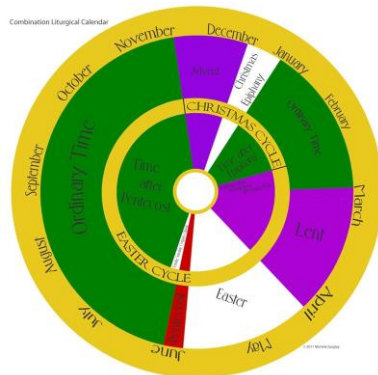




St. Alban's Catholic Primary School

Celebrating the Liturgical Year

At St. Albans we take the time to celebrate the seasons of the Liturgical Year. All of our class prayer areas reflect the Liturgical colour. We spend time in our R.E lessons looking at the events in the churches calendar and we celebrate many of them together through collective worship or attending Mass.



The Liturgical Year

September

Prayer tables and displays across the school are green at the start of the academic year. We start our new school year with the celebration of Mass at St Alban's Church, praying for the whole school community and the year ahead.



October – The Rosary

In October we celebrate the Rosary as a form of prayer. Classes are encouraged to pray the Hail Mary and Rosary frequently during the month. Children can also choose to pray the Rosary at our prayer group, led by our catechists.



November – Remembrance

During November we remember the people who have died during conflict. We gather and recognise a minute's silence. We have made fields of poppies to remember those that have left this earth and are with Jesus in heaven.

We also take time to think about Saints who have shown us how to live a good life. We celebrate Mass at the Church for All Saints Day.



December – Advent

The prayer areas are changed to purple. Advent is the beginning of the Liturgical Year and is a time for anticipation, preparation, joy, and hope. We light the candles on our Advent Wreath to remind us that we are coming out of the darkness into the light.

During Advent we celebrate and prepare to remember Jesus' entry into the world at Christmas and for the coming of Christ at the end of time. We send Advent prayer bags home to help prepare pupils for the coming of Jesus by taking part in prayer activities to reflect on our own relationship with God and the gift God gave to us all, his only son Jesus.

We hold a Family Mass on the First Sunday of Advent.



December – Advent/ Christmas

All year groups celebrate the birth of Jesus. Reception to Year 3 celebrate the nativity through drama. Years 4-6 come together to lead a Carol Service with Gospel readings, in St. Alban's Church.

Our parish Catechists visit the school to deliver 'Godly Play' sessions to help pupils explore the First Christmas story.

Pupil led collective worships are all related to Advent and Christmas. At the end of term a Christmas Mass is held.



January – Epiphany

Prayer tables are Gold for Christmas season then green for Ordinary Time after the Feast of Baptism of the Lord.

We return to school and remember the feast of the Epiphany, thinking about the many gifts we have been given by God. As a school community we celebrate the Epiphany through class liturgies and attending mass.



February – Ash Wednesday

Lent commences on Ash Wednesday and continues until Holy Week. On Ash Wednesday we receive the mark of the ashes.

We have watched Father Sebastian burn the palms from the previous Palm Sunday. They are a symbol of repentance and are placed on the forehead of Catholics around the world. They are a physical sign that Lent has begun.



March – Lent & Feast of St. David

Prayer tables are changed to purple.

Lent is a time to rediscover the meaning of life and prioritise what is important in how we live our lives. We try to simplify our lives (fasting), take time out to reflect and pray (prayer), and listen and respond to those in need (almsgiving).

Every child is involved in choosing a Lenten promise.

On 1st March, as a Welsh community we celebrate the Feast of Saint David, the patron saint of Wales.



April - Easter

As a school we celebrate Holy Week through drama, song, art and prayers. Foundation Phase process into the hall singing and waving palm branches. KS2 act out and share gospel readings as the Easter Triduum continues.



May – Crowning of Mary

We devote the Month of May to Mary. As a school, we come together to crown Mary with flowers and we take this opportunity to celebrate all the pupils who took the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

As a school, we celebrate the feast of the Ascension, the Lord's return to Heaven, at Mass.



May - Pentecost

The colour of Pentecost is red.

Jesus promised the apostles that he would send the Holy Spirit to empower them. The Church celebrates this with the feast of Pentecost, 50 days after Easter.

We celebrate Pentecost with class and phase liturgies.



June – Feast of Saints

As a school community we gather together to celebrate St. Alban's feast day at St. Alban's Catholic church.

The Month of the Sacred Heart and the Feast of Corpus Christi are also celebrated.



July – End of School Year

Our Year 6 leavers participated in a transition mass at the Cathedral and joined Year 6 pupils from all across Cardiff. The Archbishop celebrated this special Mass.

The Year 6 pupils also led their 'Leavers Mass' at the end of term. Every child was presented with a special certificate from Father Sebastian.

