

St. John Fisher Catholic Primary School

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi-Academy Trust (CMAT)



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Mission Statement

'Follow me, I will make you fishers of men' (taken from the coat of arms of St John Fisher).

In our school we want to follow the example of St John Fisher. He was known for his holiness, his faithfulness to the Church and for his learning and his work opening Universities.

We put our faith into action by helping the poor in Leicester and our brothers and sisters in the Third World.

Each child is trusted to use their unique abilities and this is shown through caring for one another.

The children said:

"Learn how to love like Jesus.

We love one another like Jesus loved us.

Love everyone not just yourself.

Listen to everyone and love them every day.

Don't fall out, be nice to one another."

Faith Inspiration Caring

The Nature of Collective Worship

We believe that Christian worship in a Catholic School is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our loving response, in word and action, to God's invitation to enter into relationship with him.

Legal Requirements.

We acknowledge the legal requirement that there must be a daily Act of Worship for all pupils. (This can take place at any time during the school day and can be either a single act of worship for all pupils, or separate acts of worship in school groups.) We fulfil this requirement through Statement-to-live-by liturgies, whole school masses, meditation, class liturgies (Let us Pray), Adoration and Lectio Divina. We also encourage children to enter into spontaneous prayer, with many opportunities provided for this across the school. We understand that simply holding an assembly that includes prayer, said either by the teacher or everyone present, does not fulfil this requirement. We also acknowledge that collective worship and assembly are distinct activities. They may sometimes form part of the same gathering, but the difference between the two will always be made clear.

The act of worship is not designated curriculum time under regulations and will not be subsumed under any part of the curriculum, including religious education. Collective worship falls outside of the 10% curriculum time allocated to RE as outlined by the Diocese.

Parents have a right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. However, given the importance of Collective Worship in a Catholic School, parents and prospective parents must be aware of the fact that it can never be confined to 'timetabled slots', but may take place in a variety of contexts other than those which are specifically structured.

The place of Collective Worship in the Life of our School

We believe that Collective Worship takes into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in it:

- Those who form part of the worshipping community in church
- Those for whom school may be their first and only experience of church
- Those from other Christian traditions or none
- Those from other faith backgrounds

It will be an experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain.

Worship in this School is more than just a legal requirement. It is an integral part of School Life and central to the Catholic tradition and ethos of the School.

Aims

We believe that Collective worship in our school aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff.

- To contemplate something of the mystery of God
- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- To explore their own beliefs
- To respond to and celebrate life
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development
- To reinforce prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition
- To participate fully
- To enrich religious experience
- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit
- To develop a common ethos and shared values
- To take time out 'to wonder at', 'to come to terms with' and 'to give worth to'
- To encounter Christ in our daily lives

Principles

All Acts of worship in this school will:

- Give glory and honour to God
- Give children positive liturgical experiences, appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church
- Be a quality activity, including a range of experiences in a variety of groupings and in a variety of settings.
- Be child-led wherever possible with support from an adult when necessary.

Organisation

Acts of worships take many forms:

- Prayers in class at the start of each session, morning and afternoon. Grace before and after meals and evening prayers.
- Class liturgies and masses (Let us Pray and Statements to live my)
- Whole school liturgies and masses, carol services, Stations of the Cross, and penitential services.
- Meditation
- Lectio Divina

Dates for class and whole school Acts of Worship are planned a term at a time and parents are informed of the dates and invited to attend.

Planning, Content and Delivery of collective Worship

Collective Worship is planned:

- Following a structure with reference to the Church's seasons, 'Come and See', significant dates and the curriculum. Scripture will be the focus in most acts of worship
- Involving consultation with appropriate parties and reference to school aims and policies
- With flexibility to respond to changing situations within the school and the wider community
- To develop pupil skills that enable them to prepare, organise and lead worship rather than always participating or contributing in a taken way
- To promote the ethos and mission of the school

<u>Delivery</u>

In order to aid delivery of the RE scheme, 'Come and See' the following measures have been undertaken by the school to manage and develop the scheme.

Spiritual experience through prayer.

- Set prayers. These are to be used in school life in the classroom, assemblies and services. Grace before and after meals to be said in the classrooms.
- Free prayers i.e. expressing what one feels without set format of words, becoming completely open ended. Composing prayers for Mass, class assemblies, meditations or sharing innermost thoughts in circle time or class religion work, can foster this.
- Regular Mass in school (class/whole school). This is based on the children's liturgy, which can be easily understood. The readings are prepared and read by the children as is the penitential rite, bidding prayers and thank you prayers. The children take the offertory gifts and if appropriate contains their work as part of the offertory procession.
- All children participate in the Mass responses and singing of the hymns. Those children wishing to receive the Eucharist are encouraged to do so in a reverent manner.
- Services Meditation is included into normal class routines. Stations of the Cross are displayed during Lent and are incorporated into Lenten preparations. Crowning of Our Lady is incorporated into May celebrations. Penitential Services are help twice yearly during Advent and Lent and pupils of the appropriate age have the opportunity for confession.

Recording

Collective worship is recorded:

- On a liturgical planner to keep note of themes, pupil groupings and resources
- Through displays, collections of pupil's contributions, prayers, reflections, photographs, videos etc
- In class liturgy folders

Monitoring and Evaluation

At least once a year the school's provision of worship will be evaluated to consider whether it meets the needs of all pupils and whether pupils are making progress in acquiring skills and abilities in organising and leading worship.

Children self-evaluate class forms of worship and record feedback on their planning sheet. A member of staff completes an evaluation form for all whole school forms of worship, which are used to inform future planning. The chaplaincy team regularly meet to evaluate their liturgies, and invite classes to provide feedback to help improve future liturgies.

Monitoring of parent's views is collected through the use of our Reflection Book and parent questionnaires. The purpose of the Reflection Book is to record the thoughts and reflections of our community relating to school events, communal worship and visits during the school year.

The designated Governor for Religious Education and Collective Worship is to monitor the policy and practice of Collective Worship within the school, and to liaise with the Head Teacher and RE Subject Leader.

Resources

Resources are stored in a central place to ensure access for all. There are a variety of books, posters, artefacts, prayers and suitable music available.

Each class has their own Liturgy Box which can be used to focal displays and prayer areas within the class. Each class also have their own Let us Pray resources with the appropriate reading for their age group.

Voluntary Worship & Retreats

There is an annual residential visit for year 6 to the Diocesan Youth Centre at the Briars in Crich, Derbyshire where the children experience a variety of liturgies and are involved in the planning of them.

The School Chaplaincy Team lead the Rosary during October and May.

One-Life Music have provided in school Lenten Retreat for staff and children, which ends the day with a liturgy which parents were invited.

There is a prayer corner in the school where pupils, staff and parents can go to pray, meditate or have quiet time when required.

Eucharist

Eucharistic celebrations in school will highlight a special occasion and will normally be celebrated with children whose faith development has reached an appropriate stage and opportunities for them to participate fully in the Mass will be provided. This will be led by a member of the Clergy, along with pupil's from different year groups. Adoration is held throughout the school year, in line with the Church's calendar.

Policy Monitoring and Review

This policy is monitored by the RE subject lead and designated governor and is evaluated and reviewed by the staff and Governors every two years.

Policy updated June 2020

Name: Mrs Ruth Moloney Role: RE Subject Leader/Deputy Head Teacher Signature: R Moloney Date: 15.6.2020

Head Teacher: Mr Anthony Gallagher **Signature:** *A Gallagher* **Date:** 16.6.2020

Date of next review: June 2022

Appendix A

Culture of Prayer

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Whole School	Whole school Liturgy led by the Chaplaincy Team			Whole School Singing – Adult Led	Good work Assembly
Key Stage					
Class Groups	Daily Prayers within class	Daily Prayers within class	Daily Prayers within class	Daily Prayers within class	Daily Prayers within class
		Lectio Divina – See class timetables	Statement to Live by Liturgy – See class timetables	Meditation – See class timetables	Let us Pray – See class timetables
Small Groups	Chaplaincy Team meeting			Rosary (Oct/May) led by chaplains	
Individual	Spontaneous prayer throughout the day	Spontaneous prayer throughout the day	Spontaneous prayer throughout the day	Spontaneous prayer throughout the day	Spontaneous prayer throughout the day
	RE lessons to incorporate prayerful act	RE lessons to incorporate prayerful act	RE lessons to incorporate prayerful act	RE lessons to incorporate prayerful act	RE lessons to incorporate prayerful act

Appendix B

SJF Collective Worship Progression Document 2019-2020

Class Collective Worship			Other Forms of Pra	
Year Group	Expectations	Resources	Staff How will we move from co-leading to facilitating?	
Foundation	Children use Let Us Pray resource boxes	Let us Pray resource boxes	Demonstrate how to begin	One minute meditation
<u>Stage</u>	to plan and lead liturgies, facilitated and		an AOW with the sign of the	facilitated by an adult
Reception Class	supported by an adult.	Class Liturgy boxes	cross	
				Encourage spontaneous
	All children have the opportunity to plan	Let Us Pray/NDCYS planning	Familiarise children	prayer
	and lead a liturgy by the summer term.	form	throughout the year with:	
	Let Us Pray/NDCYS planning sheet used.	Children's Bible	Gather, Word, Respond, Mission	Introduce Visio Divina
	Whole class to evaluate liturgy. Pupil			Lection Divina with a simple
	voice recorded by an adult.	Come and See resources	Encourage children to give	line of Scripture to be
			feedback about what went	introduced in summer term.
	Teacher to explicitly model liturgy to		well and what could be	
	children at least once per topic.		improved.	
	Advent/Lent term – whole class planning		Encourage children to begin	
			the liturgy for their class.	
	Pentecost Term – group planning			
			Choose hymns/songs that fit	
	Children begin to prepare focal table for		the liturgy theme	
	worship supported by an adult according to liturgical season.			
Early Phase	Children use Let Us Pray resource boxes	Let us Pray resource boxes	Children should be	Two minutes meditation
KS1	to plan and lead liturgies, facilitated by an		introduced to the colours of	facilitated by an adult
	adult.	Class Liturgy boxes	the liturgical seasons using	
			the classroom RE display and	Encourage spontaneous
		Let Us Pray/NDCYS planning	Liturgical wheel	prayer
		form		

	Children plan and prepare focal table for		Children select the	Visio Divina/Lectio Divina use
	worship according to liturgical	Catholic Children's Bible	appropriate coloured	in year 1 using simple
	season/Come and See topic.		material, Bible, crucifix and	Scripture/images
		Come and See resources	candle.	appropriate to the class
	Year 1 upwards- Children plan liturgies in			
	groups supported by an adult.	NDCYS evaluation forms	Adults may support selection	Lection Divina becomes
			of additional items for the	more developed in year 2,
	Year 2 – Children independently plan the	Access to John Burland	focal table such as a	scripture sourced by an
	Mission section of the liturgy to live out	Music appropriate to	selection of books for a	adult, linked to Come and
	the message.	topic/theme	liturgy based on Books.	See or liturgical season.
				Adult Led.
	Whole class evaluate liturgy, recorded on		Adult can support finding the	
	Let us Pray/NDCYS form by an adult or		appropriate reading in the	
	competent writer.		Bible.	
			Children generate ideas for	
			'Gather', adults ensure ideas	
			stick to the theme of the	
			liturgy.	
Middle Phase	NDCYS planning sheet used	Let us Pray resource boxes	Adult to support ensuring all	Year 3 - Three minutes
Year 3 & 4		(Encourage children to move	elements have a common	meditation facilitated by an
	Year 3 – Children independently plan	away from cards after	thread and are suited to the	adult.
	Gather and Mission sections of the	Christmas in year 3)	theme of the liturgy.	
	liturgy. Whole class to evaluate liturgy			Year 4 - Four minutes
	recorded on NDCYS form.	Class Liturgy boxes	Adult to support with choose	meditation facilitated by an
		NDCYS planning and	Scripture readings	adult then class chaplains.
	Year 4 - Children independently plan	evaluation form		
	Gather, Respond and Mission sections of		Adult to support children in	Encourage spontaneous
	the liturgy. Children may need support to	Catholic Children's Bible	creating a calm and prayerful	prayer
	choose appropriate Scripture reading.		atmosphere by modelling.	
		Come and See resources	Stepping back when	Year 3 - Lectio Divina
	Children use Extra-Ordo-Nary liturgical		appropriate.	Scripture sources by an
	calendar to support planning from	Access to John Burland		adult, linked to liturgical year
	Pentecost term if class is able.	Music appropriate to		or Come and See and

	Evaluation us recorded by a group on NDCYS form and fed back to the class. A whole class improvement is agreed.	topic/theme and singing folder (teacher share) Extra-Ordo-Nary liturgical calendar (Year 4) Introduce Open Bible (Year 4)	Year 4 adults support to ensuring Respond links with the Scripture and theme of the liturgy. Adults facilitates by preparing an resources the children may decide upon e.g. heart templates, pebbles, water.	facilitated by an adult. Class chaplains to lead from Pentecost Term (training given) Year 4 - Lectio Divina Scripture sources by an adult, linked to liturgical year or Come and See and led by class chaplains (training given), supported by adult
Upper Phase Year 5 & 6	Children use Extra-Ordo-Nary liturgical calendar to support planning of class liturgies. Children use Open Bible online resource to aid Scripture selection based on liturgical theme. Children them find the passage in the Catholic Children's Bible to add to the prayer focus. Children independently plan Gather, Word, Respond and Mission sections according to an appropriate theme. They may use songs, actions, prayers within the liturgy. Active participants are encouraged throughout. Planning is overseen/checked by an adult and guided only when necessary.	Let us Pray resource boxes (Encourage children to move away from cards after Christmas in year 3) Class Liturgy boxes NDCYS planning and evaluation form Catholic Children's Bible Come and See resources Access to John Burland Music appropriate to topic/theme, singing folder (teacher share)and YouTube. Extra-Ordo-Nary liturgical calendar (Year 4)	Adults facilitates by preparing an resources the children may decide upon e.g. heart templates, pebbles, water. Adult to source music online, check the plan is cohesive and sticks to the theme and ensures the children know how they are going to create a prayerful atmosphere and link between sections. Adults encourage children to think outside the box such as different locations, seating arrangements, actions etc.	Year 5 - Five minutes meditation led by children Year 6 - Six minutes meditation led by children Encourage spontaneous prayer Lectio Divina Scripture sourced by an adult linked to liturgical year or Come and See and led by children.

Evaluation us recorded by a group on	Introduce Open Bible Online	
NDCYS form and fed back to the class. A	resource (Year 4)	
whole class improvement is agreed.		

*Please note:

Lectio Divina scripture readings are sourced currently by the teacher to ensure quality pieces of scripture are being shared to provide rich discussion and spiritual connection. This is due to this form of worship needing adequate time to become comfortable for the children. Children will start to select their own scripture readings for Lectio Divina in Years 5 and 6 in the Pentecost Term.

Appendix C

NDCYS Liturgy Planning Sheets



SONG LYRICS PRAYER FOCUS/ALTAR BIBLE (SCRIPTURE) DRAMA POWERPOINT ICON/OBJECT QUOTE PICTURES GOSPEL PROCESSION LITURGICAL DANCE VIDEO LITURGICAL COLOURS ARTWORK CANDLE CRUCIFIX ACTION

SCRIPTURE
MUSIC
EXPLANATIONS
(THEME/SCRIPTURE/PRAYER
FOCUS/DRAMA)
WORDS OF WISDOM/QUOTES
STORY
SILENCE

HEAR

THINK

REFLECTION TIME
QUESTIONS
PRAYERS - SORRY/ASKING/THANK YOU
HOW THEY CAN CARRY OUT THE MISSION
LINKS WITH SAINTS/ICONIC PEOPLE
MEDITATION
LINKS WITH OTHER SCRIPTURE
LINKS WITHSCHOOL THEMES/EVENTS
LINKS WITH CURRENT ISSUES IN THE
MEDIA

SING A HYMN OR SONG
ACTIONS TO A SONG
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
WRITE THINGS DOWN INDIVIDUALLY
WRITE THINGS DOWN AS A GROUP
ACTION E.G. SIGN OF PEACE,
WASHING HANDS, MEXICAN WAVE
CHANGING THE WAY WE SIT
E.G. BOWING HEADS, CLOSING
OUR EYES, JOINING OUR HANDS
FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES
MOVEMENT
QUIZ
GAME



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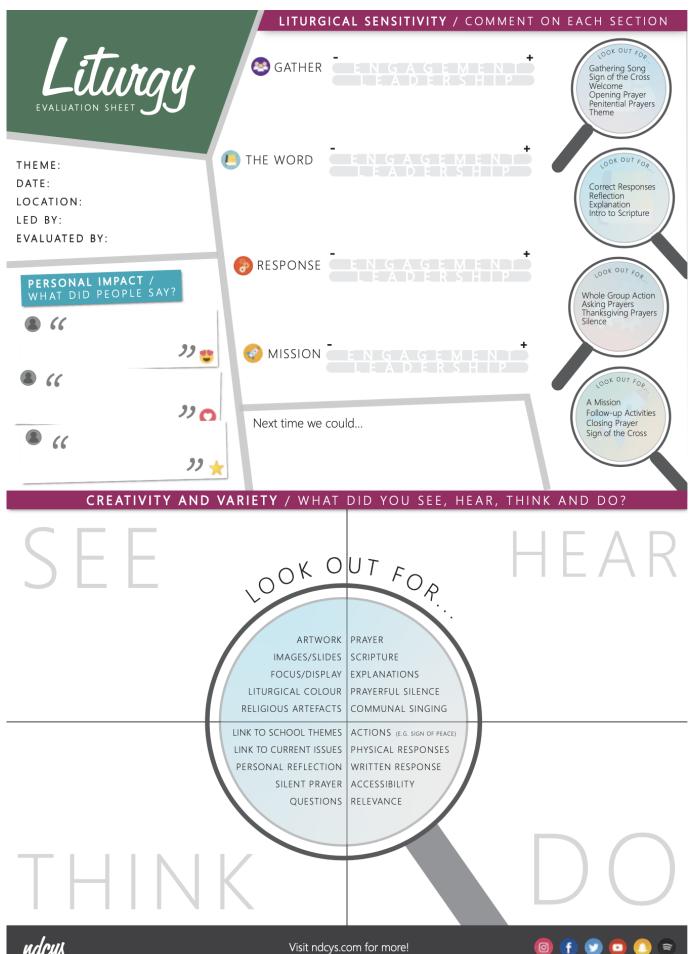


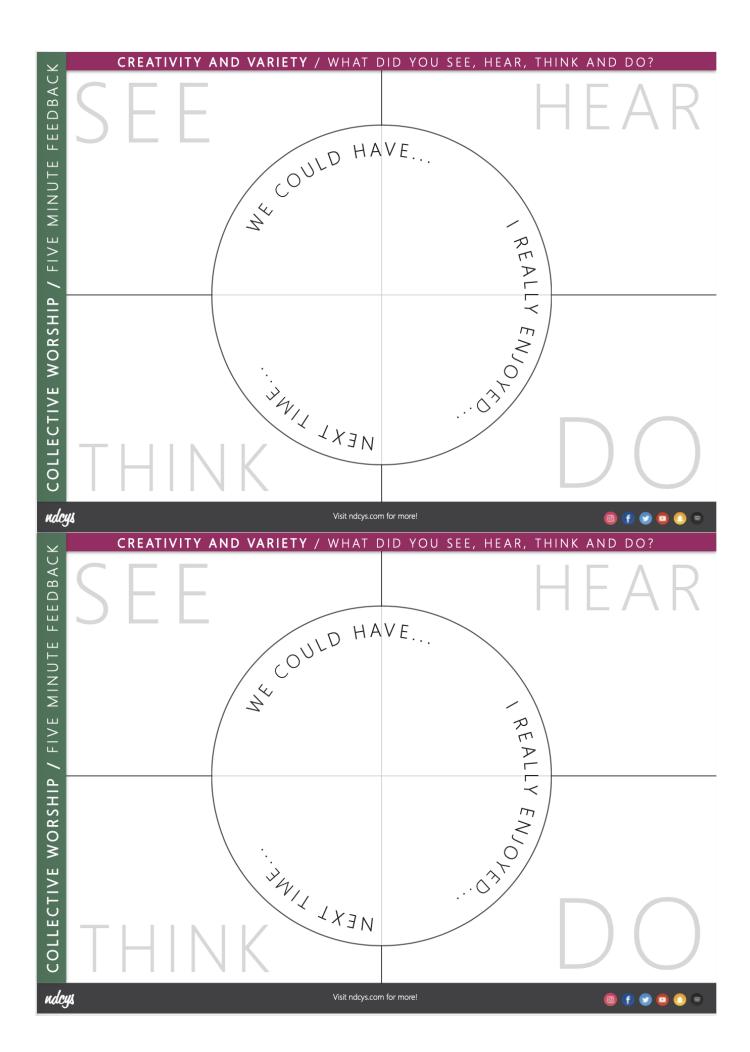






Appendix D **NDCYS Evaluation Sheet**









A voice cries out, "Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord!" - Mark 1:3







PERSONAL IMPACT / HOW HAVE YOU BEEN AFFECTED BY THE WORSHIP?





PERSONAL IMPACT / HOW HAVE YOU BEEN AFFECTED BY THE WORSHIP?

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts. - Hebrews 3:15





PERSONAL IMPACT / HOW HAVE YOU BEEN AFFECTED BY THE WORSHIP?

The Lord has given us eyes to see with and ears to listen with. - Proverbs 20:12





Type of Worship:

Led by:

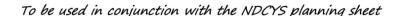
Collective Worship Evaluation

For whole class or for worship which does not follow the 'Gather, Word, Response, Mission' structure

Evaluated by:	
Date:	
Theme:	
WWW – What did you like about the act of worship? What would you like to be used again next time?	EBI – What would you change about the act of worship for next time? Please give examples of what could be done instead.
Personal impact – How did the act of worship make you feel? I about?	What did it encourage you to go and do? What did it make you think

Guide to planning collective worship with young

people





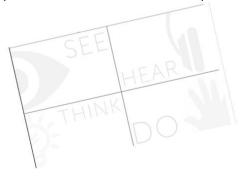
Step 1

When planning Collective Worship you will need to begin with a theme eg. Helping others, forgiveness, new beginnings. These could be based on the liturgical season, on what is going on in school/the world/the Church at the time or it might make sense to use the weekly themes used on the 'Extra-ordo-nary' calendar produced by NDCYS https://ndcys.com/extra-ordo-nary/



Step 2

Starting with the 'See, Hear, Think, Do' sections, the first thing you need to choose is your scripture (which goes in the 'Hear' box). You can do this by asking the young people if they can think of any stories from the Bible which link to the theme. A good resource to use to find scripture related to a theme is the 'topical Bible' section of the website' Open Bible' https://www.openbible.info/topics/





Step 3

Once you've chosen your piece of scripture, you can then get the young people to start thinking about what they want people to see, hear, think and do. There are examples and suggestions with the NDCYS resource. Remember, music can be secular as long as it links to the scripture and theme and is appropriate.



Step 4



The mission, in the 'Do' section, is very important! This is something our liturgy and prayer calls us to do. It is an active expression of our faith – try to be inventive with this, don't always do the same thing. But make it something which is simple and specific, and come back to it later in the day/week to see how everyone got on with it if you can.

Step 5

Once you have your elements in your 'See, Hear, Think, Do' sections, you can now put it into the Collective Worship structure of 'Gather, Word, Response and Mission'.



Tips!

- Try to find a way to say yes to your students! If they make a suggestion, and can explain how it links to the scripture, try to find a way to say yes, even if it feels a bit scary! This can help your students to be creative and to express their faith in a fun and engaging way.
- Sometimes less might be more! Encourage your students to think carefully about what they put onto their
 prayer display challenge them to explain how it links to the scripture. This should mean you don't end up
 with a rainbow of coloured stone, a loaf of bread, hearts and a million candles! Also, encourage your young
 people to choose the correct liturgical colours.
- Think about space! This means more than just a prayer cloth and candles, but could mean how/where students sit, do they enter the hall in a different way, are there speakers from different parts of the room, does the liturgy take place somewhere else because it links better to the scripture (reading about Jesus being outside liturgy happens outside/reading about being welcoming, liturgy happens in the school reception area!)?
- Music doesn't have to be a hymn sometimes it might be good to use music which young people will hear
 on the radio. Next time they hear it, it might remind them of what they heard/thought in the liturgy. Obviously it needs to be appropriate!





