



Parish Links, Catholic Life and Sacramental Preparation



Our school is an integral part of The Roman Catholic Parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea.

<https://www.ourlady-starofthesea.com>

The children are actively involved in parish community life.

Once every half term at the 10am Sunday Mass, our children lead readings, prayers and singing at St. Joseph's Church, Stavordale Road, Weymouth.

Information about the school Masses are published in the weekly parish newsletter.

<https://www.ourlady-starofthesea.com/newsarchive/Current.pdf>

Every week a paragraph relating to our work at school also features in this letter.

Our Parish Priest, Father Anthony along with Deacon Geoffrey come into school on a regular basis to support the catholic life of our school and work with our children to deepen their understanding of the faith. They also actively support staff development and are always on hand to help with matters of faith.

In developing worship opportunities, Father Anthony and Deacon Geoffrey celebrate Whole School Masses and Class Masses that take place. We invite parents and carers into school to help us celebrate. During the Masses, children lead readings, prayers, the offertory procession and singing and some of the children accompany the singing by playing a range of instruments.

In our school we have an active Mini-Vinnies group made up of children willing to give up their own time to help others. Our Mini-Vinnies are the junior branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and meet regularly once a week with a member of staff, with the aim of helping others in the name of Christ.

In our school, any child in Years 5 and 6 can join the group and during their meetings, the children pray, write prayers and discuss ways to help others. They then act upon their ideas and together plan, present and lead fundraising activities and other acts of service. During the course of a school year, the Mini Vinnies plan to help people locally, nationally and internationally. Within their role, the Mini Vinnies also actively develop the

worship life of the school by assisting in preparing for liturgies and by composing and leading prayers.



Sacramental Preparation

To help our children with their sacramental preparation, we have a First Holy Communion Group who meet in the parish hall at St. Joseph's

Church twice a month with two members of the school staff who lead them through a structured programme. This sacramental preparation starts every October and then leads the children in their spiritual journey to First Communion, which is celebrated at St. Joseph's Church in June. This is always a joyful occasion that allows us to come together as a worshipping community, supporting the families in our care.

We are delighted to invite you to support in the partnership of Parish - School - Family and through the work of the school and Parish, we can all help to bring about the Kingdom of God on Earth.