

**ST ALPHONSUS RC PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

PRAYER AND WORSHIP POLICY

Reviewed: March 2026

Our Mission Statement:

GOD LIVES IN ME

God lives in me. I am His witness.

I respect everybody, everybody respects me.

In our loving school, everyone is unique.

Just like the flowers in the field, as they

grow, we too grow in God's love each day.



Aims

To contribute to pupils' faith and spiritual development so they can:

Experience prayer and worship and have a real sense of being valued members of their Catholic community.

Understand the importance of prayer and worship in daily living and how it helps us to grow in our relationships with God and with others.

Explore, recognise, reflect, respect, relate, remember, rejoice and renew with regard to all acts of collective worship.

Encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in its presentation or through listening to and reflecting upon God's word.

Promote a common ethos and share values; reinforce positive attitudes and behaviour and respect the diversity of belief and commitment.

Develop as responsible citizens so as to value all people of all faiths and all communities.

Recognise a sense of the sacred and holy.

Distinguish between the different opportunities for prayer and worship.

Have opportunities for worship, and to use prayer and worship as a form of celebration.

Develop a deep understanding of the use of scripture used by the worshipping community especially the importance of the Gospel.

Appreciate the distinctive nature of the importance of the celebration of the Mass and Sacrament of Penance as central to the life of the Catholic community.

We will achieve this by:

Reflecting on moral and social issues, we will provide opportunities for pupils to worship God in a variety of ways.

Ensuring the purpose and value of collective worship is reinforced by consistent celebrations of the liturgical calendar.

Enabling pupils to develop their own beliefs;

By becoming more aware of, and respecting the nature and needs of others.

Developing inclusive attitudes of tolerance, acceptance and of difference.

Celebrating work undertaken by pupils in all areas of the curriculum.

Developing and reflecting on the values of the school.

Celebrating links with other schools as well as the wider community.
Celebrating and giving thanks for God's world.
Listening to stories from other faiths and learn about their significance.
Developing awareness of how other faiths worship.
Listening to the 'still, small, voice within.'
Organising for whole school and parish communities to celebrate together thereby demonstrating the glory and activity of God in their lives.
Ensuring all are led to reflect, meditate and pray in a way that nurtures the faith life of the whole community.

Prayer and Worship

We provide opportunities for the Whole School/Key Stages/Classes and the wider community to gather together to reflect upon the Word of God through invitation to listen to scripture and to respond in communal prayer and praise. We encourage staff and pupils to contribute their gifts, skills and experience in a spirit of offering and sharing. We encourage differing presentation, which can include the use of music, visual stimuli and drama. We explore the belief of our Christian tradition and other world religions. We welcome visitors to share their experience and expertise.

Opportunities created within school

All classes have a Prayer Focus as a focal point within their room. Dedicated time for prayer is given at least 3 times throughout a day-morning, before lunch and at the end of the school day.

Each room has a San Damiano cross for pupils to touch and remind themselves of the Lord being with them.

A 'Good News Assembly' celebrating pupils' achievements is led by the Head Teacher each week.

Infant and Key Stage 2 Assemblies are timetabled throughout the year and families and the wider community are invited to attend.

Pals of St Al's lead Prayer Services in classes within school each week.

Pupils lead Prayer Services at special times during the Liturgical Calendar-Lent/Advent/Our Lady Feast Days/Pentecost.

Classes join together to lead Station of the Cross Services during Lent-the wider community is invited to all sessions.

Yr1 to Yr6 led special reflective re-enactments of the last events in Jesus' life-Palm Sunday/Last Supper/Garden of Gethsemane/Crucifixion/Resurrection.

All classes attend a weekday mass at the Parish Church twice a year.

KS 2 children are invited to support the children in the Sacramental Programme during the Reconciliation service and are encouraged to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Key Stage 2 performs Carols in the Church during December.

Reception and Key Stage 1 perform separate Nativity plays.

Pupils join in the School May Procession and the 'Crowning of Our Lady Service' in May.

Often visitors will be invited into school to witness their own faith journeys and the importance of Prayer and Worship in their own lives.

Hymn Practice is viewed as an opportunity to extend prayer through song. It is in this time that the school community can develop a repertoire, learn sung responses to parts of the mass and experience praise and celebration in different ways.

Inclusivity

We take a wholly inclusive approach to collective worship. All children are supported and encouraged to make their own personal journey of faith within the Christian framework of our school.

Assembly themes are based on a strong Catholic ethos and make links to scripture. Major festivals, feasts and saints from the Christian tradition and of other faiths will be included. Liturgy is central to all assemblies and prayer services.

Mark assemblies as special times by using symbols appropriate to Christian tradition i.e. the lighting of candles, and/or the focus of a Crucifix or Bible. Other relevant symbols may be used in class Assemblies if they are deemed appropriate. The structure of a class assembly will broadly include song, prayer, story or other focus using selected liturgy, and time for reflection.

We will encourage children to enter and leave all forms of prayer and worship quietly and calmly, respecting the need for stillness and silence whilst taking part in an act of worship.

We will provide opportunities for children to awaken to feelings and senses from which worship arises and share in meditation and stillness.

Equal Opportunities

We are a school community that promotes respect for individuality and difference.

Considerable care is taken to ensure that all material used in developing the spiritual

needs of the children addresses issues of gender, race and religion.

Teaching and Learning

Worship contributes to the general development of pupils. Opportunities will be provided for pupils to develop leadership skills, performance skills, singing ability, speaking in groups and in front of others, and to participate in group preparation and presentation. Keeping collective worship simple promotes dignity and respect, can enhance the celebration and enables all present to engage and feel involved.

Our Philosophy of Education

The child is at the centre of everything the school does. The curriculum is exciting and challenging, where teachers and pupils have high aspirations and expectations. Pupils are encouraged to have a voice in what they learn; they are encouraged to believe that anything and everything is possible. Learners are challenged and provided with opportunities to problem-solve and to take risks; they will be given experiences which involve failure and they will learn how to improve.

Rich and stimulating opportunities for learning will be planned by teachers, which enthuse, engage and motivate pupils. The school continually looks for ways to improve learning experiences. All learners are encouraged to think and question at a deep and high level. Our aim at St Alphonsus RC Primary School is that every individual's time spent at the school is a positive, memorable experience which fosters their curiosity and enthusiasm for learning.

At St Alphonsus we aim to foster a peaceful and prayerful environment. All forms of prayer and worship aim to encourage the appropriate participation of each member of the school community. Each member of the school family has a valuable contribution to make at his/her particular stage of spiritual development. The RE curriculum from Salford Diocese works to contribute to the school's life of prayer and worship.

SCHOOL PRAYERS

Our Mission Statement is our Whole School Prayer which is taught from Nursery and said each day in class.

Key Stage 1

Morning Prayer

O My God, I give to you
All I think or say or do.
All my work and all my happy play
I will give to you today.
Amen.

Evening Prayer

Goodnight God, I'm going to bed.
Work is over, prayers are said.
I'm not afraid of night.
You will watch until morning light.
Amen.

Grace Before Meals

Thank you, for the world so sweet.
Thank you, for the food we eat.
Thank you, for the birds that sing.
Thank you, God for everything.
Amen.

Grace Before Meals

Bless us, O Lord, as we sit together.
Bless the food we eat today.
Bless the hands that made the food.
Bless us, O God.
Amen.

Key Stage 2

Morning Offering

O Jesus, through the most pure heart of Mary,
I offer you all the prayers, thoughts, joys,
Work and sufferings of this day,
For all the intentions of your Sacred Heart.
Amen.

Evening Prayer

O My God, I come to say,
Thank you, for your love today.
Thank you, for my family
And all the friends you give to me.
Guard me in the dark of night
And in the morning send your light.
Amen.

Grace before Meals

Bless us O Lord,
For these thy gifts,
Which we are about to receive, from thy bounty.
Through Christ Our Lord.
Amen.

Whole School Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who are in heaven,
Hallowed by they name;
Thy kingdom come;
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace the
Lord is with thee,
Blessed art thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit of
Thy womb, Jesus,
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners,
Now, and at the hour of our death.
Amen.

Key Stage 2 – Years 5 and 6

Hail, Holy Queen

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy
Hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve
To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and
Weeping in this veil of tears.
Turn the most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us
And after this our exile, show unto us the blessed
Fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary
Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

The Memorare

Remember, O most living Virgin Mary, that it is a thing unheard of,
That anyone ever had recourse to your protection,
Implored you help, or sought your intercession,
And was left forsaken. Filled therefore with confidence
In your goodness I fly to you, O mother, Virgin of Virgins.
To you I come, before you, I stand, a sorrowful sinner.
Despise no my word, O Mother of the word,
But graciously hear and grant my prayer.
Amen.

St Patrick's Breastplate

Christ be with me
Christ be beside me
Christ be before me
Christ be at my right hand
Christ be at my left hand
Christ be with me everywhere I go
Christ be my friend forever and ever.
Amen

The Angelus – Year 6

The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary;
And she conceived of the Holy Spirit, Hail Mary etc.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord
Be it done to me according to your word.
Hail Mary, etc.)
And the World was made flesh) Bow Head
And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary, etc.
Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.
Let us pray.

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace
Into our hearts, that we, to whom the incarnation
Of Christ your Son, was made known by the message
Of an angel, may be brought by his passion and cross
To the glory of his resurrection, through the same
Christ our Lord.
Amen.

May the divine assistance remain always with us
And may the souls of the faithful departed, through
The mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Daily Worship Themes

January	Epiphany/Gifts New Year Promises
February	Lent, Easter, Easter Promises
March	New Life
April	
May	Mary, Vocations
June	The Sacred Heart,
July	Eucharist, Pentecost/The Holy Spirit Leavers, Holidays, Endings, Thanks
September	New Beginnings, Targets
October	Mary, Rosary, Harvest
November	Reconciliation, All Saints/Souls
December	Advent, Light, Christmas

Daily Worship Themes could also be linked to the Liturgical Year.