



Prayer and Liturgy Policy

Our Mission

'Living our Faith, Learning in Love'

'I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things' Mother Teresa

'Love one another as I have loved you' John 13:34

We Value...

WORKING TOGETHER
KINDNESS
FORGIVENESS
TRYING YOUR BEST ALWAYS!

Name	Alicia Murphy
Position	RE Lead
Signature	A Murphy
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Prayer and Liturgy Policy (Updated in line with “To Love You More Clearly”)

Our school's mission statements –

'Living our Faith, Learning in Love' 'I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things' Mother Teresa
'Love one another as I have loved you' John 13:34–

Captures our desire to follow the example of Christ in welcoming, nurturing and developing each individual as a unique and precious gift from God. Our first task as a Catholic school is to engage our children in a relationship with Jesus Christ. In a special way, prayer and liturgy invites them to recognise God's presence with them in every moment.

Our Vision for Prayer and Liturgy

All Saints' is a one-form entry primary school located in Ashton-on-Mersey within the Diocese of Shrewsbury. The school serves the parish of All Saints' and St Margaret Ward and enjoys a strong partnership with Father Ned Wall, the parish priest. Guided by its mission statement, *“Living our Faith, Learning in Love,”* the school places Christ at the centre of all it does, fostering a loving, inclusive and nurturing environment where every child is recognised as unique and made in the image of God. Approximately 65% of pupils are baptised Catholics. All children, regardless of faith background, are invited to participate fully in the prayer life of the school. Prayer and liturgy form the heartbeat of daily life, with pupils and staff joining together in class prayers, celebrations of the Word and regular school and parish Masses. Children take an active role in leading worship as Prayer Leaders, Chaplains and Mini Vinnies, reflecting the school's commitment to Catholic Social Teaching and service to others. In partnership with parents, parish and community, All Saints seeks to provide rich and meaningful experiences of prayer and worship that nurture faith, promote spiritual growth and inspire pupils to live out the Gospel values of love, kindness, forgiveness and service in their everyday lives.

The Nature and Purpose of Prayer and Liturgy

Prayer and liturgy in our school is:

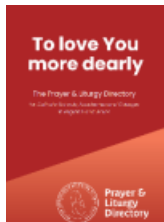
- An encounter with the living God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- A space to listen deeply to the Word of God and respond in faith.
- A time for formation, shaping the hearts and minds of our pupils in the image of Christ.
- A call to mission, sending forth all members of the community to live out the Gospel in their daily lives.

As expressed in the Directory, prayer and liturgy “forms disciples who live, celebrate, and proclaim the Gospel.”

The Legal and Canonical Context

We acknowledge the statutory requirement for a daily act of worship for all pupils. As a Catholic school, this daily act is expressed through prayer and liturgy that reflects the richness of our Catholic tradition and the liturgical year.

We recognise that this worship must be inclusive, invitational, and inspirational, accommodating those of other Christian denominations, other faiths, and those with no faith background.



We use 'To love You more dearly' which is the Prayer and Liturgy directory for Catholic schools, academies and colleges in England and Wales. It is a document of the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales. Prayer and liturgy are not designated curriculum time. In the context of the Catholic school, this means that times of prayer and liturgy are not considered to be part of the allocation of curriculum time for Religious Education.

Aims of Prayer and Liturgy at All Saints'

We aim to:

- Provide rich opportunities for pupils and staff to experience the mystery of God.
- Enable spiritual growth through daily engagement in various forms of prayer.
- Foster understanding and appreciation of Catholic liturgical life.
- Support pupils in discovering their vocation and mission.
- Develop the capacity for stillness, silence, and listening to the voice of God.
- Celebrate and embed the liturgical calendar into the life of the school.

Participation and Leadership

Governors

The governors are entrusted with ensuring that:

- Prayer and liturgy remain central to the Catholic life of the school.
- The school prayer and liturgy policy is regularly reviewed and shared with all stakeholders.
- Adequate resources and budgets are allocated to prayer and liturgy.

Headteacher

The headteacher, as the spiritual leader of the school, ensures:

- That prayer and liturgy are integral to school life and align with the guidelines of the Catholic Church.

- Partnership with the prayer and liturgy coordinator to ensure appropriate planning, formation, and delivery.
- Access to suitable resources and opportunities for staff formation in the areas of prayer and liturgy.

Prayer and Liturgy Coordinator

At All Saints, there is a named person who is responsible for prayer and liturgy in the school (RE Coordinator). The coordinator is responsible for ensuring that:

- Prayer and liturgy are central to the daily life of the school, aligned with the Prayer and Liturgy Directory.
- There is an annual plan for prayer and liturgy across the school, with a focus on key liturgical seasons, celebrations, and sacraments.
- Pupils have opportunities to actively participate in prayer and liturgy, in ways that are developmentally appropriate.
- Continuous monitoring and evaluation of the impact of prayer and liturgy, with feedback integrated into future planning.
- Resources to support the planning of prayer and liturgy are appropriate and readily available to staff and pupils.
- Induction on prayer and liturgy takes place for new members of staff as required
- Staff have access to effective training opportunities.
- Monitoring of prayer and liturgy is reported to the headteacher and governing body to support whole-school development and the Catholic life of the school
- There is collaboration with Fr Ned our Parish Priest – Providing sacramental and spiritual support.
- Liaison with the Diocesan Advisory Service and others is maintained to ensure they keep updated with best practice.

All members of our school community are invited to participate, including:

- Pupils – Planning and leading prayer through liturgy groups, RE lessons, and chaplaincy roles.
- Staff – Encouraging and modelling active prayer life.
- Parents/Carers – Invited to join weekly morning liturgies, Masses, and special liturgies.
- Fr Ned our Parish Priest – Providing sacramental and spiritual support.

We encourage and develop pupil chaplaincy teams and provide ongoing staff formation in planning and leading prayer and liturgy.

Formation of Staff

All staff share responsibility for supporting the prayer life of the school.

Staff receive formation and training to help them:

- understand the importance of prayer and liturgy
- lead prayer confidently and reverently
- support pupils in developing their prayer life

Opportunities for professional development are provided regularly.

Structure of Prayer and Liturgy

Our model follows the structure outlined in the new directory:

1. Gather – Creating sacred space and intentionality.
2. Listen – Encountering God through Scripture.
3. Respond – Prayer, silence, action or symbolic response.
4. Mission/Go Forth – Living the Word in everyday life.

This structure supports developmentally appropriate prayer experiences across all key stages, ensuring theological and liturgical progression.

Forms and Frequency

Prayer and Liturgy at All Saints' includes:

- Daily Classroom Prayer – Morning, midday and end of day prayers.
- Whole School Celebration of the Word – Weekly gatherings led by the headteacher
- Celebration of the Mass – Regular school Masses, including Holy Days. Blessing of the school bag Mass, Annual Parish Mass held on a Sunday-led by the children. First Holy Communion Mass, parish Celebration Mass and school celebration Mass, Leavers Mass.
- Seasonal Liturgies – Advent, Lent, Easter, Saints' Days.
- Pupil-led Thursday Class Prayer sessions – Planned around the liturgical calendar.
- Stay and Pray sessions are delivered for parents and families each half term
- Prayer Stations, Rosary Club, Lectio Divina – Especially during October and May.

Our Annual Provision Plan is available from school

Environment and Resources

- Our Prayer Gardens, classroom prayer tables, and school altar space create sacred spaces.
- Use of symbols, candles, Scripture, art, and music to engage the senses.
- Digital and physical resources support planning across the year.

Planning, Evaluation and Monitoring

Prayer and Liturgy is:

- Planned weekly by staff and pupils, using liturgical calendar and school values.
- Monitored and evaluated by the RE Lead and SLT, using pupil voice, observations, and reflective tools.
- Reviewed annually by governors and the RE lead.

Documentation and Display

Prayer and Liturgy experiences are documented through:

- Weekly and termly planning logs.
- Photographs, reflections, and artwork displayed across the school.
- Liturgical journals capturing pupil responses.
- Digital or physical portfolios showcasing progression.

Conclusion

Rooted in the love of Christ, our prayer and liturgy life at All Saints' is ever-growing and deeply embedded in our identity as a Catholic school. Following "To Love You More Clearly," we strive to form disciples who seek God with clarity, live with integrity, and serve with joy.

Prepared by: Alicia Murphy – RE Lead

Signature: A. Murphy

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