

# Good Shepherd Catholic School

## Religious Program

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION LEARNING AREA

#### OUTCOMES

1. Students understand that people come to discover God who calls them; through their human experience of the universe, including the world around them, and their human heart questionings and yearnings which can only ever be satisfied by their Creator.
2. Students understand and give expression to their most basic human heart experiences in light of the Gospel, through study of their interests, questions, hopes, anxieties, reflections and judgements.
3. Students understand the content of the Christian message by relating it to examples drawn from their experiences.
4. Students understand that God offers salvation through Christ who models how to live in a truly human way.
5. Students understand that Catholics are empowered to live like Jesus as they draw on the power of the Holy Spirit and of the Kingdom through Church, Sacraments, Scripture, Prayer and other ways Jesus taught.
6. Students recognise that every good value, attitude or way of doing things is a sign of God's presence and influence within culture.
7. Students know and appreciate the values of Christ and those of his Gospel as the basis for living out the Christian mission in the world.
8. Students demonstrate the skills necessary in order to read and apply Scripture and to participate in Catholic ritual and prayer.

# Religious Program- Pre-Primary

## Term 1

Special Me (Mystery-Prayer)

A Happy Day (Lent/Easter)

My Family (Community - Penance)

### OVERVIEW:

1. Explore some of the ways we are special and celebrate God who loves us.
2. Celebrate that Jesus was raised to new life at Easter time.
3. Wondering at the human experience of love within a family.

## Term 2

Me and My Body (Body Differences – Jesus)

The Church Community (Community -Church)

Thanking God for Our Feelings (Emotions-Eucharist)

### OVERVIEW:

1. Exploring our bodies through the 5 senses.
2. We belong to a special community called the Church.
3. Exploring stories of Jesus having feelings and expressing our feelings in a loving way.

## Term 3

Gift of Life (Human Life & Baptism)

God Created Everything (Creation - Bible)

Remember God's Love (Truth -Jesus)

### OVERVIEW:

1. Through Baptism we become members of God's family.
2. Followers of Jesus are asked to care for living and non-living things.
3. God wants everyone to remember to show love for others.

## Term 4

I Can Talk to God (Body Purpose - Prayer)

Celebrate (Community -Eucharist)

Waiting (Advent Christmas)

### OVERVIEW:

1. Special ways we can talk to God
2. Discovering the human experience of celebrating.
3. Having loving experiences while waiting for special times, in particular advent.

# Religious Program- Year 1

## Term 1

I Am Special (Mystery-Baptism)  
We Belong (Community -Baptism)  
A Special Holy Time (Lent/Easter)

### OVERVIEW:

1. As people wonder at the differences between individuals, they can be moved to wonder at God who creates every person different and special.
2. People may wonder at the God who created people wanting to belong to families and groups.
3. As people have different experiences of new life, they can be moved to wonder at God who creates new life.

## Term 2

Loving Others (Body Purpose -Jesus)  
Wonderful World (Creation-Prayer)  
We Make Choices (Freedom - Penance)

### OVERVIEW:

1. People can use their bodies, including their senses in many different ways.
2. As people explore creation, and discover such aspects as light and colour, they are led to wonder at the gift of creation.
3. Each of us has been created with the ability to choose. As people think about the different kinds of choices they can make and how choices change as people grow, they may wonder at God who created people with the ability to choose.

## Term 3

Friends Together (Love-Church)  
Growing and Changing (Human Life-Eucharist)  
Lots of Learning (Truth -Bible)

### OVERVIEW:

1. The experiences we have of friends, including loving friends and making new friends, may lead us to wonder at God who wants people to be friends with one another.
2. Jesus also grew and changed. Jesus wants His followers to use the gift of life in loving ways as they grow and change.
3. Jesus, like every human being, developed learning gifts. He learned many things and came to teach people how to live as God wants.

## Term 4

Just Imagine (Truth - Jesus)  
To Love by Working (Vocation - Prayer)  
Prepare! (Advent-Christmas)

### OVERVIEW:

1. As we grow older we discover and learn more and more. As one of the special gifts that helps us learn is our imagination.
2. As people do many things at home, school and elsewhere in their daily lives, they may wonder at their ability to work.
3. Members of God's family prepare every year to celebrate Jesus' birthday during a special time called Advent. They remember and celebrate the story of Jesus' birthday at Christmas.

# Religious Program- Year 2

## Term1

Loving Our Differences (Body Differences-Prayer)

Just Like Jesus (Freedom-Jesus) Lent/Easter

### OVERVIEW:

1. Children explore ways in which Jesus treated everyone as special.
2. Children explore how Jesus taught Christian prayer and that Jesus teaches His followers to pray in personal and community prayer.
3. Children begin to wonder at the human experience of making choices. This leads people to wonder at the Creator of the ability to make choices and what this teaches us about God.

## Term 2

Jesus Forgives (Vocation-Penance)

Beautiful World Beautiful Me (Creation-Baptism)

### OVERVIEW:

1. Children explore how Jesus is our model, for he worked as God originally planned. The focus is upon Jesus calling all to love God and their neighbour.
2. The children wonder at the beauty of creation and how this helps us discover that God is more beautiful than we ever could imagine.
3. Children explore that God lives in people through the Sacrament of Baptism.

## Term 3

Joining in the Lord's Meal (Human Spirit –Eucharist)

Gathered Together (Community-Church)

### OVERVIEW:

1. Children wonder at the human experience of being alive and able to love. This leads to wondering about God who creates the human soul.
2. We begin to wonder at the human experience of belonging to a family and that God, who gave us our families, loves us personally.

## Term 4

Empowered to Love (Love-Confirmation)

Truth of the Gospels (Truth - Bible) Advent/Christmas

### OVERVIEW:

1. Children explore ways in which Jesus showed love personally for others and how Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help his followers love others personally.
2. Children explore how Jesus also learned and that He shared with his followers in a group of books from the Bible called Gospels.
3. The Gospels teach us God's truths. During Advent, Christians read special stories from the Gospels.

# Religious Program- Year 3

## Term 1

Christian Conscience (Conscience-Penance)

Loving Like Jesus (Body Purpose-Jesus) Lent/Easter

### OVERVIEW:

1. Children explore ways in which Jesus showed how to follow conscience through his own thoughts and feelings.
2. The children will wonder at God who created their body for a purpose, exploring ways in which Jesus showed them how to relate with God.

## Term 2

Water of Life (Human Life-Baptism)

Gathered as One (Community-Church)

### OVERVIEW:

Children explore how Christians celebrate Baptism, reminding them that God comes to live in a person in a special way through Baptism so they can become members of God's family.

Children are introduced to the different people Jesus calls to his Church, exploring their roles and responsibilities.

## Term 3

Sharing Jesus' Special Meal (Creation-Eucharist)

Speak From the Heart (Emotions- Prayer)

### OVERVIEW:

1. Children explore how Christians celebrate Baptism, reminding them that God comes to live in a person in a special way through Baptism so they can become members of God's family.
2. Children are introduced to the different people Jesus calls to his Church, exploring their roles and responsibilities.

## Term 4

Strengthened by the Spirit (Moral Choices & Confirmation)

Gifted by the Word (Mystery - Bible) – Advent/Christmas

### OVERVIEW:

Children wonder at their ability to make moral choices. Leading them to wonder at God who created within them the ability to choose what is right.

Children will learn about Gospel stories related to the announcement of the birth of Jesus. They explore symbols specific to the Advent period.

# Religious Program- Year 4

## Term 1

Whispers From Within (Conscience-Baptism)

Loved and Forgiven (Love-Penance)

OVERVIEW:

WHISPERS FROM WITHIN-

1. The elements of the Sacrament of Baptism
2. The definition of a sin
3. How Jesus always tried to do what was right and good

LOVED AND FORGIVEN-

1. The Sacrament of Penance
2. Asking God for forgiveness
3. Actions carried out during Lent and the story of Easter

## Term 2

All Powerful God (Creation-Bible)

God Knows Everything (Truth-Church)

OVERVIEW:

ALL POWERFUL GOD-

1. The Ten Commandments
2. The Old and the New Testaments

COMING TO YOUR TABLE-

1. The Sacrament of the Eucharist
2. The elements of Mass

## Term 3

Coming to Your Table (Body Differences-Eucharist)

The Spirit Who Strengthens (Emotions-Confirmation)

OVERVIEW:

THE SPIRIT WHO STRENGTHENS

1. Self-examination
2. The Sacrament of Confirmation

GOD KNOWS EVERYTHING

1. The leaders of the Church
2. Imagination Learning gifts

## Term 4

Creator of Human Life (Human Life-Jesus)

Together in Prayer (Community-Prayer) – Advent/Christmas

OVERVIEW:

CREATOR OF HUMAN LIFE

1. The human soul
2. Life after death

TOGETHER IN PRAYER

1. Prayer
2. Advent

# Religious Program- Year 5

## Term 1

We Are Called (Vocation-Baptism)

Choosing To Do Good (Moral Choices-Jesus) Lent/Easter

### OVERVIEW:

Jesus worked like all human beings. However, he also did special work. Through the Sacrament of Baptism, Jesus calls members of God's family, the Church to continue his special work. The Rite of Baptism celebrates the meaning of the Sacrament: the life of God in the baptised person, freedom from original sin and membership in God's family, the Church. It celebrates also that now the baptised person is called to share in the special work of Jesus. Jesus always did what was right, and never sinned. He also promised to save people from Satan and the influence drawing them to do wrong and to sin. Christians celebrate the power of Jesus Christ as Saviour by recalling and celebrating the events by which he conquered the power of Satan. Christians celebrate Jesus Christ as Saviour during Lent and Easter

## Term 2

All Creation Give Thanks (Creation-Prayer)

Relationship Restored (Body Purpose-Penance)

OVERVIEW: The more people experience and enjoy creation, the more they realise its great variety of beauty. Jesus taught his followers by his example to appreciate the different forms of beauty in creation. As Jesus' followers, in response to God's presence in the beauties of creation, pray, God draws them closer. To help his followers grow closer to God than was previously possible, Jesus taught his followers about prayer. Jesus taught his followers what is needed for balanced daily prayer. The basic purpose for which God created the human body is to communicate goodness to others. Both males and females can use many verbal and non-verbal gifts of their bodies to express this goodness. Jesus showed how to relate with others, treating all equally. To help his followers to draw upon God's power to communicate only love and forgiveness through the verbal and non-verbal gifts of their bodies, Jesus gave them the Sacrament of Penance. Through this sacrament Catholics restore their relationship with God after they sin. Through this sacrament also, Catholics follow the steps to reconciliation with God.

## Term 3

The Church Community (Community-Church)

Nourishing Our Goodness (Mystery-Eucharist)

### OVERVIEW:

As people wonder at the communities to which they belong, many begin to wonder at God who created people for community. Many have realised that communities are evidence that God provides for people. Jesus showed by his own example the need to obey community leaders and rules. He began a special community, the Church, to help people draw on the help of God to overcome the selfishness and temptations that make it hard for them always to love and to do good. Members of the Church, like any community, need to meet, to obey leaders and to obey rules. They also share the basic teachings of Jesus. Jesus showed how to express good qualities. He gives himself to his followers in Holy Communion to help them develop all the good qualities God created in them. Catholics recall that Jesus gave the Eucharist to his followers at the Last Supper. Catholics continue to celebrate the Eucharist today. Jesus calls his followers to love others as he does, and helps them do so as they receive him in Holy Communion.

## Term 4

The Spirit Frees (Freedom-Confirmation)

Helped by the Word (Human Spirit – Bible) – Advent/Christmas

OVERVIEW: One reason Jesus came was to restore human beings in the freedom originally created in them by God. To do this, he shared with all who commit themselves to follow him the Holy Spirit: the Spirit of Freedom. Today Jesus shares this Spirit, who strengthens responsive Christians gradually to overcome all that hampers their freedom to do good, through the Sacrament of Confirmation. Jesus helps those who follow him experience this freedom growing within them. He does so by fulfilling his promise that they would be guided and strengthened by the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of Confirmation. Catholics celebrate the Holy Spirit by reflecting upon people in the past to discover ways the Holy Spirit can free people today. They celebrate the sacredness of those who have received confirmation God sent Jesus who showed himself to be Saviour. The Bible records stories of God saving people from slavery and helping them to love and to do good. During Advent and Christmas, Jesus' followers celebrate Jesus who is the fulfilment of God's promise to send a Saviour. Followers of Jesus continue to wonder at inner strength created by God and how through celebrating the Bible and living the Tenth Commandment, they find it easier to do what is loving and good

# Religious Program- Year 6

## Term 1

Stirred Through Emotions (Emotions-Bible)  
Celebrate Jesus As Lord (Mystery-Jesus) - Lent/Easter

### OVERVIEW:

Emotions are an important part of life. To develop in healthy ways, emotions need to be expressed in ways that are consistent with love.

### OVERVIEW:

Each of us is a mystery; there will always be more to discover about who we are. This is an introduction to the understanding that as humans we are a mystery created by God, who is a mystery.

## Term 2

Working with God (Vocation-Church)  
Guided Through Prayer (Moral Choices- Prayer)

### OVERVIEW:

This unit explores how each of us is called by God to join in God's work of developing the earth and the rest of creation.

### OVERVIEW:

This unit studies the ability to make moral choices, and how people can be strengthened through prayer to choose to do what is good.

## Term 3

God Provides For All (Creation-Eucharist)  
Empowered by the Spirit (Human Spirit-Confirmation)

### OVERVIEW:

This unit explores the wonder and beauty in creation and ways in which Jesus taught care for those in need.

### OVERVIEW:

Students are prepared as candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation through a comprehensive program.

## Term 4

Loving Like Jesus (Body Purpose-Baptism)  
Come: Be Reconciled (Community - Penance) – Advent/Christmas

### OVERVIEW:

This unit begins by exploring the Catholic understanding of sexuality. It focuses in particular upon the special way a husband and wife express their sexuality in the Sacrament of Marriage.

### OVERVIEW:

This unit begins with the wondering at the human experience of belonging to a family, in particular ways family members care for each other.