



Overview of Units of Work Taught in Religion

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School

Prep

The Church – A Special Place

During first term, students learn about the sacred nature of the Church building and the special celebrations and rituals that take place inside of it. They examine the ways in which Catholics pray with a focus on the *sign of the cross* and the use of the word 'amen'.

The Risen Lord

In developing their understanding of Jesus as *The Risen Lord*, students listen to, read and view stories about his life from the Gospels. They explore how Jesus was a Jew, who his family was and how he suffered, died and rose again.

Who Made the World?

During the *Who Made the World?* Unit, students explore the creation story and identify God as the creator of all. They develop an understanding that the Bible is a sacred book to Christians.

Mary MacKillop

In the lead up to the Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop's feast day, 8 August, students learn about Australia's first saint. They make links between Saint Mary's life and actions and the teachings and messages of Jesus.

Jesus the Jew

During the *Jesus the Jew* unit, students learn about Jesus' life as a Jew through the reading and viewing of a range of New Testament stories. They also explore how Jesus prayed and how he taught others to pray.



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Year One

Mary MacKillop

Through the study of the life of Mary MacKillop, students explore the Christian belief that people are created in God's image. Keeping Saint Mary as a focus, they learn about God's plan and how believers are called to be people of Christ.

Jesus' Mission

During the *Jesus' Mission* unit, students examine Jesus' mission and ministry through an exploration of Gospel stories about his life. Students also explore aspects of Jewish daily life in the time of Jesus.

Creation

The *Creation* unit has an explicit focus on the Christian belief that God is the creator and sustainer of life. During the unit, students explore God's plan for creation and the responsibility that believers have in living in accordance with that plan.

Belonging

In the *Belonging* unit, students learn about the Sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist. They explore the words, actions and symbols associated with the Sacraments and how they communicate God's presence. With an integrated focus on personal and communal prayer, students also learn about the different roles in the local parish community.

Mary, Jesus' Mother

During the *Mary, Jesus' Mother* unit, students recognise ways in which Catholics honour Mary. Through the exploration of the *Hail Mary*, students learn about, participate and engage in meditative prayer.



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Year Two

Church History

During the *Church History* unit, students explore the history of a parish community and learn about the ways in which members of the Church community follow Jesus' teachings and action.

All the World is Sacred

Through the *All the World is Sacred* unit, students learn about the sacredness of creation. They explore how humans are called to be stewards of God's creation and that they have a responsibility to uphold God's plan.

Saying Sorry

With a key focus on the Sacrament of Penance, the *Saying Sorry* unit explores the choices we make, God's unconditional love and the ways in which believers celebrate reconciliation with God. The unit further examines God's relationship with the Jewish people through an exploration of Old Testament stories.

Mary MacKillop

Through the *Mary MacKillop* unit, students develop an understanding of how believers can draw upon the prayer and wisdom of the saints (specifically Mary of the Cross) in order to nurture their relationship with God.

Teaching and Actions of Jesus

Through an exploration of stories from the Gospel, students learn about the purpose and nature of Jesus' mission – to preach and bring about the Kingdom of God. They examine how the lives of believers are influenced by Jesus' actions and teachings.

The Life and Times of Jesus

With Jesus' life and times as the core focus, students examine the contents of the bible and how it is made up of two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament. They use the knowledge gained from their examination to locate and explore key stories about Jesus' life.



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Year Three

Prayer and Ritual

The year commences with an exploration of the features of prayer. Throughout the *Prayer and Ritual* unit, students investigate prayers of thanksgiving and praise and identify how they are important to Christians.

Me, Myself and the Church

During the *Me, Myself and the Church* unit, students learn about the significance of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist for the Church community. While continuing to develop their understanding of community, students explore the key features of the local diocese.

Heroes of the Past

In the *Heroes of the Past* unit, students investigate Jewish heroes from the Old Testament with a particular focus on Moses and Esther. Through their investigation, they identify the qualities of a hero and use their findings to discover a hero within the local parish.

Mary MacKillop

Drawing upon the life and wisdom of Saint Mary MacKillop, students learn about the importance of charity and showing care and concern for the poor and disadvantaged.

Jesus and His Great Commandments

Through the study of stories from the New Testament, specifically the Gospels, students explore the Christian belief that Jesus is the Messiah. They further explore how Jesus' teaching and actions (including Jesus' Great Commandment) provide a guide for living a moral life. They further explore the various names and titles given to Jesus in the New Testament.



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Year Four

Prayer and Sacraments

During the *Prayer and Sacraments* unit, students explore a number of important prayers and Sacraments and examine their importance within the Church community. They learn about prayers of blessing, petition and intercession and explore the Sacraments of Anointing of the Sick and Penance.

Who is God in the Bible?

Through an examination of scripture, both Old and New Testament, students investigate images of God in the Bible. They explore the Christian belief that God, as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit is connected to all. They also learn how to use Bible referencing to locate people, places and events in the Bible.

Mary MacKillop

The *Mary MacKillop* unit has a key focus on the experiences of different communities. Throughout the unit, students compare and contrast the experiences of those of the early Church communities in Australia (including the experiences of Saint Mary of the Cross) with those who make up contemporary Church communities.

Religion in Palestine

During the *Religion in Palestine* unit, students explore life in Palestine during the first century, with a specific focus on Judaism.

Making Choices

Using St Paul's teachings as a core focus, students put morality under the microscope as they learn about the impact that free choices can have on an individual and a community.



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Year Five

What is a Covenant?

The year commences with each class developing a unique *class covenant* which is built upon the culmination of shared values and beliefs. During this unit, students examine *The Golden Rule* and *The Beatitudes* as they develop their understanding of Christian charity and moral choice. Prayer routines and rituals are also established at this time.

The completed covenant is shared with the school community during a prayer assembly in Term One.

Pioneering Catholics – Preservers of the Faith

During the *Pioneering Catholics* unit, students identify the significant contributions made by pioneering Catholics in preserving the faith and strengthening communities during the second half of the 19th century. To enrich their understanding, students draw upon the wisdom of the saints, including that of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

The Action of the Holy Spirit in the Lives of the Believers

In the lead up to Pentecost, students learn about the action of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Catholics. Through the examination of scripture, students develop their understanding of the gifts and fruits of the Spirit and identify how they are used to inform the conscience of believers.

Unlocking the Texts

The *Unlocking the Texts* unit aims to broaden the students' appreciation of the significance of personal and communal prayer through the examination of the Psalms.

Who is Mary?

In the lead up to Advent, students learn about Mary's role as the mother of Jesus and mother of the Church. Throughout the unit, students explore Marian prayers (prayers about Mary including the *Rosary* and the *Litany of Mary of Nazareth*), the stories of the birth of Jesus and make connections with Mary to her Jewish traditions.



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Seniors

The Catholic Church in the Land Down Under

In The Catholic Church in the Land Down Under unit, students investigate the influence that the Catholic Church has had in shaping Australia through the exploration of key Catholic groups and individuals from the post-Federation era.

Just Leadership

In the *Just Leadership* unit, students draw upon scripture, both Old and New Testament, in order to develop an understanding of 'just leadership'. Students will investigate the concept of just leadership in the light of Catholic social teaching and Jesus' "New Law" and will investigate the many ways that faith is lived out by believers to shape a socially just world.

Students will experience and explain the significance of The Examen and prayer journaling as tools for evaluating their own contributions to building a just world.

Mary MacKillop

Through the *Mary MacKillop* unit, students analyse how the writing and key messages of Mary MacKillop influenced the way of life of her religious community and the communities in which she work.

Graduating With Spirit

In the lead up to graduation, students seek to explain the action of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers. Through the exploration of New Testament scripture, students learn about how the Holy Spirit guided the writers of scripture and identify images and titles of Jesus. Students identify ways in which believers actively participate in liturgical celebrations and interpret the meaning of these. Students help to prepare their Graduation Mass by choosing appropriate scripture and music to reflect their suggested theme.