Come and See St Matthew's 2023-24



EARLY YEARS		
MYSELF	God knows and loves each one	 Each one's name is important I am special and have a special name I have a family name Everyone is precious to God
WELCOME	Baptism a welcome to God's family	 How we are made to feel welcome How do we show others that they are welcomed? How is a baby welcomed into a family
BIRTHDAY	Looking forward to Jesus' birthday	 Why do we celebrate birthdays? What a birthday is What people do while they wait for a birthday Some of the ways birthdays are celebrated
CELEBRATING	People celebrate in church	 Why is celebrating important? What is good about celebrating together? What a celebration is Different elements of celebration Different ways of celebrating
GATHERING	The parish family gathers to celebrate Eucharist	 Why do we gather together? How we gather as a church/parish family What are the things that are better done together and why The importance of gathering
GROWING	Looking forward to Easter	 The ways in which we grow That spring is a time when things begin to grow

COOR NEWS	Descing on the Cood News	The ways in which we can grow in love to be more like Jesus
GOOD NEWS	Passing on the Good News of Jesus	 How they and others feel when they have good news. The joy and happiness the good news brings That everyone has good news to share
FRIENDS	Friends of Jesus	 how friends make us feel happy, comfortable and glad What breaks and mends friendships: It is good to have friends How we can change and say sorry and forgive each other
OUR WORLD	God's wonderful world	 How wonderful our world is How we could make God's world even more wonderful What would happen if we did not look after our world? What we love about our world. What fills us with wonder about our world. Everyone shares God's world. How we would feel if we did not work together to share God's world.

YEAR 1		
FAMILIES	God's love and care for every family	 How families show love and care for each other. God's love and care for them and their families. How God shows love and care for individuals, families and all of creation
BELONGING	Baptism an invitation to belong to God's family	 What it feels like to belong The experience of belonging to their family and the Church family How babies are welcomed into the Church family.? Parents are blessed.
WAITING	Advent a time to look forward to Christmas	 How we feel when we are waiting Why waiting can be difficult at times

		Others may help us as we waitWe can help others.
SPECIAL PEOPLE	People in the parish family	 Special people help us What makes a person special How we can love and serve each other There are people who do special jobs at Mass when the parish family gathers Some of ways in which these people help
MEALS	Mass; Jesus' special meal	 What important for a happy meal What makes a family meal special. Preparation for a meal. How we love and serve Jesus How it is good to say thank you for our meals
CHANGE	Lent a time for change	 How the season change. The ways we change and grow in love and kindness. How we can change and make a new start in Lent.
HOLIDAYS AND HOLYDAYS	Pentecost: the feast of the Holy Spirit	 Why are holidays different from ordinary days What makes holidays happy times How holidays are times to relax and do something different We should thank God for holidays and our wonderful world
BEING SORRY	God helps us to choose well	 Making choices that help us feel happy. Making choices that make us feel unhappy. What helps us to make good choices. How would it be if everyone followed Jesus' new rule to 'love one another'. Sometimes hard to say sorry and to forgive. It is good to say sorry The end of the day is a good time to reflect on the choices made and to ask God's forgiveness.

NEIGHBOURS	Neighbours share God's world	•	Who is our neighbour? What makes a good neighbour How we can be a good neighbour What happens if someone is
			not a good neighbour

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BEGINNINGS	God is present in every beginning	 How you feel when you begin anything new Why some beginnings and easy and some are difficult How we begin our day How each day is a new beginning. God cares for everyone. God being present in all new beginnings
SIGNS & SYMBOLS	Signs and symbols used in Baptism	 The meaning and importance of some symbols in life. The power of symbols to convey meaning Some of the signs and symbols in daily life
PREPARING	Advent; preparing to celebrate Christmas	 Why is it necessary to prepare? What would happen if you didn't prepare? How you feel when you are preparing for special times? What is the best way to prepare for Jesus' coming?
BOOKS	The books used in Church	 The importance of books in our lives. The need for books How books can help us
THANKSGIVING	Mass a special time for saying thank you to God for everything, especially Jesus	 How you feel when you thank others How you feel when you are thanked Why we thank God our Father How the parish family can spread the message of thanksgiving and peace.
OPPORTUNITIES	Lent an opportunity to start anew in order to celebrate Jesus' new life	How each day offers opportunities for good

SPREAD THE WORD	Pentecost a time to spread the Good News	 What helps a person choose well The opportunity of Lent offers to make a new start. The importance of messages in daily life The responsibility of passing on messages The new life of Jesus How the Holy Spirit helps Christians Jesus has promised us new life
RULES	Reasons for rules in the Christian family	 The importance for ourselves and others of keeping rules. How rules are necessary in life How it is sometimes hard to say sorry How it is sometimes hard to forgive others The good feeling when people make up The difference between doing something accidentally and on purpose. The importance and helpfulness of examining your conscience every day. A sorry prayer
TREASURES	God's treasure; the world	 What we treasure What treasures do we share? We are God's treasure How we thank God for the treasures of our world How we should treat the treasures of this earth

Year 3			
HOMES	God's vision for every family	 What makes a house a home What makes home a special place for you What makes a house a home Why is family important The respect of parents and children for one another What do you like to do at home, on your own and as a family 	

		 What do people do for you at home, that makes you feel special What is sometimes difficult about sharing and being part of a group at home God's dream for every family God is always there
PROMISES	The meaning of the commitment and promises made at Baptism	 What is good about being in a group Why we have rules The importance of making promises How some promises are more difficult to keep than others The link between the promises made the consequences of actions following the promise. The role of parents and godparents in bringing up the child in the Faith What it means to live a child of the Light
VISITORS	The coming of Jesus	 How we welcome visitors How we feel as a visitor The importance of preparing for visitors. The joys and demands of visitors
JOURNEYS	Christian family's journey with Jesus	 Each year has its special times and seasons Life is a journey Who is with you on the journey What makes it good difficulties times in the life's journey What/who helps How we help one another on the journey
LISTENING & SHARING	Jesus gives himself to us in a special way	 The cost of sharing The joys of sharing The importance of listening well and sharing. The joys and difficulties of listening and sharing How feelings affect our own and others desire to listen and to share.

GIVING ALL	Lent a time to remember Jesus' total giving	 Why people are brave and give themselves to others The demands of total giving in terms of time and giving up something you what to do How people give themselves to others Those in need and how we might help them. Lent an opportunity for giving, growing in goodness. Jesus' total giving
ENERGY	Gifts of the Holy Spirit	 The energy of wind and of fire. The best use of power of wind and fire The inspiration of the Holy Spirit The power and energy of the Holy Spirit The prayer to the Holy Spirit The gifts of the Holy Spirit Christians can use the gifts of the Holy Spirit to help others.
CHOICES	The importance of examination of conscience	 The meaning of choice and consequence The importance of making good choices What helps in making good choices Consequences of choices What it means to examine your conscience How God is always forgiving
SPECIAL PLACES	Special places for Jesus and the Christian community	 How places become special? What makes a place special? Special places for you and your family? Why is our heart a special place? Keeping our world a special place? Why do Christians want to keep the world a special pace?

YEAR 4			
PEOPLE	The family of God in Scripture	•	The importance of families Family relationships

		Respect for those who gave us life.
CALLED	Confirmation a time to renew baptismal promises	 Our response to being chosen What it feels like to be chosen Why it is difficult to make a response in some situations Giving up something else when you are chosen. What help do you need to chose The work of the Holy Spirit in our lives The work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Christians What it is to live in the light of Christ The commitment of people who respond to the call of God
GIFT	God's gift of love & friendship in Jesus	 What you value most about the gift of friendship What you offer others in your friendship Why the gift of love and friendship is important The joys and demands of friendship The commitment required by the gift of love and friendship.
COMMUNITY	life in the local Christian community: ministries in the parish	 The meaning of community The advantages of being part of a community? What helps to build up community The demands of being part of a community? Why people give time and service in helping others in their community The causes of a breakdown of a community How the parish community celebrates together and supports one another
GIVING & RECEIVING	Living in communion	 Your experience of giving and receiving. The importance of giving and receiving? The joys and demands of giving and receiving? Why it is important to live in communion

SELF DISCIPLINE	Celebrating growth to new life	 Ways in which we live and grow in communion. How the Eucharist challenges and enables living and growing in communion? The experience of giving up something and be very disciplined for a good reason. How to be self disciplined How self-discipline helps people to grow and make the best use of their potential Lent; the opportunity to make change and to prepare for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday.
NEW LIFE	To hear & live the Easter message	 What you do when life is difficult The experience of good news bringing life. and happiness. How the power of the Holy Spirit helps Christians today
BUILDING BRIDGES	Admitting wrong, being reconciled with God and one another.	 What makes friendships strong How decisions about friendship are informed by beliefs and values. How friendships are built How friendships may be restored when they have been broken Sin and the importance of examining of your conscience The greatest commandment, love of God and others The meaning of contrition and of absolution Forgiveness of others
GOD'S PEOPLE	Different saints show people what God is like.	 What makes a person do extraordinary things? How ordinary people do extraordinary things. The qualities you admire in others How true happiness can be found How you can do extraordinary things

YEAR 5			
OURSELVES	Created in the image and likeness of God	•	Talents and qualities you admire in others Your own talents and qualities and how you use them

		 Identify qualities in anyone else How talents and qualities are developed. We are made in the likeness of God What being unique means God's love for us How Christians are called to live in peace. How people are made in God's image and likeness might live
LIFE CHOICES	Marriage, commitment and service	 The ingredients of a good friendship What fidelity means and how it applies to friendship Responsibilities friends have for one another Difficulties and joys of friendships What is important for friendship to thrive What it feels like to have faithful friend Jesus' advice about relationship? The importance of fidelity, loyalty and commitment in maintaining a friendship The importance of commitment and responsibility in relationships. What is means to be committed The work of Christian service The Sacrament of Marriage The symbols of the promises and the blessing of rings All are called to live in love and service
HOPE	Advent; waiting in joyful hope for Jesus; the promised one	 Your experience of waiting How people wait in different ways, for different things. Why waiting is a mystery How you can best use the time you spend waiting and what might help you What you think about when you are waiting for something exciting How you behave when you are waiting The difference between hope and expect Why people wait with hope The coming of Jesus at the end of time Advent is a time of waiting hopefully

MISSION	Continuing Jesus' mission in diocese. [ecumenism]	 The demands and joys being dedicated in your mission Discovering your mission? What inspires people in their mission The joys and demands of engaging in a mission The reasons why people what to help others. How people carry out Jesus' mission today Jesus' prayer for unity
MEMORIAL SACRIFICE	The Eucharist; the living memorial of Jesus	 Why memories are important How it is possible to keep important memories alive About sacrifice in daily life
SACRIFICE	Lent a time of giving in order to celebrate the sacrifice of Jesus	 How you feel when you give How you feel when you refuse to give. The cost of giving. How people decide whether or not to give How those decisions are informed by beliefs and values The costs or rewards of giving can be That Lent is a season of giving to prepare for the Easter
TRANSFORM	Celebration of the Spirit's transforming power	 How people can use the energy of their minds for the good of others. How people can use time and physical energy for the well being of others and why they should. How energy can transform How we can use our energy to transform ourselves How we can use the energy from the earth's resources in a fair and sustainable way. How the power of the Holy Spirit helps Christians today
FREEDOM & RESPONSIBIL ITY	Commandments enable Christians to be free & responsible	 What freedom parents have a right to What freedom children have a right to. What is responsible and irresponsible behaviour. How rules can bring freedom

		 How people know the boundaries that their personal freedom gives them. How freedom and responsibility are linked. How people's perception of what their freedom allows may conflict with the expectation of others. How importance of the Ten Commandments for Christians today. How the Beatitudes show us a positive way of life. Jesus teaching on the greatest commandments, love of God and others.
STEWARDSHI P	The Church is called to stewardship of Creation	 What I really care about Showing concern for what I care for The meaning of stewardship Understanding the wonders of God's creation People are made in the image and likeness of God Christians can be good stewards. The Christian's responsibility to take care of, to be a steward of the earth The importance of ecology

YEAR 6		
LOVING	God who never stops loving	 What unconditional love means How love is shown How you are loved and cared for What members of your family do for each other How you show love to others How people have inspired and influenced you to show unconditional love to others What it means to be truly loving How people show unconditional love to others The beliefs and values which have inspired and influenced you to be loving? The scripture text that demonstrate God's unconditional

		love for everyone even when times are hard. The challenge these passages present to Christians. The Beatitudes and their meaning for today. God's unconditional love and what this means. By living in God's way, as Jesus showed us, we can grow in love.
VOCATION AND COMMITMENT	The vocation of priesthood and religious life	 What it means to be committed? Why people are committed? The implications of lack of commitment Whom shows commitment How commitment affects the level of job satisfaction Responding to the call of Jesus Our mission in living out our baptismal vows
EXPECTATIONS	Jesus born to show God to the world	 The expectations you have of yourself Having high expectations of others Trusting and believing in one another What happens if you let people down or others let you down? Patience is important in expectations The difference between wishing and expecting. The meaning of Advent
SOURCES	The Bible, the special book for the Church	 The kind of books which are the most helpful Our lives are enriched by books. The wonder of books and how they take a person beyond themselves The presence of God in the words of Scripture The care and reverence with which the Word of God is treated
UNITY	Eucharist enables people to live in communion.	 Why friendships are important The most important value in friendship What helps a friendship to flourish The kinds of behaviour that break a friendship

		 Those affected when a friendship is broken Mending broken friendships Becoming one with Christ and one another in Holy Communion The unity which Holy Communion brings
DEATH & NEW LIFE	Celebrating Jesus' death and resurrection	 The affect of loss in everyday life The change it brought What remained the same What is the best way to cope with loss How people cope with loss and death How death brings new life Lent, a time to remember the suffering and death of Jesus
WITNESSES	The Holy Spirit enables people to become witnesses	 When to be a witness How to be a witness Why it sometimes needs courage to be a witness Examples of modern witnesses The witness of a local charity,
HEALING	Sacrament of the Sick	Showing compassion and care for those who are ill Our attitude towards those people are ill in their minds Helping, caring and understanding those with a learning disability. • What gives a person comfort when they are very ill • Why people give time and commitment to caring for others • Why we care for the sick • The Sacrament of Anointing brings comfort to those who are sick • The Christian responsibility for caring for these in need
COMMON	Work of Christians for the good of all	How we build a fair and just world The difference between fairness and justice, unfairness and injustice Helping to promote the dignity and common good of one another Beatitudes; a guide from Jesus about how to live life. The ways we can act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with God How Christians can work for the common good Something about Catholic Social Teaching

