**GOD MATTERS TOPIC DATES 2016-2017**

**Please NOTE significant changes to how topics are to be taught.**

**This is a trial to see if it helps. Full details given on INSET Friday 2nd September**

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| **UNIT** | **Commencing Date** | **Teaching Time** |
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| **Term One** |  |  |
| Creation | 04.09.16 | 4 weeks |
| Sacraments | 03.10.16 | 3 Weeks |
| 22.10.16 | Half term |  |
| Sacraments | 31.10.16 | 1 week |
| Prayer, Feasts and Saints  Focus on all saints, All souls, Remembrance etc. \* | 07.11.16 | 1 week |
| Islam | 14.11.16 | 1 week |
| Advent | 21.11.16 | 3 weeks |
| Christmas | 19.12.16 | 1 week |
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| **Term Two** |  |  |
| Feasts of Christmas - Epiphany | 04.01.17 | 2 weeks |
| Judaism | 16.01.17 | 1 week |
| Revelation | 23.01.17 | 3 Weeks |
|  | Half Term |  |
| Revelation | 20.02.17 | 1 week |
| Lent | 27.02.17 | 4 weeks |
| Holy Week | 27.03.17 | 2 Weeks |
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| **Term Three** |  |  |
| Easter | 18.04.17 | 4 Weeks |
| Pentecost and Mission | 15.05.17 | 4 Weeks |
|  | Half Term |  |
| \*Prayer Feasts and Saints | 06.06.17 | 2 Weeks |
| Sikhism and Hinduism | 19.06.17 | 2 weeks |
| Possible multi faith festival week tbc  Big Questions of Faith  Project RE e.g.  Going Back to Areas of Concern  Retreat/Pilgrimage Experiences | 04.07.17 | Until the End of Term |

**\*Prayers, Feasts and Saints**

The suggestion with this topic is to consider teaching it across the year using different opportunities such as class prayer time, class and whole school liturgies, Mass and celebration assemblies to speak, reflect and pray about different feasts and saints. This may not follow exactly what is in the topic but it can be geared to each year group’s needs. Please do not do this as an assessed topic. In the summer term there is a long period at the end of the term with a potential gap. This is an opportunity to use time to offer children different kinds of prayer experiences including the possibility of pilgrimage, faith walk or retreat day to name but a few. Hopefully the whole school INSET will support this.

We will consider these questions as a staff so that we have a shared and consistent approach to this element of the curriculum.

Significant Dates and Key Feasts of the Church and World Faiths.

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| **September** | **Catholic Christian Key Dates** | **World Faith Key Dates Find out more : http://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources** |
| 14th September | Exaltation of the Cross – opportunity to explore why we make the sign of the cross | 5 September Ganesh Chaturthi Birthday of Ganesh-Hindu  11th -15th September. Hajj pilgrimage-Islam |
|  | **Home Mission Sunday** |
| 21st September | St. Matthew - Evangelist |
|  | **Harvest** |
| 27th September | St. Vincent de Paul |
| 29th September | St. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels - Feast |
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| **October** | **Month of the Rosary** |
| 1st October | St. Therese of the Child Jesus | 1st- 9th Navaratri (festival of Nine Nights)-Hindu  2nd Gandhi Jayant (Gandhi’s birthday) Hindu  3rd-4th Rosh Hashannah-Jewish  3rd Islamic New Year  7th Durga Puja -Hindu  12th Yom Kippur- Jewish  16th -23rd Interfaith week of Prayer for World Peace  17th – 24th Sukkot -Jewish  20th of Guruship on the Guru Granth Sahib- Sikh  25th Simchat Torah-Jewish  30th Divali- Hindu  30th Divali -Sikh |
| 2nd October | Guardian Angels - Feast |
| 4th October | St. Francis of Assisi |  |
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| 7th October | Our Lady of the Rosary – CAFOD Family Fast Day |
| 15th October | St. Teresa – Doctor of the Church |
| 18th October | St. Luke the Evangelist |
| **November** | **Month of Remembrance for those who have died** |  |
|  |  | 14th Birthday of Guru Nanak (1469 CE) -Sikh  24th Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (1675) -Sikh |
| 1st November | All Saints |  |
| 2nd November | All Souls |
| 9th November | Dedication of the Lateran Basilica – FEAST |
| 20th November | Christ the King – Solemnity |
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| 27th November | 1st Sunday of Advent |
| **December** | Beginning of new Liturgical Year and **Advent** | 12th The prophet Muhammad’s Birthday – Sunni Muslim  17th The prophet Muhammad’s Birthday - Shi'a Muslim  25th- 1st January Hanukah-Jewish |
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| 6th December | St. Nicholas |
| 8th December | Immaculate Conception – Feast |
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| **January** | **Christmastide until Baptism of the Lord** | 5th Guru Gobindh Singh birthday – Sikh  13th Maghi - Sikh |
| 1st January | Mary Mother of God |
| 8th January | Epiphany |
| 9th January | Baptism of the Lord – Feast |
| 25th January | Conversion of St. Paul |
| 28th January | St. Thomas Aquinas |
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| **February** |  |
| 2nd February | Presentation of the Lord – Feast of Candlemass |  |
| 3rd February | St. Blaise – Patron Saint of sore throats |
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| **1st March** | **Ash Wednesday** |
|  | Rest of month – focus on Lent – prayer, fasting and alms giving |
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| **March - Lent** |  | 12th Purim – Jewish  13th- Holi - Hindu  13th Hola Mohalla – Sikh  28th Hindu New Year  28th-5th April 28 - April 5  Ramayana - Hindu |
| 1st March | St. David – patron Saint of Wales - Feast |
| 17th March | St. Patrick – patron Saint of Ireland - Feast |
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| 20th March | St. Joseph (Transferred feast) |
| 25th March | Annunciation of the Lord |
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| **April** |  | 5th Ramanavami – Hindu  11th -18th Pesach (Passover)-Jewish  14th-Baisakhi (Vaisakhi) – Sikh  23rd-Yom HaShoah - Jewish  24th Lailat al Miraj – Islam |
| 9th April | Palm Sunday |
| 12th April | Spy Wednesday and **Chrism Mass** at the Cathedral |
| 13th April | Maundy Thursday – washing of disciples feet and institution of the Eucharist |
| 14th April | Good Friday |
| 15th April | Holy Saturday |
| 16th April | Easter Sunday |
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| **April – Eastertide** |  |
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| 23rd April | St. George – patron saint of England- Feast |
| 25th April | St. Mark – Evangelist - Feast |
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| **May** | Month of Mary | 1st Yom Ha'Atzmaut – Jewish  12th Lailat al Bara'ah - Islam  27th Ramadan begins - Islam  31st- 1st June Shavout - Jewish |
| 14th May | St. Matthias, Apostle - Feast |
| 28th May | **Ascension of the Lord** |
| 31st May | Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary |
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| **June** |  | 16th Guru Arjan martyrdom – Sikh  26th-28th Eid al Fitr end of Ramadan - Islam |
| 4th June | **Pentecost** |
| 11th June | **Trinity Sunday** |
| 18th June | **Corpus Christi – Body and Blood of Christ** |
| 22nd June | St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More – Martyrs - Feast |
| 23rd June | **Feast of Sacred Heart - Solemnity** |
| 24th June | Birth of St. john the Baptist |
| 29th June | **St. Peter and St. Paul – Holy Day of Obligation** |
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| **July** | **Thanksgiving and Moving On** |
| 11th | St. Benedict - Feast |
| 23rd | St. Bridget of Sweden - Feast |
| 25th | St. James – Apostle - Feast |
| 26th | St. Joachim and St. Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary |
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