

## Year 5 Religion

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HXTo2rzYKD8> Please listen with love : )

Teaching Focus 1:

How does the wisdom of our school founder guide us?

Identifying the four pillars of our school and relating this learning back to their values and morals. The unit also allows the discovery of artefact around the school community.

Teaching Focus 2:

**I wonder how people of faith are called to live?**

The Bible is considered a treasure for people who believe in God, as it contains guidance and inspiration for living life according to God's dream for the world. As well as being a source for prayer and spiritual nourishment, the Bible provides insights into authentic living. The diversity of texts allows for students to make connections between similar themes that come from different sources, written in different times.

Teaching Focus 3:

Lent/Holy week/Easter: How do believers share and strengthen faith in the Easter season?

The Gospel authors provide four different portraits of Jesus. Contemporary biblical scholarship highlights that the Gospel authors would not have personally known Jesus (Luke even states this), and therefore each author writes for a different community, in a different place, at a different time. These contexts shape what each author chooses to write and omit, as they shape their Gospels with key themes for their communities. If the Gospels were purely historical accounts of the story of Jesus then there would be one text, rather than four similar but different versions. The historical and spiritual challenges that each community faced would provide purpose for the author to weave in particular themes. Ultimately, the purpose of the four Gospels is to assist readers to understand all that God has done through Jesus, in order for people to live lives of faith.

Teaching Focus 4:

**I wonder how people of faith form their conscience?**

Students describe how believers live according to Jesus' new commandment of charity (love) and make and act upon informed moral choices. They explore formation of conscience with guiding scripture and develop and explain a personal choice or action that demonstrates how Jesus' teaching can apply to the world today.

People who believe in God turn to Scripture as a foundation for understanding how people of faith are called to live, and as a means of developing an informed conscience. The Jewish faith community utilise the Old Testament, and Christian faith communities utilise both the Old Testament and New Testament. There is no one text that provides total insight. Rather, it is important to use multiple texts to discern different insights that authors have contributed over time, for different communities of people.

Teaching Focus 5:

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SHARE FAITH IN COMMUNITIES OF BELIEVERS?**

Faith is shared and strengthened in communities of believers, past and present. Students broaden their appreciation of the significance of personal and communal prayer and worship, including Eucharist and Sabbath rituals and prayers.

Each of these texts sheds insights into the significance of prayer for people of faith. As an example, the Shema is a text that can be easily overlooked for the significance it has for Jewish people, even today. The fringed garment that Jewish males wear is their prayer shawl (tallit), the Mezuzah which is fixed to their doorposts and what is placed inside the Mezuzahs, and the Tefillin worn by Jewish males for prayer. The Shema prayer is prayed multiple times through the day and will be the last words a Jewish person speaks before they leave this life. Jesus, as a faithful Jewish man, would have prayed the Shema multiple times every day and he spoken about the Shema. Mary's Magnificat is actually drawn from the story of Hannah, so students can find connections between texts and with the way that different faith communities choose to live today. Also the psalms provide another source of nourishment and consolation for people today, arising from experiences in the lives of the psalmists. The diversity of texts will also assist students to learn that prayers arise from different contexts and provide multiple ways that believers can communicate with God, nourish their spiritual lives and share faith together.

Teaching Focus 6:

**HOW CAN CONFIRMATION HELP US UNDERSTAND THE ACTION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIVES OF BELIEVERS?**

The action of the Holy Spirit is described in scripture using a variety of titles. The Sacrament of Confirmation remembers the actions of the Holy Spirit – word, symbols and actions. Students learn about the Gifts and fruits of the Spirit and the action of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers.

There are many biblical images of the Holy Spirit, and each image reveals a different aspect of the Holy Spirit.

Teaching Focus 7:

**How did pioneering Catholics share and strengthen their faith in the early Australian community? (2 weeks in connection to HASS)**

How do communities of believers use the wisdom of the Saints to strengthen their belief?

The wisdom of the saints in particular Saint Mary of the cross McKillop, helps people understand about caring for the wellbeing of others and the faith of the community of believers. This wisdom guides and gives strength to believers past and present.

Teaching Focus 8:

**HOW CAN THE STORY OF MARY HELP US UNDERSTAND FAITH TODAY?**

Students learn about Mary, mother of Jesus and Mary mother of the Church as understood in scripture and investigate gospel writers shaped their texts for particular communities.

They learn about Marian prayers, including the rosary and the Litany of Mary of Nazareth. They develop their understanding of the story of Mary in scripture and Mary's role in the Church community.

Mary's story is not contained in just one text. Students need the opportunity to explore multiple texts from different authors in order to discover the significance of Mary for believers today. This is also an opportunity to teach that Mary has a special place of significance within the Catholic Church.

Teaching Focus 9:

**Advent/Christmas**

Students learn about the contexts of the Gospel writers (e.g. purpose of the writer, time of writing, intended audience, point of view) shaped their Gospels. The context of the Gospel writer is important in determining the nature of the truth revealed in the text (e.g. historical truth, factual truth, religious truth).

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