
- there is collaboration with local clergy and parishes
- liaison with the Diocesan Advisory Service and others is maintained to ensure they keep updated with best practice.

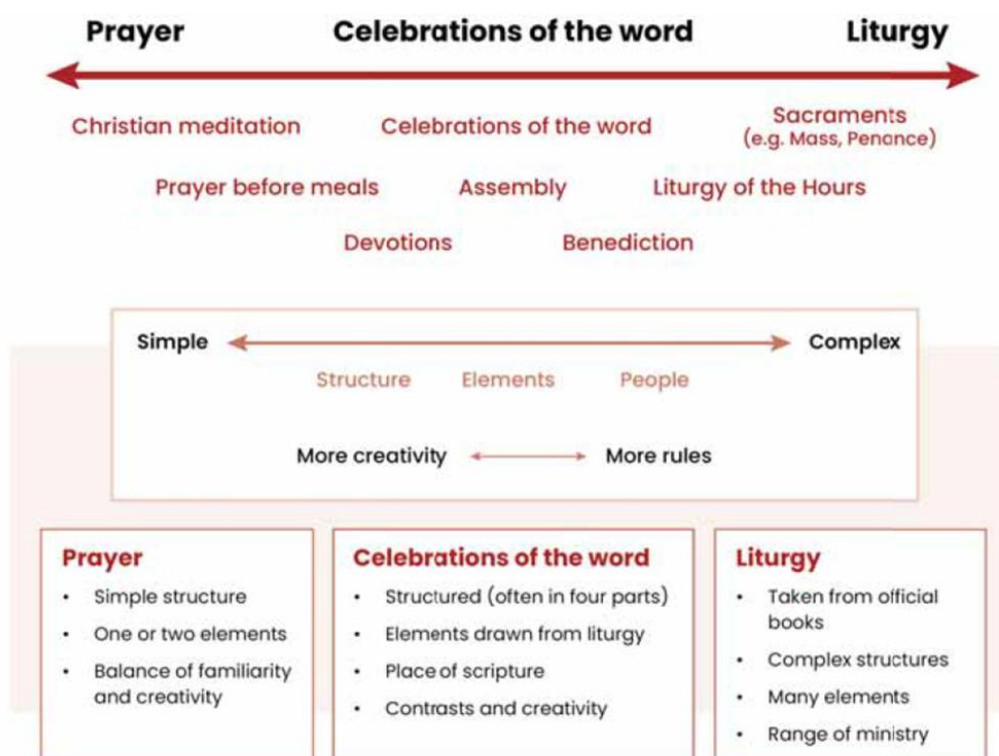
4. Overview of prayer and liturgy provision

“Prayer, celebrations of the word, and liturgy form a continuum with silent meditation at one end and a celebration of Mass on a Solemnity of the Church (e.g., Ascension of the Lord) at the other. Of course, there are areas of overlap between the categories.” (RED, 2023)

PLD –Frequency of different models of prayer.



At St Peter and St Paul, we acknowledge the importance of ensuring children have access to a range of prayerful experiences, be that through attending mass, Celebration of the Word, Christian meditation or regular liturgical music and hymn singing sessions. We teach children that these are all forms of prayer.



Children at St Peter and St Paul have the following prayer and liturgy offer;

Every Day	Daily Prayer – Beginning and end of day and before meals Ongoing informal times to pray
Every Week	Celebration of the Word and Assemblies - the school come together three times per week; Monday – Celebration of the Word - Lower Key Stage 2 and EYFS and Key Stage 1 Tuesday – Celebration of the Word – Upper Key Stage 2 Wednesday – Assembly (Global and National Issues) including Prayers of Intercession Friday – Whole-school Celebration of the Word and Assembly
Every Term	Mass is celebrated by Fr Jino or Fr Anto in the school hall once a month. Mass is also celebrated on Holy Days as appropriate.
Every Year	Children in Y4 prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Children attend Holy Cross Church to celebrate the parish feast day. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered to children and their families during Advent and Lent.

See Annex 1 for full yearly overview

Common Prayers

We also have a systematic approach to teaching common prayers progressively

5. Resourcing

Prayer and liturgy are central to the school's understanding of itself as a Catholic school, and this is reflected in the annual budget allocation and available resources, including staff time, chaplaincy provision, and dedicated spaces for prayer and liturgy. The Catholic character of the school is reflected in religious artefacts and images on display throughout the building. Dedicated spaces for prayer and liturgy will be furnished and maintained as such, and updated to reflect the Church's liturgical season. Staff training and formation costs will be funded separately to ensure that all staff are able to fulfil their responsibility to contribute to the prayer and liturgical life of the school.

6. Training and formation

All new staff will be supported during induction and beyond, so that they fully understand the responsibility they carry within their individual role for leading prayer and liturgy in the school. Any individual training needs will be identified and addressed through training and formation. There will also be the opportunity for whole-staff professional development at least once a year, so that all staff understand the importance of prayer and liturgy and relevant staff are well supported to lead as required.

7. Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of the quality and impact of prayer and liturgy will take place regularly, and at least annually, and involve all key stakeholders: pupils, parents, staff, clergy, and governors. Areas for development will be identified and issues raised will be actioned and evidenced as appropriate.

8. Review

The policy will be reviewed as part of the regular cycle of policy review conducted by the governors.

Annual Overview of Prayer and Liturgy 2025-26			St Peter and St Paul Catholic Primary School	
Class Prayers Morning – ‘Father in Heaven, I give you today’ Before Lunch – ‘Bless us, O God, as we sit together’ End of Day – ‘God Our Father, I come to say’				
Weekly Prayer and Liturgy in School				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lower Key Stage 2 – Joint Celebration of the Word EYFS & Key Stage 1 - Joint Celebration of the Word Upper Key Stage 2 – Class Celebration of the Word	Upper Key Stage 2 - Joint Celebration of the Word EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Lower Key Stage 2 – Class Celebration of the Word	Whole School Assembly on national and global themes	All Key Stages have Celebration of the Word in class	Whole School Celebration of the Word followed by Achievement Assembly
Week Beginning	Monday and Tuesday Key Stage Celebration of the Word (based on Gospel from Sunday) (see Wednesday Word Cafod Children's Liturgy)	Wednesday Whole School Assembly (national/global themes)	Friday Whole School Celebration of the Word and Assembly	Additional Masses / Celebrations
1 st September 2026 <i>Liturgical colour – Green</i>	Wednesday Word	New Beginnings		
7 th September	Wednesday Word	Ambition, Aspiration & Democracy	School Mission Day	Friday 11 th September Whole School Mass (Education Sunday)
14 th September	Wednesday Word	Yom Kippur	Luke 8:1-3	Monday 14 th September – Parish Feast Mass in Holy Cross
21 st September	Wednesday Word	Fairtrade, Equality & Diversity	Luke 9:18-22	
28 th September	Wednesday Word	Cafod Family Fast Day (Harvest)	Matthew 18:1–5, 10	Mary’s Meals Assembly Y2 Stay & Pray Y6 Stay & Pray
5 th October	Wednesday Word	World Mental Health Day	Harvest Class Assembly	Y4 Stay & Pray Y5 Stay & Pray

12 th October	Wednesday Word	Catholic Social Teaching	Luke 12:1–7	Harvest Assembly Friday 16 th October Whole School Mass (World Food Day and Eradication of Poverty) Y1 Stay & Pray Y3 Stay & Pray
19 th October	Wednesday Word	Black History	Luke 12:54–59	
26 th October		Autumn Half term		
2 nd November	Wednesday Word	Diwali / Bonfire Night Safety	Luke 16:1–8	Monday 2 nd November Whole School Mass (All Souls)
9 th November	Wednesday Word	Remembrance Class Assembly	Luke 17:26–37	Rec Stay & Pray
16 th November	Wednesday Word	Anti-Bullying Week	Luke 19:45–48	
23 rd November	Wednesday Word	Advent Class Assembly	Luke 21:29–33	Friday 27 th November Whole School Mass (1 st Sunday of Advent)
30 th November <i>Liturgical colour – Purple</i>	Wednesday Word	Hanukkah Begins	Matthew 9:27–31	
7 th December <i>Liturgical colour – Purple</i>	Wednesday Word	Human Rights Day (10 th Dec)	Matthew 11:16–19	
14 th December <i>Liturgical colour – Purple</i>	Wednesday Word	Nativity	Matthew 1:18–25	Friday 18 th December Whole School Christmas Mass
21 st December		Christmas		
28 th December		Christmas		
4 th January 2027 <i>Liturgical colour – White</i>	Wednesday Word	Epiphany	Luke 5:12–16	Wednesday 6 th January Whole School Mass (Epiphany)
11 th January <i>Liturgical colour – Green</i>	Wednesday Word	NSPCC - Pantosaurus	Mark 2:1–12	
18 th January	Wednesday Word	Martin Luther King	Mark 3:13–19	
25 th January	Wednesday Word	Holocaust Memorial Day	Mark 4:26–34	
1 st February	Wednesday Word	Children's Mental Health Week	Mark 6:14–29	
8 th February	Wednesday Word	Ash Wednesday Chinese New Year	Lent Class Assembly	Friday 12 th February Whole School Mass (First Sunday of Lent) Lent Class Assembly
15 th February		Spring Half term		
22 nd February	Wednesday Word	Ramadan	Matthew 21:33–43, 45–46	

<i>Liturgical colour – Purple</i>				
1 st March <i>Liturgical colour – Purple</i>	Wednesday Word	Mothering Sunday	Mark 12:28–34	
8 th March <i>Liturgical colour – Purple</i>	Wednesday Word	Neurodiversity	John 7:1–2, 10, 25–30	Friday 12 th March Whole School Mass (Lent)
15 th March <i>Liturgical colour – Purple</i>	Wednesday Word	St Patrick's Class Assembly	Matthew 1:16, 18–21, 24a	
22 nd March <i>Liturgical colour – Purple</i>	Wednesday Word	Easter Class Assembly		Wednesday 24 th March Whole School Easter Mass
29 th March		Easter Break		
5 th April		Easter Break		
12 th April <i>Liturgical colour – White</i>	Wednesday Word	Catholic Social Teaching	John 6:52–59	
19 th April	Wednesday Word	Earth Day	John 14:1–6	
26 th April	Wednesday Word	Stop Food Waste	John 15:12–17	
4 th May	Wednesday Word	Deaf Awareness	John 16:20–23	Friday 7 th May Whole School Mass (Ascension)
10 th May	Wednesday Word	Foster Care Fortnight	John 15:9–17	Friday 14 th May Whole School Mass (Pentecost)
17 th May <i>Liturgical colour – Green</i>	Wednesday Word	Healthy Lifestyles (Walk to School Week)	Mark 10:1–12	
24 th May	Wednesday Word	World Environment Day (5 th June)	Mark 11:11–26	Friday 28 th May - Whole School Mass (Corpus Christi)
31 st May		Whit Half term		
8 th June	Wednesday Word	Healthy Eating Week	Matthew 5:27–32	
14 th June	Wednesday Word	Fratelli Tutti / Refugee Week	Matthew 6:19–23	Friday 18 th June Whole School Mass (World Refugee Day)
21 st June	Wednesday Word	Music Performance (Inc. Rock Steady, Guitars, Choir)	Matthew 8:1–4	
28 th June	Wednesday Word	St Peter and St Paul Feast Day	Matthew 9:9–13	Tuesday 29 th June Whole School Mass (St Peter & St Paul's Day)
5 th July	Wednesday Word	Global Forgiveness Day	Matthew 10:16–23	
12 th July	Wednesday Word	The Final Chapter	Matthew 12:1–8	Year 6 Leavers Mass