

Central Theme for Year 5: *How do believers share and strengthen faith in communities?*

How can communities of believers be strengthened?

Students begin to appreciate the significance of community for sharing and strengthening the faith of believers, past and present, including followers of Catholicism and Judaism. They broaden their appreciation of the significance of personal and communal prayer and worship including the Eucharist, Sabbath rituals and prayers for communities of believers.

How do believers share and strengthen faith in the Easter season?

Students use features of Gospel texts shared in Easter to show how the Gospel writers shaped their Gospels for particular communities.

How did 18th Century Catholic Pioneers contribute to the faith of the community?

Students locate and record key events and experiences in the life of a Catholic pioneer (1850 – 1900). They create a historical narrative describing their contribution to the faith of the community.

How can the lives of the disciples (as the first saints) guide our lives today?

Students recognise the contribution of the writings of the saints, including St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, for communities of believers.

How does Mary's story of faith continue across time and place?

Students learn about the significance of Mary as mother of Jesus and mother of the Church. They learn about the significance of Marian prayers (including the Hail Mary, the Rosary and the Litany of Mary of Nazareth) in which believers praise God and entrust cares and petitions to Mary as mother of Jesus and mother of the Church. Students develop their understanding of the story of Mary in scripture.

How does knowledge of The Psalms enhance prayer and worship?

Students describe the significance of personal and communal prayer and worship through the Psalms for communities of believers. They express an understanding that Psalms of the Old Testament are a model for personal and communal prayer and that there are three main forms of Psalms in the Old Testament: Psalms of lament (Sorrow), Psalms of thanksgiving and Psalms of praise (Hymns). Students identify some life experiences of the psalmists (e.g. awe and wonder, feelings of abandonment, despair and anger, fear of the future, threatened by enemies) as communicated in a Psalm. They explore the relationship between the psalmist and God as revealed in a Psalm (e.g. parent/child; protector; trust/ doubt, praise, thanksgiving, dependence, humility, loyalty, grandeur of God).

Students use the Psalms as a model to create a personal prayer to be presented in the Scripture Challenge book. They use a theme (images, colours, styles) to match the message of my prayer.

How does the Holy Spirit rock my world?

Students investigate the Holy Spirit as she appears in Scripture and particularly in the lives of the Apostles at the time of Pentecost to answer *'Who or what is the Holy Spirit?'* Students use the Worlds of the Text to investigate Scriptural texts to explore the titles and images of the Holy Spirit. They explore the words, symbols and actions found in the Catholic Rite of Confirmation. Students explore the roles of individuals in the Confirmation ceremony and begin to identify the Sacrament's connection to the lived experience of believers. They identify some of the ways in which conscience is formed by the Word of God (Decalogue) and Jesus' moral teaching (The Beatitudes). Students explain how conscience is a judgement of reason that takes into account the good of all. They describe how the formation of conscience is assisted by the gifts of the Holy Spirit (wisdom, understanding, right judgment, courage, knowledge, awe and wonder and reverence). Students identify and participate respectfully in meditative prayer such as mantras, including the Prayer to the Holy Spirit.

How do believers live according to Jesus' commandment of Love?

Students describe how believers live according to Jesus' new commandment of love. They explain how Jesus' teaching can apply to believers today. Students distinguish between choices or actions that fulfil existing laws or obligations and those that respond to the new commandment. They develop and explain a personal choice or action that demonstrates the application of Jesus' commandment of love.