# Beginning with the Church Year A - (A6) Summer Term

## **OVERVIEW of OUTCOMES**

### Focus Question 1: What is the Church? (The Body of Christ and the 7 Sacraments)

Make simple connections between the mission of the Church [as the Body of Christ] and the mission of Jesus as he announced it at the beginning of (Mt 28:16-20)

**AND** 

Make simple connections between Jesus' announcement of his mission (Mt 28:16-20) and how Christians are called to tell people about God's love today. (Progress Point 1)

Describe connections between Jesus' announcement of the mission of the disciples (Mt 28:16-20) and the work of the Church as the Body of Christ. (Progress Point 1)

Explain the metaphor the Body of Christ for the Church and identify the seven sacraments of the Catholic faith and explain the purpose of each sacrament in the life of the Catholic church. (Progress Point 1)

#### Focus Question 2: What is Baptism?

| End of Phase Outcomes Ages 5-7   | End of Phase Outcomes Ages 7-9   | End of Phase Outcomes Ages 9-11   |
|--|--|---|
| Correctly use religious words and phrases to talk about the sacrament of baptism, as a sign of Jesus's love for all people and a welcome into the Christian family. (Progress Point 1) | Use religious words and phrases to describe the key sacramental moment in the sacrament of Baptism: words, action and symbol. (Progress Point 1) | Explain some Christian beliefs about the sacrament of baptism. (Progress Point 1)  Use specialist religious vocabulary to show knowledge and understanding of the religious actions and signs involved in the celebration of Confirmation. (Progress Point 2) |

| Focus Question 3: What about other Sacraments?  |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| End of Phase Outcomes Ages 5-7  | End of Phase Outcomes Ages 7-9   | End of Phase Outcomes Ages 9-11   |  |
| Recognise the Structure of the Mass: Gathering, Word, Sacramental action, Departure, and know the names of some of the items on the altar. (Progress Point 1) | Give simple descriptions of some special prayers, signs and actions performed in Church and at Mass using religious language, focusing on the liturgy of the Word AND  Give a simple description of how Catholics celebrate the Mass. (Progress Point 1 [simpler])                 | Use specialist theological vocabulary to make links between the each of the miraculous signs in St John's Gospel and Christian beliefs about Jesus, including some of the sacraments. (Feeding of 5000 and Healing of Blind man) (Progress Point 1) |  |
|   | OR  Describe with increasing detail and accuracy the prayers, religious signs and actions of the Mass, focusing on the liturgy of the Eucharist AND  Give reasons for actions and symbols used in the Mass and make links between beliefs and actions. (Progress Point 1 [harder]) |   |  |
|   | PLUS Recognise that the Church teaches that the Eucharist is the meeting point where God gives himself to Communicants as food; they receive the Body of Christ and become ever more united in his Body the Church. (Progress Point 2)   |   |  |

## Spiritual Outcomes:

In addition to the knowledge outcomes above, it is hoped that pupils will develop:

- A sense of the importance of the sacramental life of the Church
- A commitment to celebrating their faith
- An openness to the presence of God in the Sacraments
- Reflectiveness in prayer

#### Focus Question 1: What is the Church?

#### **Key Information for Teachers**

The Church used the metaphor 'the Body of Christ' for itself at Vatican II. In doing so it reminded all people that everyone had a role to fulfil. Responsibility for *being the Church* moved from the ordained clergy to us all. Lumen Gentium acknowledged that people had different roles to fulfil, but it made clear that each role was essential to the overall function of the Church—just as each organ is necessary for the overall function of the human body. 'As all the members of the human body, though they are many, form one body, so also are the faithful in Christ. (56) In the building up of Christ's Body various members and functions have their part to play.'

Sacrosanctum Concilium described the changes needed to make the Church look like the Body of Christ. The key call of Sacrosanctum Concilium was that all the faithful 'should be led to that fully conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the Liturgy'. (par 14)



The resulting changes were dramatic; Priests turned to face the congregation. To enable everyone to participate, Sacrosanctum Concilium said that Mass could now be celebrated in 'the vernacular' – the mother tongue of the local people. (par 36.2 and 54) Everyone should be encouraged to 'take part by means of acclamations, responses, psalmody, antiphons and songs and well as by actions, gesture and bodily attitudes.' (par 30) Special ministries, for example, servers (altar servers), lectors (readers) commentators and members of the choir, were encouraged to serve with sincerity. (par 29)

Laws related to the building of Churches, the 'shape and construction of altars, the nobility, placing and safety of the eucharistic tabernacle, the dignity and suitability of the baptistry (baptismal font)' were reviewed with the instruction that only those items that were seen to be helpful were to be retained. This resulted in the moving of the tabernacle from behind the altar to the side of the Church and, in some settings, the resetting of chairs so that they formed a semi-circle in front of the altar instead of straight lines. Altar rails were removed from most Churches, and people were able to receive communion in the hand.

The Church called the Mass the 'summit' and the 'font' for the people. (par 10). As the summit, it was to help the faithful see and think from a different perspective, just as one sees differently from the summit of a mountain. As a 'font' the Liturgy was to nourish and sustain people; feeding their needs.

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