IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

ALL SAINTS
(1 November)
We celebrate the lives of special and ordinary people who have responded to God's invitation to love.

THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)
(2 November)
Today and throughout the rest of November we pray for those who have died.
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE
(26 November)

ADVENT
(Begins 3 December)
Advent means 'coming'. We think of the coming of Jesus when he was born but we also think of his promise that he would come again at the end of time. It is a time of waiting and preparing. It is only in the last week of Advent that we focus upon the events to be celebrated at Christmas.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
(8 December)
This feast marks the first stage of the existence of Mary, the mother of Jesus.
She was 'full of grace' from the very beginning and
co-operated with God throughout her life.

CHRISTMAS DAY, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
(25 December)
On this day we begin our celebration of the birth of Christ.

Important School Dates:

Friday 6th Oct – Harvest Festival Service in School

Wednesday 1st Nov – All Saints Day, Mass in Church 9.30 am

Wednesday 29th November – KS2 Penitential Service in Church 9.30 am (Yr 4, 5, 6)

Wednesday Dec 6th & Thursday 7th – Nativity Play (6pm performance)

Wednesday 20th Dec – Carol Concert, 9.15 am in School

Thursday 21st Dec – End of Term Mass in School

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
AUTUMN TERM 2017
COME AND SEE AT HOME

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term we will be studying the three themes of Domestic Church (Family), Baptism and Confirmation (Belonging) and Advent and Christmas (Loving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics. The children will also spend a week studying Judaism.

DOMESTIC CHURCH - FAMILY

(September- October 2017)

Early Years	**MYSELF** - God knows and loves each one
Year 1	**FAMILIES** - God's love and care for every family
Year 2	**BEGINNINGS** - God is present in every beginning
Year 3	**HOMES** - God's vision for every family
Year 4	**PEOPLE** - The family of God in Scripture
Year 5	**OURSELVES** - Created in the image and likeness of God
Year 6	**LOVING** - God who never stops loving

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Make a collage using family photographs of all the significant family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. who show God's love.
Write underneath it
"We show God's love to one another."
Include those who have died.

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - BELONGING

(October / early November 2017)

Early Years	**WELCOME** - Baptism: a welcome to God's family
Year 1	**BELONGING** - Baptism: an invitation to belong to God's family
Year 2	**SIGNS AND SYMBOLS** - Signs and symbols in Baptism
Year 3	**PROMISES** - Promises made at Baptism
Year 4	**CALLED** - Confirmation: a call to witness
Year 5	**LIFE CHOICES** - Marriage, commitment and service
Year 6	**VOCATION AND COMMITMENT** - The vocation of priesthood and religious life

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism and/or Confirmation about their memories of this celebration.

JUDAISM *(13th – 17th November 2017)*

Pupils will study various aspects of Judaism for one week. Ask them what they have been learning about.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - LOVING

(late November – December 2017)

Early Years	**BIRTHDAY** - Looking forward to Jesus' birthday
Year 1	**WAITING** - Advent: a time to look forward to Christmas
Year 2	**PREPARATIONS** - Advent: preparing to celebrate Christmas
Year 3	**VISITORS** - waiting for the coming of Jesus
Year 4	**GIFT** - God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus
Year 5	**HOPE** - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus, the promised one
Year 6	**EXPECTATIONS** - Jesus born to show God to the world

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Discuss with the children how your family welcomes visitors to your home.
Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree.
Use the CAFOD or Missio websites to get a religious Advent calendar.