

ABOUT THE UNIT

This unit involves the children in thinking about the concept of 'temptation' as they study the temptations of Jesus. Children will be given the opportunity to reflect on what nurtures and damages human relationships they will study some important texts from the New Testament about Christian living and will learn about the Sacrament of Reconciliation as a Sacrament of Healing and God's forgiveness.

WHERE THE UNIT FITS IN

The unit builds upon previous work in Year 3 and Year 4 about the Sacrament of Reconciliation and themes concerned with the Season of Lent.

PRIOR LEARNING

It would be helpful if children have:

- some knowledge of the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- some experience of celebrating the Season of Lent.

SKILLS

Reading and reference skills, thinking skills, research skills, preparing liturgy, writing skills.

VOCABULARY

Lent, repent, temptation Corinthians, Colossians, Ephesians, Sacraments, healing, forgiveness, reconciliation, act of contrition, examination of conscience.

ASSESSMENT

At the end of this unit:

	A.T.1	A.T.2
Most children will know that Lent is a Season of Change for Christians to become more like Christ. Understand some things that damage human relationships and the consequences of giving in to temptations that are wrong. Recognise that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is the Church's celebration of God's forgiveness of sin.	3a 3b 3c 4a	3a 3b 3d 4a
Less able children will know that Lent is an important Season in the Church year. Identify some things that are wrong and damage human relationships. Know that the Church celebrates God's forgiveness of sin in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.	2a 2b	2a 2b 2d
More able children will know reasons which motivate Christians to live more like Christ. Understand that Christ is the model and example by which Christians try to live. They will have a greater understanding of things that damage relationships and the evil consequences of giving in to temptations. They will be able to think of reasons why Christians would want to experience and receive the forgiveness of God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.	4a 4b	4a 4d

PROGRAMME OF STUDY

TEACHING STRATEGIES

R4 Hear, read and explore the Gospel accounts of key events in the life of Jesus: The Temptations.

- Explore with the children some of the changes that take place in the different seasons of the year (e.g. contrast Autumn and Spring)
- Recall previous learning about Lent and remind the children that just as the seasons of the year change, Christians use the Season of Lent as a time to try to grow and change to be more like Christ.

- After receiving ashes at an Ash Wednesday liturgy recall the words as the Sign of the Cross is marked on the forehead in ashes.
- Use thesaurus to investigate alternatives to “repent”.
- Use a variety of dictionaries to explore definitions.
- Write these definitions out on strips of paper and use these to create a purple Lenten display board entitled: “Lent – a time to repent, a time to pray.”

- Children to read the story of the Temptation of Jesus.
- Highlight the responses that Jesus made to each temptation.
- How might he have felt during all of this?
- What does Jesus’ response to the devil teach us?
- What does the response of Jesus to the devil tell us about his understanding of God the Father?
- Children to imagine that they were Jesus. What questions might come into your mind as you heard each temptation? Draw pictures and write the questions in thought bubbles.
- Imagine that the temptations were taking place in the twenty first century. What might the devil use to tempt Jesus? Why?

- In groups, ask the children to brainstorm temptations felt by themselves today.
- How do you know that the temptation is wrong?
- What are some of the consequences if you give into a temptation that will hurt other people?
- Use newspaper cuttings to explore occasions when temptations were not resisted
- How might the response of Jesus in the story of the Temptation help people to overcome their own temptations?

R3 Hear about and explore the Bible.

- Ask the children to find some of the New Testament Letters.
- Explain to the children that these were written after the resurrection of Jesus to guide people who began to believe in him.
- Using the Letters, find out the type of guidance that they offer . ask the children to work in small groups and reference the following quotations from the Letters: *1 Corinthians 13:1-13, Colossians 3: 12-15, Colossians 3: 20-23, Ephesians 4: 1-3.*
- Ask the children to think about how these messages could help followers of Jesus today as they try to grow and change to be more like him.

- Children to explore good and bad times experienced in friendship, family and at school.
- What are some of the aspects of these good and bad times?
- Create lists of ideas and compare the impact that these aspects have upon us and on other people.
- Explore with the children the next step that is needed after sin and wrong doing. The need to say sorry and ask God Our Father for forgiveness.
- Use a variety of dictionaries to explore the meaning of the following words: Forgiveness, reconciliation and sorrow.
- Why do we need forgiveness? What does it do for us and for other people?

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Know that Lent is a season of repentance and a special season of prayer.
- Know that the ashes used on Ash Wednesday symbolise our desire to change to be more like Christ

R4 That the Gospels proclaim that Jesus is the fulfilment of God's promises.

- Know the story of the temptation of Jesus.
- Understand that he was tempted to do things that were wrong.
- Think, discuss and write about their ideas of Jesus' feelings at this time.
- Be able to consider what the temptations would be if it was today.
- Know that today people can be tempted to do things that are wrong.
- Understand some consequences of choosing to do something that is wrong.

R3 Of how to find their way around the Bible.

- Know some of the teachings of the apostles from the New Testament letters about becoming more like Christ.
- Understand that this teaching has some reference to the lives of Christians today.
- Be able to think of some ways in which they can apply Christ's teaching to their own lives.
- Know some of the things that nourish or damage human relationships.
- Understand the consequence of some actions and the need for sorrow and forgiveness when we do wrong.
- Understand that every Christian is called to change to be more like Christ and seek God's forgiveness for their sins.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Dramatise the story.

Create a Lenten display with some of the symbols found in the story (e.g. bread, rocks, etc.)

Look for other New Testament quotations that might help Christians think about growing and changing to be more like Christ.

Learn by heart the words of the "I Confess" and use this prayer during Lenten collective worship.

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PROGRAMME OF STUDY

TEACHING STRATEGIES

Ch5 Key images of the Church used in scripture and Tradition.

C7 Community prayer through taking part in and preparing simple celebrations.

C8 Elements of sacramental celebration,
e.g. blessing, exchanging, greetings, praise.

- Revise previous learning in Year Three and Year Four about the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- Recall the names of the seven Sacraments.
- Revise with the children that Catholics believe that these are seven powerful signs through which Jesus Christ continues to work in his Church and world today.
- Recall with the children the three categories for the Sacraments. 1) Sacraments of Initiation or Belonging which are Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. 2) Sacraments of Healing which are Anointing of the Sick and Reconciliation. 3) Sacraments of Commitment which are Marriage and Holy Orders.
- Ask the children to think about why the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a Sacrament of Healing? What damage do sins and wrong choices in our relationships with God and others cause?
- Revise the Rite of Reconciliation emphasising the confessing of sins, the act of contrition asking for God's forgiveness, the words of absolution given by the priest and the penance that is given as a thanksgiving for God's forgiveness.
- Remind the children that the priest celebrates the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the person and place of Christ to bring his forgiveness to those who ask it.
- Provide the children with an opportunity to prepare a penitential service.
- Explain to the children the meaning of an "Examination of Conscience".
- Provide children with an opportunity to experience this form of prayer and recognise that it is an important part of preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- Ensure that the children know a form of the Act of Contrition. Revise and help the children develop their understanding of the words of this prayer.
- If possible, provide an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation to be celebrated individually with the children.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Ch5 That Jesus Christ is the source of the Church's unity and holiness.

C7 That the Church celebrates the life and the love of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

- Know that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a celebration of God's forgiveness.
- Understand that it helps Christians as they try to be more like Christ.

C8 Of how to participate in and prepare celebrations.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Identify different symbols that might be used for the seven Sacraments.

Use *Psalm 50 (51)* as a prayer seeking God's forgiveness. Use words and phrases from the Psalm to create forgiveness prayers.

RELATED SCRIPTURE

Mt. 4: 1-11

Lk. 4: 1-13 – The Temptations of Jesus

Mk. 1: 12-13

Psalm 50 (51) – A Psalm of Repentance and Forgiveness

1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

Colossians 3: 12-15 – New Testament Messages about Christian Living

Ephesians 4: 1-3

OTHER LINKS

Multi-cultural: Explore penitential celebrations in other world religions.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

- Use the Examination of Conscience and the Act of Contrition during the Season of Lent.
- Use Psalm 50 (51) as a class prayer psalm.
- Learn a sung version of the Penitential Rite.
- Prepare a reflection to share with other classes in the School about forgiveness and trying to live like Christ.

EVALUATION

What went well?

Which areas of planning need to be developed/adapted next time?

What needs to be revisited/developed in a later unit?