



Welcome to our RE newsletter
Spring One 2024



The Year of Prayer

In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope', 2024 has been designated a **Year of Prayer** by Pope Francis. This started in Advent. He asks us all to join in a great "symphony" of prayer, "to renew our desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and to adore him."

There is a particular focus on the Our Father, and this presents us with a great opportunity to go back to the basics of prayer. As part of the year of prayer we will be focusing on one prayer per half term, starting with the Our Father. It would be fantastic if you took this opportunity to pray with your child/children at home using this prayer.

The Diocesan website has resources linked to the Year of Prayer that you can use for yourself or share together as a family. Please click on the links below for further information:

- Pray As You Go - Pray As You Go is a daily prayer session, designed to go with you wherever you go, to help you pray whenever you find time. <https://pray-as-you-go.org/>
- Ways into Silence and Stillness <https://diocesehn.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Ways-into-Silence-and-Stillness.pdf>
- Simple Centring Exercise <https://diocesehn.org.uk/living-the-faith/the-year-of-prayer-2024/>



Prayer in School

In school children take part in Celebration of the Word as a whole school on a Monday and with their Key Stage on a Wednesday. They also have the opportunity to pray after lunch each day. During this prayer time children may plan their own Celebration of the Word, take part in creative prayer or meditate. Children are able to build their relationship with God through different types of prayer.

There are further opportunities for children to pray and explore different forms of prayer during our weekly Rosary Club which is ran by Fiona Johnston, a St Charles' parishioner; during Bible Crew or Mini Vinnie meetings; in our 'Praying Paradise' which is an outdoor prayer area for all children to visit during lunchtime; and classes visit sacred spaces in school during Lent and Advent. The season of Lent begins on 14 February this year. Nearer the time we will be advertising opportunities for you to come into school and pray.

"Together we follow Jesus in our living and learning"
Ordinary time "People who see you at your best will thank God" Matthew 6:16