



Galilee to
Jerusalem

Branch 3

Y1 Teachers' Guide

Version 1: September 2026

This booklet is offered as a theological guide for teachers. Although the information provides some context for the whole branch, it will be most useful for teachers as they deliver the first few sessions and lessons within the branch.

Teachers' Guide: Branch Three: Galilee to Jerusalem – Y1

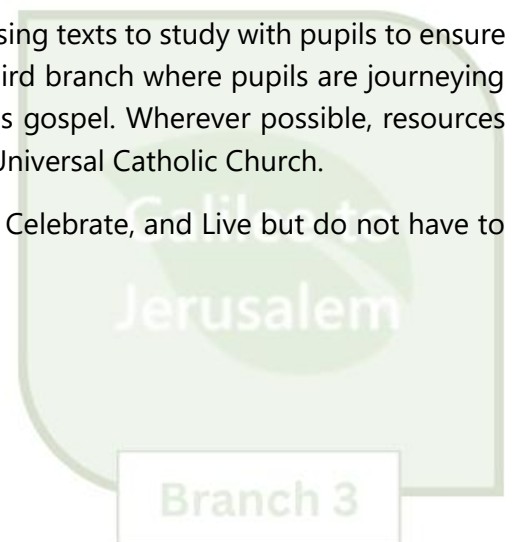
Notes for teachers

- The focus of this branch is for pupils to develop an early understanding of the Christian belief that through the ministry of Jesus, some of those who encountered him recognised he was the Son of God. Familiarity with these texts means that the astonishing revelation of Christ that they contain is often downplayed.
- In branch one, pupils explored revelation through the Creation and in the next branch, God entered human history. In this branch, teachers could consider how they will encourage pupils to think about what the accounts are saying. Mary and Joseph are poor, and they can only afford two doves as offerings at the temple.
- Even so, Simeon spots them in the temple, which would have been a busy space, takes the baby in his arms and tells God he is happy to die now as this is the best moment of his life because his eyes have seen the salvation promised to all nations. He is followed by Anna, who spends all her time in the temple and will see many people come and go, but she recognises that Jesus is not just a baby. He is an event.
- Pupils should take time to think about how extraordinary these events are. Simeon and Anna see beyond the baby to the reality of Jesus as the Son of God. In the same way, twelve-year-old boys do not usually teach adults, and people do not leave behind their work and everything they own to follow someone they have just met.
- St Luke's gospel focuses on Jesus' mission to those at the margins of society. Following the announcement to the shepherds, who were among the lowest in that society, the infant Jesus is next seen with the elderly Simeon and Anna. St Luke describes Jesus' time before he began his adult ministry as his 'hidden life'. St Luke's gospel places Jesus at the heart of the Jewish world of the first century and the heart of the Roman world. He shows Jesus caring for the poor and the oppressed, such as Samaritans, outsiders, and women.
- In this branch, teachers introduce pupils to Jesus' character as he draws people to follow him and shows love and kindness to those on the edges of society, especially little children. The time allowed for one curriculum branch does not allow sufficient time to cover the whole of St Luke's gospel. However, pupils will hear other stories from the gospels in liturgical
- Teachers may wish to make links with the celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany at the beginning of term, though pupils will study this in more detail in later years.

General guidance: Pupils of all ages should be aware of the Bible as the sacred text of the Christian faith, and teachers should reference a Catholic translation in religious education lessons.

However, teachers should exercise professional discretion when choosing texts to study with pupils to ensure that they speak to the age and ability of their pupils. As this is the third branch where pupils are journeying with St Luke, they should know that they are reading stories from his gospel. Wherever possible, resources for teaching should always look to diverse representations from the Universal Catholic Church.

Teachers must teach the content through the lenses of Hear, Believe, Celebrate, and Live but do not have to follow the lenses in sequence.



CCC Links	Knowledge lens content
The infancy narrative YCfK p55 CCC 529 CCC 531-534 Jesus begins his ministry YCfK p55-56 YC 92 CCC 551-553, 567 Jesus is the last revelation YCfK 25 YC 10 CCC 66-67 Jesus, light to all nations CCC 529 CCC 529 Following Jesus YC 139 CCC 898 Care for the poor CCC 2443	Hear By the end of this unit of study, pupils will have studied the following key texts: • The Presentation (Lk 2:22-38) • Finding in the temple and the hidden life (Lk 2:41-52) • Jesus announces his mission (Lk 4:16-22) • The call of the disciples (Lk 5:1-11) • Little children (Lk 18:15-17) • Zacchaeus (Lk 19:1-9) Believe By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know that the Church teaches: • Jesus grows up and reveals the love of the Father to us. • Some people that encounter Jesus recognise that he is the Son of God who has come to save all. • Jesus is the 'light to all nations'. Celebrate By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know: • The Feast of the Presentation of Jesus is celebrated by Christians around the world and is known as Candlemas in Britain. Live By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know that the Church teaches: • All Christians are called to follow Jesus and share the Good News with others. • Christians are called to take care of each other, especially those most in need, such as the poor.

Key vocabulary
Presentation Temple mission Son of God light Candlemas

