



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Local Church / Community – CELEBRATING – EYFS

#### \*Note to teachers/parents and carers.

This work comes from the *Come and See* Religious Education programme which is taught in all Catholic primary schools in the Archdiocese of Liverpool. We have given a general guide to the learning opportunities that children may have come across under normal timetabling in school. We have suggested and selected a small amount of the programme. The activities aim to keep Religious Education practical and fun. They are in Year groups however, there is no harm in completing other year group work as this will help children to remember and strengthen their learning.

The first part of learning is called – **EXPLORE**. This shares your child's everyday experiences and helps them to see how the Catholic faith is lived in their everyday lives. The second part, called – **REVEAL** shares Scripture stories and Church Tradition that links to their everyday life.

This topic is part of the LOCAL CHURCH theme. The experience of community is an essential and enjoyable part of life for people of every age and faith. In normal times, the cycle of a year and the span of a lifetime contain occasions for regular celebrations as well as unexpected surprises, when people want to celebrate with family, friends and communities. The Church's celebrations are community occasions. On Sundays, the parish family gathers together. It is a time to remember how much there is to celebrate; a time to say thank you; a time to know that God's love is offered and made visible here and now in Jesus and in people. Sacraments are more formal special moments: signs of 'God-with-us', who journeys with his people; signs of strength and blessing for life.

The local church gives thanks for God's blessings in its liturgical celebrations and in the way, it lives its parish life. Christians belong to the local church community – the parish, which celebrates in a variety of ways. they celebrate tradition and story and find their meaning in Jesus.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - NURSERY & RECEPTION – Celebrating (Local Church – Community)

### EXPLORE: Discover what a celebration is. How do people celebrate?

#### Read together, share and talk about:

1. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/type/festivals-celebrations#filter>

CBeebies clips of celebrations around the world.



2. Look at photographs or remember and to talk about celebrations they have been part of, other than birthday parties. What are their memories?

Parents/Carers There are some great party games to play while you are at home here are some ideas for this topic...

<https://www.sitters.co.uk/blog/the-top-14-party-games-for-kids.aspx>

#### Choose Activities

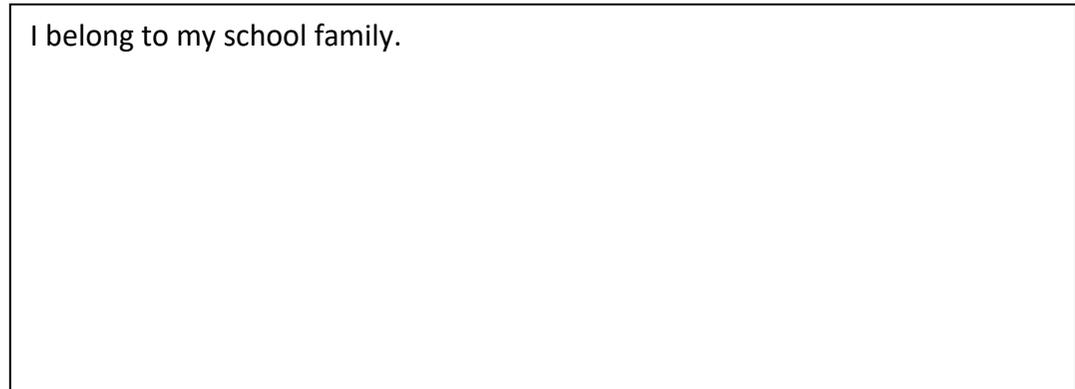
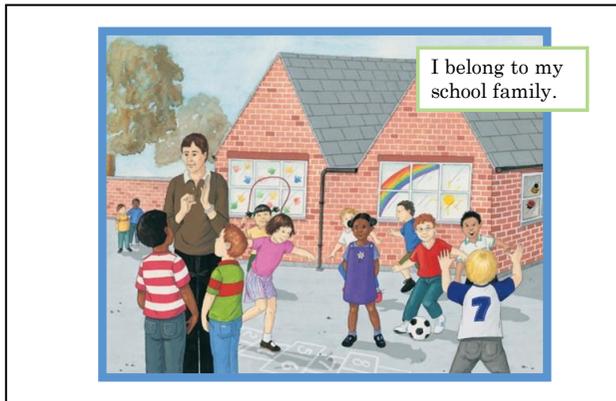
- Draw a picture or use a photograph of how you celebrated Christmas. Can you write a sentence about it or talk about what happened with your family?
- Make a party hat as a gift for someone in your family. How are you going to celebrate?
- Plan a small party at home with people who live in your house. Make some party hats and decorations. You might have some biscuits, fruit, milk and a cake. Play some party games and sing songs. Take a picture and send it to your teacher.
- Sing some party songs e.g. *If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.*

- Play various party games, 'Pin the Tail on the Donkey', 'Musical Chairs', 'Pass the Parcel' etc.
- Look at a variety of pictures of people celebrating different events. Talk about the different ways in which people celebrate. Talk about what makes a good celebration? Can you write down the words that you can think of and draw pictures? Use these words to help you...

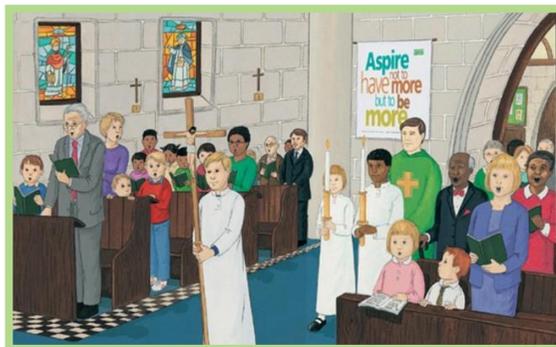
singing	party hat	cake	games
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**REVEAL: How the parish family celebrate.**

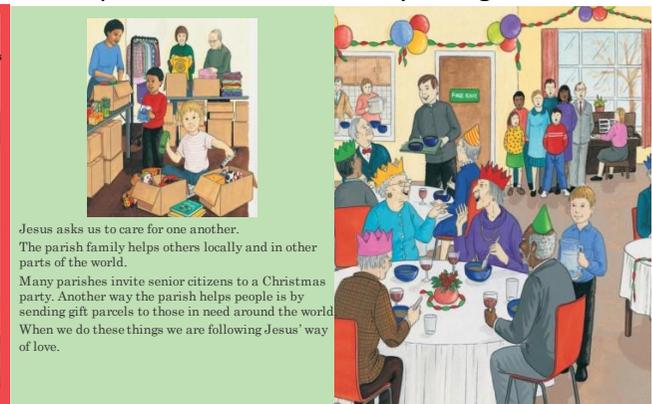
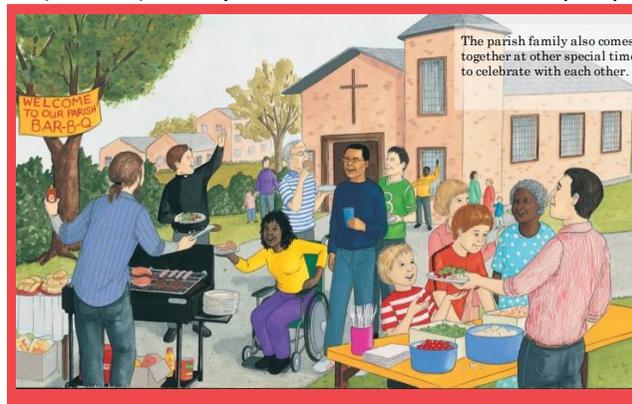
- Talk about what a parish is? Talk about the church, the school and all the families you know at school and church. We all are part of a parish. Our parish (church) name is...You might like to go for a walk to your parish church. Draw a picture of your own school family.



- Talk about how we can celebrate in church. Have you have been to a Baptism, Christmas Mass, a Wedding?
- We are part of the parish (church) family. Sometimes the parish family celebrates in church, sometimes outside church. Talk about the pictures below that show us how the parish (church) family celebrates. Who are the people in the pictures? What are they doing?



The Church family comes together to celebrate.



- See if you can spot ...the priest, crucifix, benches, hymn books, stained glass windows, baptismal font, altar, lectern and the notice board.

- **REVEAL: The story of the Presentation**

*Read and share together...*

Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the Temple. He was their baby boy and they wanted to thank God for him. At the Temple they met Simeon and Anna who were both old and had been going to the Temple to pray for many years. They were very happy to see Jesus and thank God for him.

***Can you answer these questions?***

- What do you see in the picture?
- Why did Mary and Joseph take Jesus to the Temple?
- Who were the people that they met?
- Why did Simeon and Anna go to the Temple?

**Choose Activities**

- Write the story of Jesus going to the temple in your own words.
- What do you think Simeon and Anna said to Mary and Joseph? Do you think they spoke to baby Jesus? What did they say? Use the speech bubbles to write the words they said.

