

YEAR

5

UNIT 1

MARRIAGE & HOLY ORDERS

ABOUT THE UNIT

This unit is designed to help children understand that Marriage and Holy Orders are important Sacraments of Commitment in the Church. It will also help them appreciate that everybody has some responsibility and part to play in the life of the Church.

WHERE THE UNIT FITS IN

This unit builds on previous work in Year 4 about roles and responsibilities in the Church.

PRIOR LEARNING

It would be helpful if children have:

- some knowledge of the work of a Priest
- some knowledge of other responsibilities in the Church.

SKILLS

Discussion skills, research skills, thinking skills, reference skills, interpreting symbols.

VOCABULARY

Responsibility, Body of Christ, Archbishop, Priest, deacon, Holy Orders, Sacrament, promises, laying on of hands.

ASSESSMENT

At the end of this unit:

	A.T.1	A.T.2
Most children will know that Marriage and Holy Orders are Sacraments of Commitment. Recall the promises made in Marriage and key tasks of the Archbishop, Priests and deacons. Explain the meaning of the Body of Christ as a term for roles and responsibilities in the Church.	3b 4a	3c 4a
Less able children will know that Marriage and Holy Orders are Sacraments of Commitment. Be able to talk about roles and responsibilities of a Bishop, Priest and deacon.	3b	3c
More able children will be able to explain the meaning of the promises made at Marriage and why the roles of Bishops, Priests and deacons are important in the life of the Church, Be able to recall a number of different ways in which people contribute to the life of the Church through the roles and responsibilities they embrace.	4a 4b 4c	4a 4b 4c
	5a	

PROGRAMME OF STUDY

TEACHING STRATEGIES

R1 Observe and recognise ways in which people of today can hear and respond to God's call.

C1 Ways in which love and commitment are important in human life.

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

C2 Be able to name the Sacrament of Matrimony and to explain its significance

C2 Be able to name the Sacrament of Holy Orders and be able to explain its significance.

- Children to think about some of the special responsibilities that they have been given at home and at school.
 - What happens if you don't do the tasks you have been given?
 - What does the word "responsibility" mean?
 - Recall prior learning from Year Four about the Church being the Body of Christ with everybody having a part to play.
 - Read the Passage from St. Paul about this.
 - Discuss the passage with the children. What does it mean?
 - Does it say that only some people have been called to a special task in the life of the Church?
 - Do you think that following Christ and taking on a responsibility in the Church is something that is easy?
 - Help the children to reflect on the way they can show they belong to the Church and what they can do.
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- Have £20 note plus selection of attractive papers exactly the same size and shape. Ask children to select their favourite.
 - The £20 note will be chosen even though it's not the most attractive! Explore reasons why.
 - Explain that the only reason that the £20 note can be used to buy anything is because of promise written on it, "I promise to pay the bearer ...". Promises are worthless if they are not kept.
 - At various times in life we are called upon to make promises. When?
 - Recall work from Year Four on Abraham regarding the promise God made to him about being a great nation.
 - Recall story of Noah and identify promise made by God.
 - When have we ever made a promise?
 - Are some promises easier to keep than others?
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- Recall previous learning about the Seven Sacraments. Can the children name them? Can they put them into the categories of belonging, healing and commitment?
 - Recall that the Sacraments are seven powerful signs through which Jesus Christ continues his work today.
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- Explain to the Children that important promises are made in the Sacrament of Marriage.
 - Explore promises of the Marriage ceremony. Write these out as question and answer. What sort of commitment is required from the man and woman getting married?
 - Children to investigate marriage ceremonies in other cultures. What are similarities and differences?
 - Read the prayer of Tobias and Sarah on the eve of their Marriage in the Book of Tobit.
 - What are some of the things they ask God to do for them?
 - What does this prayer teach us about Marriage?
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- Married people play their part in the Family of God and so do other people such as bishops, priests and deacons. They receive a special Sacrament so that they can play their part in the life of the Church. This is called the Sacrament of Holy Orders.
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- Research information about the Archbishop of Birmingham
 - Where does he live? How long has he been the Archbishop?
 - You might find his Coat of Arms. What does his motto mean?
 - Explain to the children that a bishop has the responsibility of teaching and preaching

LEARNING OUTCOMES

R1 That love and service express love of God and a response to God's Word, and at times this will involve sacrifice.

C1 That everyone is called to be a disciple, growing to be more like Christ.

- Know that people today are called to follow Christ and belong to the Church.
- Understand some reasons why people take up special responsibilities in the Church.
- Understand that being a follower of Christ and belonging to the Church can sometimes be difficult and demands some personal sacrifice.

C8 Of how to participate in and prepare celebrations.

C2 That the Sacrament of Marriage is a special form of commitment and service.

- Know that marriage is a special form of commitment and service
- Understand something of the importance of the promises made.
- Be able to sequence the rite of marriage and explore some references about marriage in the Old Testament.

C2 That the Sacrament of Holy Orders is a special form of commitment and service.

- Know that some members of the Church have special roles

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

This reflection about belonging to the Church and tasks and responsibilities should not be limited to present experience of the children, but should also help them think about what they might be called to do in the future.

Create some prayers about taking part in the life of the Church.

Revise the symbols for the seven Sacraments.

You might consider the use of role-play here!

This might be an appropriate time to visit the Cathedral Church of St. Chad in Birmingham.

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PROGRAMME OF STUDY

TEACHING STRATEGIES

Ch7 God's call to individuals and their different responses.

- the Gospel of Christ and the Catholic Faith and caring for God's people in an area of the country called a diocese.
- Find out about some of the vestments that the Archbishop has to wear. The Mitre as a sign of his responsibility to teach and preach. The Crozier as a sign that he is called to care for God's people like Christ who is the Good Shepherd. The Pastoral Ring is a sign that he has a special love and commitment to caring for God's people. The Pallium is a piece of woven wool which the Archbishop wears over his vestments at Mass around his shoulders. This was given to him by the Pope who is the Bishop of Rome. It is a reminder that he has been given special responsibility in the Church and that he is a successor to the first Apostles in caring for God's people and in preaching the Gospel.
 - The Archbishop's church is called a Cathedral. Find out the name of the Cathedral of the Archdiocese of Birmingham
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- Brainstorm some of the things that the local priest does.
 - Explain to the children that he is appointed by the Archbishop to care for God's people, to teach the Gospel and the Catholic Faith in an area called a parish. Usually a town or part of a bigger city.
 - Find out about what happens at the ordination of a priest.
 - Explain that the laying on of hands and the calling down of the Holy Spirit are signs of the person being chosen to serve in the Church as a priest.
 - Recall previous learning in Year Four about the hands of the new priest being anointed with the Oil of Chrism. This is a sign that he has been chosen to continue Christ's work in a special way.
 - Children to create a storyboard of the ordination ceremony.
 - Learn about some of the vestments worn by the priest at the celebration of Mass. The alb, the stole a sign of being a priest and the chasuble.
 - Reflect with the children on the role of the priest in the local parish. If there were no priests what would happen? What important task do they fulfil in the Church today?
 - Invite your priest to the class for question and answer session with the children.
 - Children to practice note taking skills in order to write up an account of the visit later.
 - Recall previous learning in Year Four about "vocation" being a call from God to follow him in a special way.
 - Remind the children that being a priest today is a vocation, answering a call to follow Christ and serve the Church in a special way.
 - Create some prayers for vocations to the priesthood.
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- Explore the role of the deacon in the life of the Church. Have the children an experience of a parish deacon? What tasks do they undertake?
 - Explain to the children that a deacon is ordained to serve in a local community, helping the priest to care for God's people and sharing in the task of celebrating some of the Sacraments.
 - Explain that a deacon is ordained into this ministry like the priest through the laying on of hands and the calling down of the Holy Spirit.
 - If you have a deacon in your parish, invite them to talk to the children about their work.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

and responsibilities

- Know some details of the work of the Archbishop of Birmingham
- Understand that he has a special task of caring for God's people in the diocese.
- Be able to name and explain some of the symbols and vestments of a bishop and what they mean.

- Know some of the roles and responsibilities of a priest.
- Understand that priesthood is a special vocation in the life of the Church.
- Identify some of the vestments worn by the priest at the celebration of Mass.

Ch7 Of Christian responsibility for the sign we give and the Church's mission.

- Know some of the roles and responsibilities of a deacon in the life of the Church.
- Understand that they are called to serve God's Family in a special way.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

RELATED SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12: 12-27 – The Body of Christ

Tobit 8: 5-8 – The Wedding Prayer of Tobias and Sarah

OTHER LINKS

History links: Find out about the significance of a Cathedral in the life of a Diocese. Research information about the origins of St. Chad's Cathedral.

Diocese links: Find the Coat of Arms for the Diocese. Find out the area of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Research information about the life and work of The Archbishop of Birmingham.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

- Recall prayer in the Mass for our Archbishop.
- Make prayers of intercession for the Archbishop, our Priests and deacons.
- Ask St. Chad and Our Lady, the patrons of the Diocese to pray for you.
- Pray for other people who have special responsibility in the Church.

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?