



Nottingham Roman Catholic
Diocesan Education Service



Desert to
Garden

Branch 4

Y2 Planning for Lent 2

Version 1: September 2026

Branch 4: Desert to Garden
Lent Term (2)

The Big Question: Does forgiveness make the world a better place?

UNDERSTAND

- U2.4.1.** Recognise what Jesus said on the cross about forgiveness and make simple connections with the belief that God always forgives us.
- U2.4.2.** Recognise that Lent is a time for reconciliation and forgiveness.
- U2.4.3.** Correctly use religious words and phrases when describing in an age-appropriate way the Sacrament of Reconciliation, making simple connections between the sacrament and a belief in God’s forgiveness.
- U2.4.4.** Correctly use religious words and phrases to talk about the symbols of light and water in the Easter Vigil Mass.

Discern

- D2.4.1.** Looking at works of art to recall the story of Holy Week studied in the previous year.
- D2.4.2.** Considering some examples of reconciliation and peacebuilding in art, e.g., reconciliation outside Coventry Cathedral.
- D2.4.3.** Listening to different sung versions of the Kyrie Eleison and talking about what the words mean.
- D2.4.4.** Talking about links between the symbols of light and water at the Easter Vigil and what the symbols remind them of, for example, the story of Creation, the Sacrament of Baptism or Advent.

Respond

- R2.4.1.** Thinking about what forgiveness means to them.
- R2.4.2.** Thinking about how making bad choices can harm themselves and others and why saying sorry matters. (RVE)
- R2.4.3.** Reflecting on how Jesus teaches people to forgive.

Desert to Garden – Year 2 (Lent 2)						
	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6
	BELIEVE	HEAR	HEAR	BELIEVE/CELEBRATE	CELEBRATE	CELEBRATE/BELIEVE
Learning focus	BELIEVE To know that Lent is a time for reflection and is important in the church's year.	HEAR / BELIEVE To recall the scripture stories of Palm Sunday and the Last Supper.	HEAR / BELIEVE To retell the story of the crucifixion.	BELIEVE/CELEBRATE To know that prayers and actions that are ways in which Catholics turn back to God,	CELEBRATE To know that as for forgiveness during the mass in the penitential rite and what Kyrie Elision means.	HEAR / BELIEVE To know that we can ask forgiveness from God in the sacrament of reconciliation.
Recall and retrieval	Recall scripture stories from last unit- all based on dignity and solidarity). Name these stories from Scripture. Are they from the Old Testament of New Testament?	Name the three practices Christians try to do during Lent. Explain why Christians do these things during Lent. Do you agree or disagree? 'Giving up things is the most important.' <i>(Recall Almsgiving, Prayer and fasting. Time of forgiveness)</i>	Recall the story of Palm Sunday and of the Last Supper. Compare and contrast: How were the people feeling about Jesus?	What did Jesus say on the cross? <i>(Have 5 speech bubbles and pupils select the ones that Jesus said on the cross. Include one of the things said by the robber and a red herring).</i> Explain what Jesus meant by this.	How many parts are there in an examen prayer? Why is it important to reflect on what we've done each day.	When do we ask for forgiveness in the Mass? Explain what the words Kyrie Eleison mean?
Key skills/disciplinary knowledge	U2.4.2. Recognise that Lent is a time for reconciliation and forgiveness.	D2.4.1. Looking at works of art to recall the story of Holy Week studied in the previous year.	U2.4.1. Recognise what Jesus said on the cross about forgiveness and make simple connections with the belief that God always forgives us.	U2.4.1. Recognise what Jesus said on the cross about forgiveness and make simple connections with the belief that God always forgives us.	U2.4.2. Recognise that Lent is a time for reconciliation and forgiveness.	U2.4.4. Correctly use religious words and phrases to talk about the symbols of light and water in the Easter Vigil Mass.
Sequence of knowledge throughout the lesson	Key knowledge Pupils will know: - That we are now (dependent on the point of teaching) in the season on Lent in the Church's liturgical year. - That the colour purple is used in Lent as a symbol of penitence.	Key knowledge Pupils will know: - In summary form, the scripture story of Palm Sunday. - The story of the Last Supper.	Key knowledge Pupils will know: - That Jesus' crucifixion happened after Palm Sunday and the Last Supper (Maundy Thursday) on a Friday – we call it Good Friday. - The story of the Crucifixion.	Key knowledge Pupils will know: - That Lent is a time for forgiveness – like Jesus did on the cross. - That God will always forgive us. - That a simple examen can help us grow closer to God.	Key knowledge Pupils will know: - That we ask for forgiveness in the mass CYU 122). - The meaning of the Kyrie Eleison, 'Lord have Mercy' in Greek. - How to sing a simple version.	Key knowledge Pupils will know: - That we can ask for God's forgiveness in many ways. - That a sacrament is a meeting point with God. - That we ask for forgiveness of sins in the sacrament.
Main teaching activity <i>If the school has another short-term planning format, this does not need to be included</i>	- Gather: Begin listening to and hearing Kyrie Eleison (pupils to become familiar with this by Session 5). - Slide 8: Introduce that the focus of Branch 4 is the season of Lent. Explain that Lent is a liturgical season and a time of preparation before Easter. What colour do you think we will use on our prayer area/the priest's vestments at church? (Purple) - Use the video resource to explain what Lent is, how long it lasts and the three practices that Catholics try to engage with during Lent. What is Lent? Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving explained - Discuss aspects of Lent with the pupils. - Pupils are to demonstrate their understanding of Lent. This could be demonstrated as poster, double page spread or using the worksheet provided. Ensure that pupils have secure knowledge that Lent is a set	- Gather: Prayer, light candle and play gentle music. - Show the Pupils the Liturgical Wheel. Recall what was learnt in the previous Session about the season of Lent. Explain that the final week in Lent is called Holy Week. It begins on Palm Sunday and takes us through to Good Friday, when Jesus dies on the cross, to his resurrection on Easter Sunday. - Share the Gospel Reading of Palm Sunday (Luke 19: 28-38). - Picture Detectives: Share the image of Palm Sunday by Hanna Cheriyan Varghese. Invite the pupils to explore the painting using question prompts: - What is happening in this painting? - Who is in the picture? - Why are the people waving palm leaves and laying them on the ground? - What else can you see in this painting? Are there any hidden symbols? - What did the people say?	- Gather: Begin listening to and hearing Kyrie Eleison (pupils to become familiar with this by Session 5). - Use Salvador Dali's painting of Christ of St John of the Cross as a 'wonder moment' to begin the Session. - Wonder about Jesus' hands and feet. What do you notice? (There's no blood like in other paintings. This shows he is powerful and has already won victory over death.) - Wonder about the cross. Where is it? (The cross is above the world. Below Jesus is the earth, with water and boats. Perhaps the artist s reminding us how Jesus looks over the whole world and is there for everyone.) - Wonder about the light and dark. Where can you see light? What might it represent? (Jesus look like he is glowing. Perhaps the artist is showing Jesus' love, goodness and holiness with this light.) Where can you see darkness? What might it represent?	- Gather: Begin listening to and hearing Kyrie Eleison (pupils to become familiar with this by Session 5). - Share the story of St Ignatius by using the summary on the PowerPoint or 'Audacious Ignatius' by Paul Mitchell. 'Audacious Ignatius' Stop Motion Video with LEGO® Bricks - YouTube - Explain that St Ignatius came up with his own special prayer called the 'Examen'. - Explain the five parts of the 'Examen' prayer using the hand. - Pupils are to write their own prayer using the structure of the 'Examen'. - Pupils are to write sentences to make links between the 'Examen' prayer, the school mission/values and why saying sorry matters. - Meditation: Pupils gather and bring their prayers with them. Use the video about the Examen prayer for pupils: The Examen for Pupils on	- Gather: Begin listening to and hearing Kyrie Eleison (pupils to become familiar by this point). - Explain the different parts of the Mass e.g. Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist etc. - Explain we say sorry during the Mass in the Penitential Rite. We ask for God's forgiveness and Mercy. - It's important to ask God's forgiveness at the beginning of Mass to ready our hearts to hear his Word and receive Jesus in Holy Communion. - Share the Penitential Rite used in Mass on Sundays with the pupils. - Explain that we always say these words: 'Lord have mercy, Christ have Mercy, Lord have Mercy.' - Explain that this can also be said in Greek – Kyrie Eleison. It is common during Holy Week and at Easter to sing the prayer in Greek. - Learn to sing a version of the Kyrie Elison and know the meaning of the	- Gather: 'Sometimes Lord' by Dan Callow and Emily Clark (One Life Music). - Explain that there is a very special Sacrament, sign of God's love, that helps Catholics, to examine or look at their consciences and ask God's forgiveness. It is called the Sacrament of Reconciliation. - Explain, in simple terms, what happens in the Sacrament: First, you think of the sins you're sorry for - the things you have done wrong on purpose! Then, you ask God to forgive you and tell the priest. The priest keeps it a secret and won't tell anyone. Next, you tell God you are sorry and promise to try your best not to sin again. Then, the priest then tells you that your sins are forgiven in Jesus' name and asks you to make up for them by saying a prayer (act of sorrow/contrition) and by being kind. This is called a penance. (Symbols include thought bubbles to

Desert to Garden – Year 2 (Lent 2)						
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	BELIEVE	HEAR	HEAR	BELIEVE/CELEBRATE	CELEBRATE	CELEBRATE/BELIEVE
	time in the Church’s year where we focus on penitence (feeling and showing that we’re sorry for our sins) and reconciliation (receiving God’s healing and forgiveness for our sins).	- Pupils work in pairs to create written responses to the questions. - Share the Gospel Reading of the Last Supper (Luke 22: 14-23). - Picture detectives: Share the image of the Last Supper by Sieger Koder. Invite the pupils to explore the painting using the following question prompts: Who do you know in the picture? Why are they all gathered? Where are they gathered? What symbols can you see? What else can you see in this painting? Are there any hidden symbols? What did the people say? - Freeze Frame: Explain that we are now going to make a human piece of art. Split the class into two groups. Ask each group to discuss, plan and present a freeze frame for either Palm Sunday or The Last Supper. Ask What if you were there? How would you feel? - Photograph for evidence.	- Wonder about the perspective. Whose perspective is this from? (From above. Perhaps it it’s like God’s perspective with his Son being sent to Earth to bring the people close to Him. What’s above (God) remains unseen.) - Share the Gospel Reading of the Crucifixion (Luke 23: 33-46). Invite the pupils to assist you in role-playing. - Highlight the words that Jesus said. Why does Jesus tell one of the robbers that today he will be with him in paradise? (Link to forgiveness, repentance and the parable of the Lost Sheep). Discuss how Jesus forgave the people who crucified him. - Provide the pupils with an image of Jesus on the cross, with the robbers either side, include speech bubbles. - Pupils are to recall and write the three key things that were said in the story (Below). They may also add words to show what the authorities or the other criminal said. - Below the picture. Pupils are to make a link between what Jesus said and repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation.	Vimeo Pass around an LED candle, globe at the appropriate point.	song. Perform as a class and record for evidence.	- show reflection and speech bubbles to show that something is said). - On the board, share symbols and headings of the different parts of the Sacrament. Provide each pair with a set of mixed up emojis that represent the parts of the Sacrament and ask them to sequence. Discuss answers. - Pupils use the sequenced emojis and a word bank to describe, in simple terms, what happens in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. (Alternatively, teachers may wish to sequence illustrations of the different parts of the Sacrament). - Go Forth: Pupils to write something they are sorry for the shape of a person made from acetate. Pupils say a simple sorry prayer and wash away their sins.
Adaptive Teaching Examples – Adapt to suit cohort	Give a selection of images relating to Lent and other times of the Church’s year – pupils are to choose which is applicable. Create poster from the images with simple dictation or scribed sentence.	Pupils to use a simplified version of the scripture and use small world play to recall the stories. Sequence images of the stories of Palm Sunday and the Last Supper.	Simply draw Jesus crucified on the cross with a speech bubble for the words Forgive then, they know not what they do. Create a verbal link	Use a scribe to write down ideas or pupils record ideas using pictures. Create examen prayer as a group- a child coming up with a line each and TA/Teacher scribe- add images to reflect the meaning.	Widgit symbol version of hymn lyrics and use of sign to support if necessary.	Match the emojis to the part of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and talk about this with an adult.
Go Deeper	(Teacher to encourage pupils to select an option from the Go Deeper suggestions below:)  Can you link your learning to a story or teaching from the Bible? → Name a story, parable, miracle, or teaching of Jesus.  Can you explain why this is important? → Tell me more, give a reason, or explain your thinking.  How does this link to what Christians believe or do? → Beliefs, Prayers, Sacraments, or Church seasons.  How can you live this out? → What would this look like in your life, at school or at home?  What does this teach us about how to treat others? → Kindness, forgiveness, respect, fairness, love.  What question does this learning make you ask? → A “wonder” question about God, Jesus, or faith.  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					

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	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6
	BELIEVE	HEAR	HEAR	BELIEVE/CELEBRATE	CELEBRATE	CELEBRATE/BELIEVE
Key Vocabulary and Definition	Lent: a season of the Church's year that lasts 40 days and 40 nights, excluding Sundays. It is a time of penance and reconciliation. Penitence: Feeling truly sorry in your heart for the wrong things you have done, saying sorry and asking God for forgiveness. Reconciliation: Making peace with God by saying sorry for our sins, receiving his forgiveness and growing closer to him. Reconciliation is a sacrament. Forgiveness: Forgiveness is when God lets go of our mistakes when we are truly sorry because he loves us. Forgiveness is a fresh start and a chance to be a better person. Liturgical Season: A defined amount of time in the Church's year/calendar.	Lent: a season of the Church's year that lasts 40 days and 40 nights, excluding Sundays. It is a time of penance and reconciliation. The Last Supper: the last time Jesus ate with His friends. Palm Sunday: when we remember Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey.	Sin: Doing something wrong on purpose, which breaks our relationship with God, with others and with Creation. Crucifixion: A way of executing (killing) someone by tying or nailing them to a cross. Condemned: To sentence someone to a particular punishment, especially death. Forgive: Forgiveness is when God lets go of our mistakes when we are truly sorry because he loves us. Forgiveness is a fresh start and a chance to be a better person. Paradise: Another word for 'heaven', a place where good people go after death. Repentant: Expressing or feeling truly sorry for the wrong things you have done and wanting forgiveness.	Reconciliation: Making peace with God by saying sorry for our sins, receiving his forgiveness and growing closer to him. Reconciliation is a sacrament.	Crucifixion: A way of executing (killing) someone by tying or nailing them to a cross. Condemned: To sentence someone to a particular punishment, especially death.	Lent: a season of the Church's year that lasts 40 days and 40 nights, excluding Sundays. It is a time of penance and reconciliation. Penitence: Feeling truly sorry in your heart for the wrong things you have done, saying sorry and asking God for forgiveness.
Resources	PowerPoint Lenten Q&A worksheet. Exit Quiz (printed or Kahoot) Adaptive teaching resources	PowerPoint Paintings (1 per pair) Question prompt sheets Word Bank Storyboard sequencing for adapted curriculum	PowerPoint Dali's image of Jesus on the Cross Images of the story Suggested images to illustrate work.	PowerPoint Picture of St Ignatius cut into the circle – sheet provided one per pupil Pencils and pens 	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v6CRsw2gdcc https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b8WdyJHLUgg Call and response OR DIOCESAN new setting.	
Diversity Links	Those using the Alexandrian Rite, i.e., the Coptic Orthodox, Coptic Catholic, Ethiopian Orthodox, Ethiopian Catholic, Eritrean Orthodox, and Eritrean Catholic Churches, observe eight continuous weeks of fasting constituting three distinct consecutive fasting periods: a Pre-Lenten fast in preparation for Great Lent.	 Works of art by African Artists Palm Sunday – by Evans Yegon			Know that the Kyrie Elison can be sung all the way around the world in one language – Greek. You could listen to it in from different cultural traditions.	
Checking for understanding (summative assessment)	Do pupils recognise the significance of Lent and its meaning to Christians?	Do pupils recognise the significance of Palm Sunday and its meaning to Christians?	Do pupils recognise the significance of the story of Jesus on the Cross and God's forgiveness. and its meaning to Christians?	Do pupils recognise the significance of St Ignatius and his message to Christians?	Do pupils recognise what the words of the Kyrie Eleison mean.?	Do pupils recognise and understand Examination of Conscience/Examen, Sacrament, Reconciliation, Act of Contrition, Penance, Forgiveness?

Desert to Garden – Year 2 (Lent 2)				
	Session 7	Session 8	Session 9 and Session 10 RECALL AND RESPOND (DISCERN AND RESPOND)	
	DISCERN	HEAR	BELIEVE/CELEBRATE	LIVE
Learning Focus	Discern Consider peacebuilding works of art and use these as inspiration.	HEAR Know and retell the story of the resurrection.	RECALL Pupils to answer the Big Question ‘Does forgiveness make the world a better place?’ This could be presented in a number of ways. Scaffolding Questions: - Who was John the Baptist? - What is a miracle? - What is a parable? Why did Jesus tell them? - Can we say the Our Father together? The quantity of teacher input for the scaffolding shared with the pupils will be dependent on the cohort. This task is not a stand-alone test of knowledge. Therefore, it is acceptable that the teacher provides a model example of the task, with scaffolds provided.	
	Name 3 ways we ask for forgiveness from God? What does forgiveness mean to you?	What is lent? Which definition is the best. A time for forgiveness and reconciliation.		
Recall and Retrieval				
Sequence of Knowledge throughout the Lesson	Key knowledge Pupils will know: That we can represent forgiveness and reconciliation through art which is a universal language.	Key knowledge Pupils will know: The events of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and the crucifixion of Jesus through art works studied	Challenge / additional question: - Why would Jesus want to say sorry? - What can I do to show I am sorry? RESPOND Celebration of the word – This can be led either as a whole school, in phases or in year groups. This will be down to the local school to decide how this is led. It will be at the school’s discretion to select how to record the evaluation of the Celebration of the word. There are templates available on the SharePoint that can be used as they are or adapted accordingly.	
Key Skills/Disciplinary Knowledge	D2.4.2. Considering some examples of reconciliation and peacebuilding in art, e.g., reconciliation outside Coventry Cathedral.	D2.4.1. Looking at works of art to recall the story of Holy Week studied in the previous year.	U2.4.4. Correctly use religious words and phrases to talk about the symbols of light and water in the Easter Vigil Mass D2.4.4. Talking about links between the symbols of light and water at the Easter Vigil and what the symbols remind them of - Creation, Baptism or Advent.	R2.4.1. Thinking about what forgiveness means to them. (RVE) R2.4.2. Thinking about how making bad choices can harm themselves and others and why saying sorry matters. (RVE) R2.4.3. Reflecting on how Jesus teaches people to forgive.
Main Teaching activity <i>If the school has another short-term planning format, this does not need to be included</i>	- Set up the classroom as an art gallery of forgiveness and display different artistic impressions of the theme around the room (Some examples added to the PowerPoint. Click on each image in the gallery to learn more about it). - Pupils circulate and look at each of the images. How does each one show forgiveness? Which one do they think best represents the theme of forgiveness? Why? - Pupils are to use the artwork as inspiration for their own artwork/sculpture about reconciliation and peacebuilding. (This could be a painting, air dry clay sculpture, friendship/reconciliation bracelet with a sculpted charm made from FIMO/Polymer Clay).	- Jesus’ Life on Twitter to recap our journey over the last half term from ‘Desert to Garden’. - Read the Scripture linked to the Resurrection of Jesus (The Angel’s Message Luke 24: 1-8; Peter at the Tomb Luke 24: 9-12). - Discuss the Scripture with the pupils: How do you think the women felt before they went to the tomb? What did the angel have to tell them? What do you think the women said when they saw the disciples? What is Easter about? ‘Eyewitness’ Drama Activity: Split the class into groups for the different roles within the story e.g. angel, soldiers, women, Peter, disciples. - Also choose a couple of pupils to be newsreaders/reporters. Give pupils time to discuss what each of them will say they have seen, heard or experienced based on the story of the Resurrection. - Retell the story by interviewing the different groups of people. Teachers may choose to ask pupils to write their retell of the story.		

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	Session 7	Session 8	Session 9 and Session 10 RECALL AND RESPOND (DISCERN AND RESPOND)	
	DISCERN	HEAR	BELIEVE/CELEBRATE	LIVE
Adaptive teaching examples – Adapt to suit cohort	Use of adapted resources during in artwork- grips, sloping boards, accessible scissors etc.	Small world play with the tomb and figures from the story. Printable Resurrection Set (Religious Easter Craft For Kids!)	Provide a planning template with sections already labelled (Gather, Word, Response, Mission). Use prayer-writing frames with prompts linked to the Big Questions. Offer a word bank containing key religious vocabulary from the unit. Provide examples of simple prayers to support pupils who need a model. Use a checklist of required elements so pupils can monitor completion of their plan.	
Challenge	(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?			
Key Vocabulary and Definition	Penitence: Feeling truly sorry in your heart for the wrong things you have done, saying sorry and asking God for forgiveness. Reconciliation: Making peace with God by saying sorry for our sins, receiving his forgiveness and growing closer to him. Reconciliation is a sacrament.	Crucifixion: A way of executing (killing) someone by tying or nailing them to a cross. Condemned: To sentence someone to a particular punishment, especially death.		
Resources		Children's Bibles	Envelopes https://request.org.uk/resource/festivals/holy-week-and-easter/easter-vigil/	
Diversity Links	 			
Checking for understanding (summative assessment)	Do pupils recognise some examples of reconciliation and peacebuilding in art?	Do pupils recognise some works of art from story of Holy Week?		