



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Local Church / Community – SOURCES – Y6

#### \*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 Bible is the story, spread over more than two thousand years, of God's love and how God's people responded to that love. There are all sorts of people – good, bad and indifferent – just as in the world today. God showed his love for them by wonderful deeds and each responded in a special way. There are all kinds of writings and the authors all wanted to tell us one thing: the truth about God. All of them were inspired by the Holy Spirit when they were writing. This is why the church family believes that the Holy Spirit is also the author of the Bible.

# YEAR 6 – SOURCES – EXPLORE

A wide variety of books and the purpose for which they were written

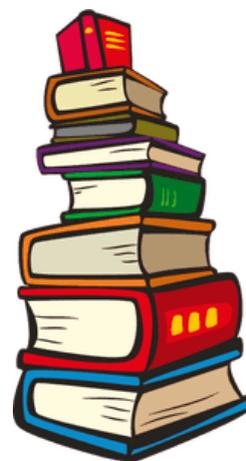
## In EXPLORE:

Children may be able to **compare** their own and other people's ideas about how books enrich our lives and how they are the source of a lot of information.

Children may be able to **show how** their decisions are informed by beliefs and values which may be influenced by what they have read.

Children may be able to use sources to illustrate a **point of view** and **construct an argument**.

- Talk to your child about books and how you use them. Discuss whether Kindle or electronic books would ever completely replace actual books. Is it a book or not? What makes a book a book? Is it possible to imagine a world without books? Talk about how books enrich our lives, whether they are electronic or hard copies, how they can take us beyond our environment and our own thoughts and ideas. Discuss how books might have influenced your thinking, ideas or behaviour.
- Look at the cover of a book. Talk about whether it is eye-catching and makes you want to read it. How does the cover help you and how would you treat the book?
- Introduce the word 'genre' and explain how the word means 'variety' or 'type'. Books come in many different genres, according to their purpose, information, history, story etc.
- As the child to think about all the books that they have in the class, school or local library and think about how these books are used.
- Make a collection of books you have in your house. Draw attention to the:
  - variety of books that exist
  - titles and authors
  - genre
  - reason the book was written
  - date of publication
- Encourage the children to discuss the following:
  - Why should we treat books with care?
  - If they wrote a book, what kind would it be and why?
  - How would they feel if they had a book of their own printed? Why?



## Activities:

- Make a family photo album/book of events that you have done as a family during the Covid19 pandemic. Talk about the story of the year and what a difference it has made to your lives. Write a family autobiography to show how your way of life has changed.
- Write opening paragraphs for a variety of different genres of books and discuss how they are different and what they are a source of.
  - a) history book      b) adventure book      c) travel guide      d) manual
  - e) facts about space      f) sci-fi      g) diary      h) poetry book

At the end of Exploring about SOURCES, decide which book you would like to read next. When you have read it, on a post-it note write a recommendation why someone should read it (or not) and post it inside the book.

# YEAR 6 – SOURCES – REVEAL

The Bible as the story of God’s love, told by the people of God.

## In REVEAL:

Children may be able to **make links** between scripture and Christian beliefs.

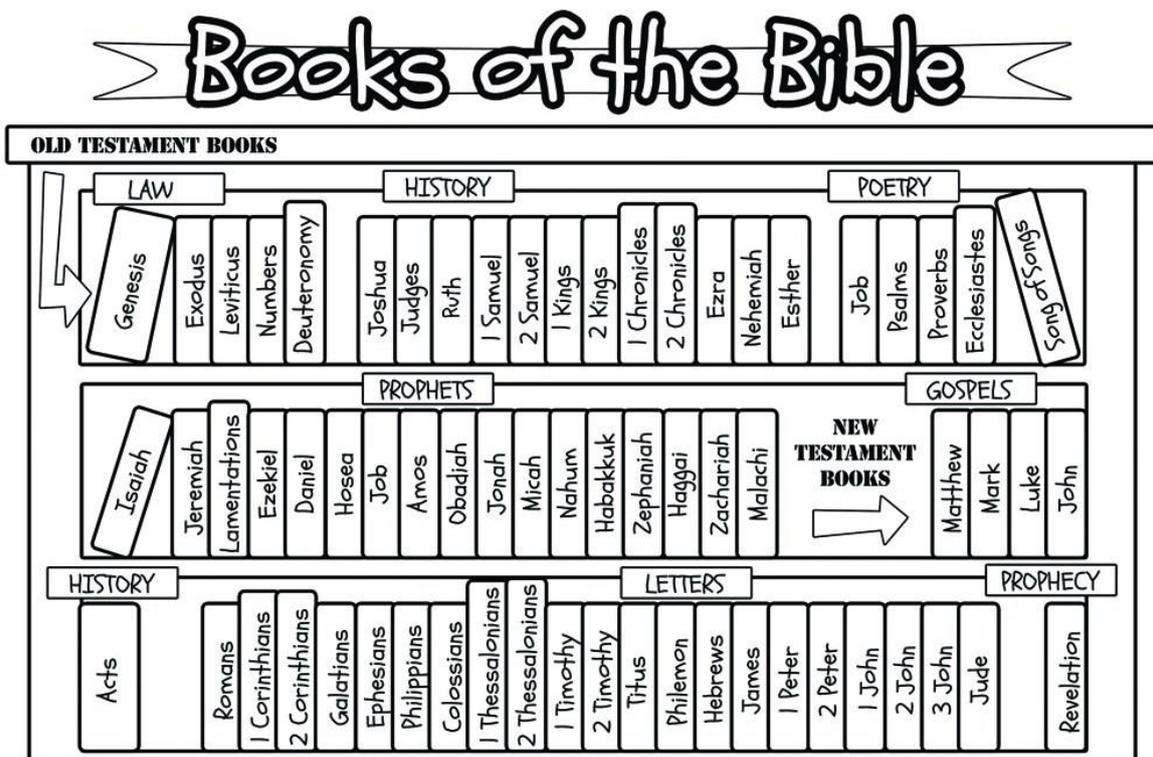
Children may be able to **give reasons** for when and how Christians use the Bible as a source of their faith.

Children may be able to **show knowledge and understanding** of a range of scripture passages and how the Bible is a source that shapes the lives of Christians.

## The Bible:

The Bible is by far the best-selling book of all time.

The word Bible means book, although it is actually a collection of different kinds of books or writings, which we call Holy Scripture. It tells of God’s love and how people responded to that love. The books of the Old Testament tell of the events before the coming of Jesus. The New Testament tells of the birth, life, passion, death and resurrection of Jesus and of how the Church began and grew as it spread the Good News.



Much of what is in the Bible started with telling a story orally and passing it on from one generation to the next. Gradually, over a very long period of time the stories were collated and written down. There are seventy-three books in the Bible, forty-six in the Old Testament and twenty-seven in the New Testament. Nobody knows exactly when each book was written. We do know that it took a thousand years or more for all the books to be completed. The last book was written at the end of the first century AD.

Over many years, many different authors have contributed writings, so there are letters, prayers, history, poetry, documentaries, drama, legend, biography - in fact any kind of writing or genre that you

would find in a good library. All these authors, regardless of the style in which they wrote, wanted to tell one thing – the truth about God and his love for his people.

The Holy Spirit inspired the authors in their writing. This is why the Church family believes that the Holy Spirit is also the author of the Bible. When Christians read the Bible or listen to the Readings during the Liturgy of Word at Mass, God is truly present and those who hear the Word come, through the power of Holy Spirit, to know and love God the Father and Jesus who was sent by God, to show God's love for everyone. It was written in three different languages and on three different continents. Its many authors include fishermen, kings, prophets, poets and musicians. The Bible has been translated into countless different languages and versions.

The Bible is divided into two sections:

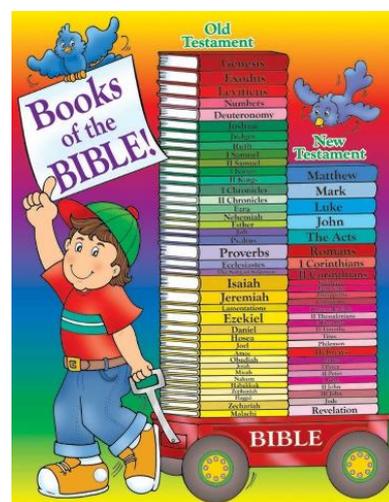
**The Old Testament** – texts written before Jesus Christ was born and covering God's dealings with the ancient Hebrew world and its people.

**The New Testament** – writings following the death of Jesus and covering his life and teaching, the establishment of the Christian church, and letters from church leaders.

We share the Old Testament with the Jewish people. They call it the 'Hebrew Scriptures'. However, the order and number of the books is slightly different. All Christians share the Bible, Old and New Testaments, but the number and order of the books is often different.

Both Jewish people and Christians treat Holy Scripture, with great reverence and respect, because they believe it is the Word of God. At Mass, the Scriptures are placed on a special reading desk called a 'lectern' and are read with care and reverence. At the end of the reading, the priest kisses the Scriptures.

Paul, in his letter to the people of Rome, who were suffering persecution for their faith, explains how Scripture helps us:



*Everything written in the Scriptures was written to teach us, in order that we might have hope through the patience and encouragement which the Scriptures give us. And may God, the source of patience and encouragement, enable you to have the same point of view among yourselves by following the example of Christ Jesus, so that all of you together may praise with one voice the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Romans 15: 4-6

For Christians, the Bible is a guide for living. Through the Bible, Christians begin to know more about God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and try to discover how they should live their lives. Christians use passages from the Bible to help them to pray to God and reflect on their lives.

Looking up Biblical text takes a little practice. Like using a dictionary, it helps to know where to begin to look. When you want to read a particular text in the Bible, you would use a reference - for example: 1 Kings 10: 23-25.

**1** Kings that is the first **book** of Kings

**10** is the number of the **chapter** in that book

**23-25** refers to the **verses** in that chapter. These are the small numbers used to divide up the chapter.

➤ Look up the following references:

Is 44: 2, Ps 24: 13-14, Lk 22: 54-57, Ps 5: 1-3, Mt 21: 1-5, Ps 150: 1-6

Make a note of which book of the Bible it comes from, what genre of writing it is and a note of the main content of the passage.

- Here is a list of passages from the Old and New Testaments. Using any version of the Bible, find the following readings and put them in the order you find them in your Bible. Write down the Bible you have used and the page you found the passages on.

John 3:1-6

Galatians 3:26-28

Deuteronomy 5:1-3

Song of Songs 2:8-10

Matthew 28:18-20

Psalms 23

1 Corinthians 12:31

Matthew 22:34-40

Mark 1:9-11

Ecclesiastes 26:1-4

1 Corinthians 12:12-13



- Look up the following references and find the book or the books which fit into these categories. Match the references to the types of book e.g. history.

Gen 1-2:25

Gen 12:1-7

1 Kings 2:1-4

1 Kings 8:1-21

Ruth 4:13-17

Esther 4:14-16



- Look up 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7. If this passage was taken seriously by world leaders, or people in your town, or in your class, describe how you think life might be changed, giving examples and explain how you think people might feel.

- Decide on a 'Code of Respect' for how to treat your Bible. Think about and note down where and how it should be kept and treated.



At the end of all the work you have covered in SOURCES, you might like to choose a favourite quote from scripture or select one from the list below. Design a bookmark to illustrate it and keep your bookmark in your family Bible.

"For with God nothing is impossible" *Luke 1:37*

"I am with you and will watch over you wherever you may go" *Genesis 28:15*

"Give your worries to the Lord and he will take care of you" *Psalms 55:22*

"Encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing" *Thessalonians 5:11*

Place your Bible reverently, open at your favourite passage, along with the bookmark you have made, on a table and gather around it. Say this prayer together:

*Father, thank you for the joy we get from reading books.  
Thank you for the knowledge we receive and for the pleasure  
we experience as we read them.*

*May we learn to cherish the scripture we read in passages  
from the Bible.*

*May we be open to the messages we hear and try to use the  
guidance we are given.*

*May we follow the teachings of Jesus as we try to make the  
world a better place. AMEN!*

