



Nottingham Roman Catholic
Diocesan Education Service



Prophecy and
Promise

Branch 2

Y3 Planning for Advent 2

Version 1: September 2026

Branch 2: Prophecy and Promise

Advent Term (2) – 6 weeks

The Big Question: How do Mary and Joseph show trust in God?

Understand

- U3.2.1.** Recognise that Sunday is a holy day for Christians, making simple links between the story of Creation (Gen 1:1-2:4) and Sunday as a day of rest.
- U3.2.2.** Give a simple description of how Catholics celebrate the Mass.
- U3.2.3.** Give simple descriptions of some special prayers, signs, and actions performed in church and at Mass using religious language, focusing on the Liturgy of the Word.
- U3.2.4.** Recognise how Joseph puts his trust in God when the angel appears.
- U3.2.5.** Make links between the angel's message about Jesus and the words of the prophet Isaiah.
- U3.2.6.** Recall that angels bring God's message in the gospels of St Matthew and St Luke.

Discern

- D3.2.1.** Talking, asking, and answering questions about their experiences of liturgies and the Mass.
- D3.2.2.** Considering how Catholics use some prayers, signs, actions, and symbols during Mass and make links between beliefs and action.
- D3.2.3.** Talking, asking, and answering questions about Joseph and Mary trusting in God.
- D3.2.4.** Comparing and making simple links between the signs used in Advent and Christmas and their meaning for Christians.

Respond

- R3.2.1.** Responding creatively to the words of an Advent hymn, work of art, prayer, or poem that connects to the message of the angels.
- R3.2.2.** Reflecting on what Sunday Mass means for Christians.

Prophecy and Promise – Y3 (Advent 2)						
	Session 1 UNDERSTAND	Session 2 UNDERSTAND	Session 3 DISCERN	Session 4 UNDERSTAND	Session 5 UNDERSTAND	Session 6 UNDERSTAND/DISCERN
Learning Focus	HEAR Recognise that Sunday is a holy day for Christians, making simple links between the story of Creation (Gen 1:1-2:4) and Sunday as a day of rest.	HEAR Give a simple description of how Catholics celebrate the Mass.	LIVE Give simple descriptions of some special prayers, signs, and actions performed in church and at Mass using religious language, focusing on the Liturgy of the Word	HEAR / BELIEVE Recognise how Joseph puts his trust in God when the angel appears.	HEAR Make links between the angel's message about Jesus and the words of the prophet Isaiah.	CELEBRATE Recall that angels bring God's message in the gospels of St Matthew and St Luke.
Recall and Retrieval	- Know the story of Creation (Gen 1:1-2:4). - Know what happens at Mass.	Know about the Liturgy of the Word.	Recall some symbols and actions familiar to us, linked to the Mass.	- Know the nativity story and that this introduces us to Joseph. - Know about the Magi's visit.	That the Messiah would be born of a virgin and would be called Immanuel (Is 7:14).	Revisit Luke 1:26-38.
Sequence of knowledge throughout the lesson	Key knowledge Pupils will know: - why Christians go to Mass on Sunday. - how Catholics celebrate Mass.	Key knowledge Pupils will know: Catholics gather to celebrate Mass where they listen to the words of Holy Scripture (the Liturgy of the Word) and meet Jesus in Holy Communion (the Liturgy of the Eucharist).	Key knowledge Pupils will know: - how Catholics use some signs, actions, prayers, and symbols to celebrate Mass, e.g., the sign of the cross, bells, the Kyrie Eleison prayer, etc. - hear some of the responses Catholics say at Mass, focusing on the Liturgy of the Word.	Key knowledge Pupils will know: - that Jesus birth was foretold by the prophets. - that Joseph listened to the angel and opened his heart to the Holy Spirit.	Key knowledge: Pupils will know: - that Jesus' birth was foretold by the prophets. - that Joseph listened to the angel and opened his heart to the Holy Spirit.	Key knowledge Pupils will know: - that Jesus birth was foretold by the prophets. - that Joseph listened to the angel and opened his heart to the Holy Spirit.
Key Skills/disciplinary knowledge	U3.2.1. Recognise that Sunday is a holy day for Christians, making simple links between the story of Creation (Gen 1:1-2:4) and Sunday as a day of rest.	U3.2.2. Give a simple description of how Catholics celebrate the Mass.	U3.2.3. Give simple descriptions of some special prayers, signs, and actions performed in church and at Mass using religious language, focusing on the Liturgy of the Word.	U3.2.4. Recognise how Joseph puts his trust in God when the angel appears.	U3.2.5. Make links between the angel's message about Jesus and the words of the prophet Isaiah.	U3.2.6. Recall that angels bring God's message in the gospels of St Matthew and St Luke. D3.2.3. Talking, asking, and answering questions about Joseph and Mary trusting in God.
Main teaching activity If the school has another short-term planning format, this does not need to be included.	Retell the story of Creation, through words, and / or pictures, making simple links to Sunday as a day of rest.	Devise a simple guide to the Mass outlining; the aspects of; gather to celebrate Mass, where they listen to the words of holy scripture (the Liturgy of the Word), and meet Jesus in Holy Communion (the Liturgy of the Eucharist).	Mix and match a series of signs and symbols, actions, and prayers used during Mass. Create descriptions for these, outline some 'when', and 'why' for each.	Create an eye witness account of the scripture passage; <i>The Annunciation to Joseph (Matt 1:18-25)</i>	Compare the angel's message about Jesus and the words of the prophet Isaiah. Present in groups, to the class.	- Explore a range of artistic depictions of; Matthew 1:18-25, and Luke 1:26-38. Choose one to write a critique, and the meaning within. - Discussing, and answering questions about Joseph and Mary trusting in God.
Adaptive Teaching (Dependent on needs in the class)	- Use of visuals, role play etc. to support retell. - Make use of 'talk to text' software. - Create a storyboard rather than writing. - Reduce the number of days requested.	- Break into 3 clear sections: - Gathering - Liturgy of the Word - Liturgy of the Eucharist Provide template: 'First...' 'Next...' 'Finally...' - Use visual symbols/icons for each part. - Make use of 'talk to text' software.	- Matching cards: symbol → meaning → when → why - Colour coding: actions (blue), symbols (green), prayers (yellow) - Structured table as scaffolding. - Prefill parts of the table.	- Role-play before writing, to secure sequencing. - Diary template. - Make use of 'talk to text' software.	- Provide simplified quotes. - Matching task: prophecy ↔ message. - Use Venn diagram: same / different.	- Look at 1–2 images only (not too many). - Guided questions - Sentence stems - Annotate an image rather than write a paragraph. - Ensure links to real life to support understanding.

Prophecy and Promise – Y3 (Advent 2)						
	Session 1 UNDERSTAND	Session 2 UNDERSTAND	Session 3 DISCERN	Session 4 UNDERSTAND	Session 5 UNDERSTAND	Session 6 UNDERSTAND/DISCERN
Go Deeper	(Teacher to encourage pupils to select an option from the Go Deeper suggestions below:) 1  Can you link your learning to a story or teaching from the Bible? → Name a story, parable, miracle, or teaching of Jesus. 2  Can you explain why this is important? → Tell me more, give a reason, or explain your thinking. 3  How does this link to what Christians believe or do? → Beliefs, Prayers, Sacraments, or Church seasons. 4  How can you live this out? → What would this look like in your life, at school or at home? 5  What does this teach us about how to treat others? → Kindness, forgiveness, respect, fairness, love. 6  What question does this learning make you ask? → A “wonder” question about God, Jesus, or faith. 7  Which Catholic Social Teaching principle does this link to and why? → Dignity of the Human Person, Family and Community, Solidarity and the Common Good, Dignity of Work, Rights and Responsibility, Option for the Poor and Vulnerable, Stewardship/ Care for Creation					
Key vocabulary and definition	The Mass The Mass is the central act of worship, commemorating and re-presenting Jesus Christ's sacrifice on the cross, where bread and wine are consecrated into His Body and Blood through transubstantiation.	Eucharist The Eucharist is a central sacrament representing Christ's body and blood, present under the appearance of bread and wine, a doctrine known as the Real Presence. It commemorates the Last Supper, acts as a sacrifice of thanksgiving for Christ's death and resurrection, and fosters unity with God and the Church.	Psalms The Psalms are considered the ‘church's songbook,’ a collection of sacred songs and poems that express the full range of human emotions in response to God. They serve as a vital link to Jewish tradition and a bridge to Jesus, who prayed them. The Psalms provide prayers for every circumstance, fostering a deep, personal, and communal relationship with God by reflecting the joys, sorrows, hopes, and struggles of the faithful.	Holy Spirit The Holy Spirit is understood as the third Person of the Holy Trinity, co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and the Son, embodying God's divine essence. The Holy Spirit is not a force, but a distinct divine person who inspires faith, guides the Church, bestows spiritual gifts and grace, and unites believers in God's love.	Prophet Isaiah The prophet Isaiah's meaning centers on his name, ‘the Lord is salvation,’ and his profound prophecies of God's judgment, mercy, and the coming of a Messiah. The Book of Isaiah is central to Catholic faith, foretelling the birth, suffering, and eventual glorious reign of Jesus Christ, a vision of a universal salvation encompassing all nations.	The Annunciation The Annunciation is the angel Gabriel's announcement to the Virgin Mary that she would conceive Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit, marking the moment of the Incarnation and the beginning of God's salvation plan for humanity. It celebrates two key aspects: God's action in entering the world as Jesus and humanity's willing acceptance of this divine plan through Mary's humble ‘yes’ to God's call.
Resources	Lesson Powerpoint Pupils’ Bibles YOUCat for kids	Lesson Powerpoint Pupils’ Bibles Guide to the Mass	Lesson Powerpoint Pupils’ Bibles Guide to the Mass	Lesson Powerpoint Pupils’ Bibles YOUCAT for kids	Lesson Powerpoint Pupils’ Bibles RE books Class story map	Activity sheet with a box – <i>What I already know about The Annunciation</i> . Artistic representations of The Annunciation.
Diversity Links	The celebration of Mass from around the world.	The celebration of Mass from around the world	Hymns from around the world.	Universal Church	Universal Church	Depictions from various cultures around the world.
Checking for understanding (summative assessment)	Do the pupils recognise: That Sunday is a holy day for Christians, making simple links between the story of Creation (Gen 1:1-2:4) and Sunday as a day of rest.	Do the pupils recognise: How Catholics celebrate the Mass.	Do the pupils recognise: Some special prayers, signs, and actions performed in church and at Mass.	Do the pupils recognise: How Joseph put his trust in God when the angel appears.	Do the pupils recognise: Links between the angel's message about Jesus and the words of the prophet Isaiah.	Do the pupils recognise: How Joseph and Mary trusted in God.

Prophecy and Promise – Y3 (Advent 2)				
	Session 7 UNDERSTAND	Session 8 UNDERSTAND	Session 9 and Session 10 RECALL AND RESPOND (DISCERN AND RESPOND)	
Learning Focus	BELIEVE/LIVE Considering how Catholics use some prayers, signs, actions, and symbols during Mass and make links between beliefs and action.	BELIEVE / CELEBRATE / LIVE Comparing and making simple links between the signs used in Advent and Christmas and their meaning for Christians	HEAR / CELEBRATE / LIVE Responding creatively to the words of an Advent hymn, work of art, prayer, or poem that connects to the message of the angels. ASSESSMENT (refer to assessment slide)	RESPOND Celebration of the word Assessment – knowledge capture
Recall and Retrieval	Know about the importance of the Eucharist to the early Church	- Know how Advent hymns celebrate Jesus as the coming Messiah - Know some ways that Christians prepare for the coming of Christ during Advent.	- Know how Advent hymns celebrate Jesus as the coming Messiah - Know about art around the world, connecting to the prophecies of Christ’s coming.	Complete a knowledge capture of the key knowledge outlined on the knowledge organiser.
Sequence of knowledge throughout the lesson	Key knowledge Pupils will know: how Catholics use some prayers, signs, actions, and symbols during Mass and make links between beliefs and action.	Key knowledge Pupils will know: and make simple links between the signs used in Advent and Christmas and their meaning for Christians	Key knowledge Pupils will know: and respond creatively to the words of an Advent hymn, work of art, prayer, or poem that connects to the message of the angels.	Key knowledge Pupils will know: the core knowledge outlined throughout the unit.
Key Skills/ disciplinary knowledge	D3.2.2. Considering how Catholics use some prayers, signs, actions, and symbols during Mass and make links between beliefs and action.	D3.2.4. Comparing and making simple links between the signs used in Advent and Christmas and their meaning for Christians.	R3.2.1. Responding creatively to the words of an Advent hymn, work of art, prayer, or poem that connects to the message of the angels.	Pupils are invited to respond to their learning in a variety of ways
Main teaching activity If the school has another short-term planning format, this does not need to be included.	- Explore some of the prayers, signs, actions, and symbols during Mass and make links between beliefs and action. - Such as; <i>At Mass, Catholics remember the sacrifice of Jesus and join with the Risen Jesus as God’s people, who make sacrifices in order to live a life of love.</i>	- Access further resources at; https://education.rcdow.org.uk/catholicism-unpacked-new/ - Example; living out’ the symbolism within the Advent wreath.	Access further resources which pupils can access, and respond to; https://education.rcdow.org.uk/catholicism-unpacked-new/ https://christian.art/daily-gospel-reading/john-3-16-21-2024/	- Complete a knowledge capture of the core learning outlined from the knowledge organiser. - Plan and prepare for class collective worship. - Write a prayer that links with asking for faith and hope in God, even in difficult times and make a link to Elijah or their own personal encounter with God.
Adaptive Teaching	- Teach one symbol at a time, not all at once - Add simple meaning cards with visuals. - Reduce the number of symbols. - Matching cards - Multiple choice - Sentence starters	Provide a simple structure template.	- Provide a prayer scaffold and/or word bank. - Make use of ‘talk to text’ software.	- Guided questions - Sentence stems - Scaffolded template to complete with specific questions to answer.
Go Deeper	(Teacher to encourage pupils to select an option from the Go Deeper suggestions below.) 1 Can you link your learning to a story or teaching from the Bible? → Name a story, parable, miracle, or teaching of Jesus. 2 Can you explain why this is important? → Tell me more, give a reason, or explain your thinking. 3 How does this link to what Christians believe or do? → Beliefs, Prayers, Sacraments, or Church seasons. 4 How can you live this out? → What would this look like in your life, at school or at home? 5 What does this teach us about how to treat others? → Kindness, forgiveness, respect, fairness, love. 6 What question does this learning make you ask? → A “wonder” question about God, Jesus, or faith. 7 Which Catholic Social Teaching principle does this link to and why? → Dignity of the Human Person, Family and Community, Solidarity and the Common Good, Dignity of Work, Rights and Responsibility, Option for the Poor and Vulnerable, Stewardship/ Care for Creation			
Key vocabulary and definition /Explicit vocabulary instruction	The Mass The Mass is the central act of worship, commemorating and re-presenting Jesus Christ’s sacrifice on the cross, where bread and wine are consecrated into His Body and Blood through transubstantiation.	Advent Advent is a four-week liturgical season of preparation and anticipation leading up to Christmas, with the word ‘advent’ meaning ‘arrival’ or ‘coming’ from the Latin adventus. Its two primary purposes are to prepare for the birth of Jesus at Christmas and to look forward to his future Second Coming.	Messiah ‘Messiah’ is a title of Hebrew origin meaning ‘anointed one’ and refers to Jesus Christ, who the Church believes is the divinely appointed saviour of humanity. For Catholics, Jesus is the Messiah because he fulfilled messianic prophecies through his mission, death, and resurrection, bringing spiritual salvation to humankind and will return to fulfil the rest of the prophecies.	Revisit and review all vocabulary from the unit of work.

Prophecy and Promise – Y3 (Advent 2)				
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Resources	https://education.rcdow.org.uk/catholicism-unpacked-new/ YOUCat for kids	https://education.rcdow.org.uk/catholicism-unpacked-new/ YOUCat for kids	https://education.rcdow.org.uk/catholicism-unpacked-new/ https://christian.art/daily-gospel-reading/john-3-16-21-2024/ https://cultivatedlearning.org/nativity-art-around-the-world/	Assessment resources Prayer and liturgy planning and evaluation resources.
Diversity Links	Explore ways that Catholics prepare for, and celebrate Mass around the world.	What Advent traditions exist in different global cultures?	Explore different cultural representations of the Nativity scene. https://cultivatedlearning.org/nativity-art-around-the-world/	
Checking for understanding (summative assessment)	Do the pupils recognise: How Catholics use some prayers, signs, actions, and symbols during Mass and make links between beliefs and action.	Do the pupils recognise: Simple links between the signs used in Advent and Christmas and their meaning for Christians.	Responding creatively to the words of an Advent hymn, work of art, prayer, or poem that connects to the message of the angels.	Outcomes from Respond and the celebration opf the word.