



St Mary's Mission Statement

Our school community seeks to build on Gospel values to:

- Nurture and respect the talents and abilities that God has given to each unique individual.
- Enable everyone to aspire to and realise their potential through perseverance, resilience and integrity
- To grow in love and to be loved, unconditionally.

The Aims of Collective Worship

As detailed in the Plymouth CAST Collective Worship policy, Collective Worship in our school aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff:

- To contemplate something of the mystery of God
- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- To explore our own beliefs
- To respond and celebrate life
- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit
- To develop a shared ethos and shared values
- To enrich religious experience
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development
- To reinforce prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition
- To reinforce positive attitudes
- To participate fully
- To take time out 'to wonder at', 'to come to terms with' and 'to give worth to'.

How Collective Worship is organised at St. Mary's

Collective Worship is arranged in a variety of ways as follows:

Monday	Whole school collective worship using the Sunday Gospel. Led by HT or a member of the teaching staff (all teaching staff lead at least one per term) on a rotational basis.
Tuesday	Class liturgy (may be based on the Gospel and/or Ten Ten resources)
Wednesday	Class liturgy (may be based on the Gospel and/ or Ten Ten resources)
Thursday	Whole School Liturgical preparation
Friday	Whole School Achievement Assembly with whole school prayer and presentation of the Witness of the Week award (an award given to one child per class based on the Gospel values or class virtues).

Mass usually takes place at least once a term, led by the Priest in Charge from Buckfast. All children and staff are invited, and parents/ parishioners may be invited depending on the occasion. The Abbey Choristers lead the music for the Mass. These are usually held in the school hall, but these may also be held in the Buckfast Abbey's Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Class Masses are also held on a rotational basis during the year. These are prepared with the children.

Other class worship takes place during the year, for example Carol Services, Crib Blessings or Christingle services. Pupils in each class also take part in a 'Respond' session, at the end of the RE unit being studied in the Come and See programme of work. This worship is planned collectively, whereby all pupils have the opportunity to offer their ideas and suggestions.

Other collective worship and prayer opportunities are also present at St Mary's, including the following:

- Pupil Chaplains prepare and delivery weekly prayer sessions with small groups of children from the school.
- Year 6 and Pupil Chaplains help to support Prayer Spaces which are held in school <https://prayerspacesinschools.com/> These enable children of all faiths and none to explore life's questions, faith and spirituality in a safe, creative and interactive way.
- Pupils are invited to participate in prayer space style activities at Buckfast Abbey's Education Department e.g. REConnect, Wellbeing Festivals.
- Mini-Vinnies share in prayer sessions as part of their meetings with parishioners
- Abbey Choristers meet three times before school and once after school each week to rehearse. They also help to lead the music in the 5pm Mass each Thursday in the Abbey Church.

Sacramental Preparation

Programmes for sacramental preparation are school-based and have included preparing children for First Holy Communion, Reconciliation and the Rite of Catechumen. These sacraments are then celebrated with parish and parents/ carers in the Abbey Church or satellite churches.