

Branch overview

Branch:		4		Year group:		Reception	
Lesson no.	Red linked outcomes	Title/Scripture	Key vocabulary	Teaching activities	Resources	Lesson assessment focus	
1 (Core)	Listen to and talk about the season of Lent (and Easter). Simple signs of Lent – colour purple, seeds, growing. Caring for others in Lent.	What is Lent?	Lent, purple	Main activity Discuss the seasons of the Church year and make links between the associated colours and the ways in which nature changes. Focus activity Make a lent calendar. Alternative focus activity On cut-out paper hands, children write or draw about ways they can help someone during Lent.	Class Bible Key vocabulary made into cards (CR_YR_B4_L01) The Church year Classroom resource (CR_YR_B4_L01a) 40 envelopes or cards	Can children talk about how to care for others during Lent?	
2 (Core)	The Church uses purple and ashes as signs of Lent and being sorry.	Ash Wednesday	Ash Wednesday	Main activity Children learn about Ash Wednesday, the ash cross, and how saying sorry through prayer can help us feel better when we are sad. Focus activity Children complete the sentence starter 'I am sorry for__ because__' verbally or in writing. Alternative focus activity Make up actions to go with the CAFOD prayer, and write or draw ideas on purple hearts.	Something to use as ash, such as broken charcoal, and water to wash fingers. The Church Year Classroom resource (CR_YR_B4_L01a) Paper	Can children talk about being sorry?	

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3 (Flexible)	Lent is a time to care for others.	Giving things up	Fast	Main activity Introduce the concept of fasting via the story of Chirri, which shows how donations can help people. Focus activity Children make a prayer cube while choosing something they will give up for Family Fast Day. Alternative focus activity Children write or draw ideas for showing love to their neighbour on a large piece of paper.	Prayer cube Activity sheet (AS_YR_B4_L03)	Can children talk about family fast day as a way to care for others?
4 (Flexible)	Celebrate with signs and symbols.	Lent traditions		Main activity Children learn about the Lent traditions around pretzels. Focus activity Children act out different body postures for prayer, then use salt dough or clay to make a personal symbol of prayer based on their favourite posture. Alternative focus activity Talk about, draw or write a pretzel prayer for Lent.	Pretzel prayer Activity sheet (AS_YR_B4_L04)	Can children talk about symbols of prayer?
5 (Core)	Representations of Holy Week and Easter: palms, the cross, Easter gardens, and symbols of new life.	Jesus enters Jerusalem Jesus enters Jerusalem (Luke 19:28–38)	Jerusalem, palm	Main activity Children learn about Jesus entering Jerusalem and wonder how people felt about it.	Class Bible The land where Jesus lived Classroom resource (CR_YR_B4_L05)	Can children talk about the story and how they would welcome Jesus?

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	A simplified version of key events of Holy Week especially Good Friday and Easter Sunday (to enable pupils to recognise key events).			Focus activity Children make a palm leaf to wave and write messages for Jesus on it. Alternative focus activity Remind children of vocab from Luke's account, then talk, draw or write about how they would welcome Jesus. Put their ideas on a sign or make a flag	Jesus enters Jerusalem Activity sheet (AS_YR_B4_L05)	
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6 (Core)	A simplified version of key events of Holy Week especially Good Friday and Easter Sunday (to enable pupils to recognise key events).	Jesus shares supper The Lord's supper (Luke 22:17–20)	Temple, Last Supper	Main activity Introduce the story of the Last Supper and wonder how Jesus was feeling. Focus activity Prompt deeper engagement with the story through pictures, then children make their own pictures about the Lord's Supper. Alternative focus activity Act out the Last Supper story with the children.	Class Bible	Can children talk about Jesus' words at the Lord's Supper?
7 (Core)	Jesus died on a cross. It is a sad time. A simplified version of key events of Holy Week especially Good Friday and Easter Sunday (to enable pupils to recognise key events). Jesus died on Good Friday and rose again on Easter Sunday.	The day Jesus died The day Jesus died (Luke 23:33–34, 46.)	Cross	Main activity Children learn about Jesus' death on the cross and his forgiveness while they look at a picture. Focus activity Children think about things they might want to say sorry for and write or draw their thoughts on a cross.	Class Bible Prayer cross Activity sheet (AS_YR_B4_L07)	Can children talk about Jesus' forgiveness from the cross?

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				Alternative focus activity Children make a picture on a card that shares the message of Jesus' love.		
8 (Core)	Jesus was given new life by God his Father. Jesus rose and everyone celebrates. Jesus rose and we celebrate. Jesus died on Good Friday and rose again on Easter Sunday.	Jesus is alive! The empty tomb. The angels' message (Luke 24:1–8)	Easter, Resurrection	Main activity Introduce the story of the Resurrection and wonder how the women who discovered the empty tomb might have felt. Focus activity Use the Interactive activity, the Activity sheet, or role play to retell the story of Jesus' resurrection. Alternative focus activity Make an Easter garden.	Class Bible The angels' message Activity sheet (AS_YR_B4_L08) The angels' message Classroom resource (CR_YR_B4_L08)	Can children retell the story of Jesus' resurrection?
9 (Core)	Easter is a celebration that Jesus is with us still. Easter celebrates new life. Simple religious symbols in Lent and Easter Simple signs of Easter – colour white, growth, Easter garden.	Celebrating Easter	Alleluia	Main activity Learn about the ways people celebrate Easter and what the light of a bonfire and candles represents. Focus activity Children make individual Easter candles and draw symbols of Easter. Alternative focus activity Children pull Easter-related items from a feely bag and discuss their understanding of each item.	Class Bible Candlemas candle Activity sheet (AS_YR_B4_L09)	Can children talk about signs and symbols that celebrate Easter?
10 (Core)	A simplified version of key events of Holy Week especially Good Friday and Easter Sunday (to enable	The Easter story		Main activity Children think about the happy and sad times of Holy	The Easter story Activity sheet (AS_YR_B4_L10) Holy Week Classroom resource (CR_YR_B4_L10)	Can children retell in the correct sequence the key

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	pupils to recognise key events). Jesus died on Good Friday and rose again on Easter Sunday.			Week and sequence the events using the interactive. Focus activity Children cement understanding of Holy Week events by retelling the story in creative ways.		events of Holy Week and Easter Sunday?
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