

### **Branch 1 Creation and Covenant Overview**

*‘The heavens are telling the glory of God’ (Ps 19:1). In this branch, pupils will encounter the God who creates and calls a people. They will explore revelation of the Christian belief that all that is comes from God, the Creation accounts in Genesis, and scientific explanations of the process of Creation. They will explore the call of God and his covenantal relationship with his people first through Abraham and Moses, then through the narrative of the Old Testament.*

#### **EYFS**

Hear - God made our beautiful world and everything in it.  
 God made me.  
 The words and actions of the sign of the cross:  
 ‘In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen’.  
 God created the world and said, ‘Indeed it is very good’ (Genesis 1:31).  
 The whole of Creation shows God love for us (Laudato Si’ 84-88)  
 Believe - God made me. God loves me. God loves everyone. God made the wonderful world.  
 God is love. God made each one of us. God loves each one of us as a unique person.  
 God made a wonderful world and what God creates is good.  
 God loves us and we are part of a family.

#### **CST**

God made the Earth and sky. God made all the people all over the world. God made all the animals. God made all the plants. God made all the air, the ground, and the water. And God tells us we must take good care of them. It is an important job! **Stewardship**  
 Celebrate - The words and actions of the sign of the cross:  
 ‘In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen’  
 Give thanks for God’s wonderful world.  
 Celebrate God’s beautiful world.  
 The words and actions of the sign of the cross.  
 We enter God’s family, the Church, through Baptism.  
 Live - Look after me. Look after God’s world.

#### **Year 1 The overarching theme of this year is revelation, how do people know about God?**

Hear - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will have studied the following key texts:

- The Creation story in Genesis 1:1-4, 24-26 as an ancient, prayerful, poetic reflection on God’s world.
- The opening of the Nicene Creed ‘I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible’.
- An introduction to the ideas presented in Laudato Si’ 13

Believe - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know that the Church teaches:

- That all that is comes from God.
- God is our Father.
- God’s love and care for humanity is experienced through the beauty and order of Creation.
- Prayer is a way we draw closer to God.

Celebrate - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:

- That praying is a way people draw close to God.
- That, as a community, the Church prays the Creed and the Our Father to pray to God and worship him

Live - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know that the Church teaches:

- God wants us to love and care for the world because the world is God’s gift to us.
- Caring for the world is one of the ways we love and care for each other.

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will explore:

- How a community in another part of the world cares for Creation

#### **Year 2 The overarching theme of this year is baptism**

Hear - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will have encountered the following key texts:

- The story of Noah, focusing on God’s covenant (promise) with Noah and all living beings in the sign of the rainbow (Gen 9:7-17).145
- LS 71 ‘Through Noah, who remained innocent and just, God decided to open a path of salvation. In this way he gave humanity the chance of a new beginning. All it takes is one good person to restore hope!’
- Psalm 139146 in praise of God’s Creation of each of us and his love for us.

Believe - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know that the Church teaches:

- God makes a covenant (promise) with Noah to save all living things.
- That people in the story of Noah turned away from God and chose to act badly; this is behaviour called sin.
- The Sacrament of Baptism is when a person becomes part of the Christian family and promises to love God.
- That the Christian Bible is split into two parts, the Old Testament, and the New Testament.

Celebrate - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:

- Psalms are prayers to praise God.
- Sacraments are living signs of Jesus’ love for all people.
- Baptism is the first sacrament which welcomes people into the Christian family.

Live- By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:

- Ways in which we can show care for God’s world (stewardship) as part of our care for each other.
- How a baby is baptised in the Catholic Church.

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<p><b>Year 3 The overarching theme of this year is celebrating the Eucharist.</b></p>	<p><b>Year 4 Through this year the pupils will learn about people whose lives have been transformed by faith and hope in God.</b></p>
<p>Hear- By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the Creation stories in Genesis use symbolism to explain the relationship between God, human beings, and the world.</li> <li>• That in the first account of the Creation one day is ‘made holy’ (Gen 2:3).</li> <li>• That the Church teaches that ‘Creation is the common work of the Holy Trinity’.</li> </ul> <p>By the end of this unit of study pupils will have encountered the following key texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The first account of the Creation, Genesis 1:1-2:4.</li> <li>• Extracts from either Psalm 8 or 19 in praise of Creation.</li> <li>• In an age-appropriate way, LS 66 and 88</li> </ul> <p>Believe- By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know that the Church teaches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God is the Creator of the Universe who made everything out of ‘free and unselfish love’ (YC 2).</li> <li>• That all human beings are made in God’s image and all people have dignity and are created equal.</li> <li>• A way in which human beings’ image (imitate) God is through care for each other, and that caring for Creation is one of the ways we care for each other. Additionally, failing to care for Creation is a way people turn away from God’s love.</li> <li>• The dignity of all human beings is one of the principles of Catholic Social Teaching.</li> </ul> <p>Celebrate- By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extracts from a psalm of Creation.</li> <li>• How the praise of Creation is expressed in the prayer and Liturgy of the Church (e.g., St Francis’s Canticle of the Creatures; the Offertory prayers; a Prayer for our Earth in Laudato Si’).</li> </ul> <p>Live- By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ways in which we can show care for God’s world (stewardship) as part of our care for each other.</li> <li>• Ways in which people can give thanks for the blessing of Creation, including spending time in prayer</li> </ul>	<p>Hear - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will hear the following key texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The story of Abraham, focusing on the following key texts:</li> <li>• The call of Abram (Gen 12:1-5) The Abrahamic covenant (Gen 15:1-6) Abraham and Sarah (Gen 18:1-15) Abraham and Isaac (Gen 22:1-18)</li> </ul> <p>By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know some facts about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The historical, cultural, and religious context out of which Abraham was called. • The importance of understanding historical context to appreciate the literal sense of biblical stories.</li> </ul> <p>Believe - By the end of this unit of study, students will know that the Church teaches that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God’s covenant with Abraham is the foundation of the faith of the people of the Old and New Testaments: Judaism and Christianity</li> <li>• Faith is believing in God, trusting what God reveals, and following God’s loving purpose to live a good life.</li> <li>• Through living out virtues of faith, hope, and love (sometimes referred to as charity), Christians are drawn into a closer relationship with the Holy Trinity.</li> <li>• Abraham is a model of how to pray.</li> </ul> <p>Celebrate - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age-appropriate extracts from prayers of faith in God from the Catholic tradition. (For example, Ps 40:1, the St Therese prayer, ‘May today there be peace within’, St John Henry Newman’s ‘Mission of my Life’, Bl Charles de Foucauld’s ‘Prayer of Abandonment’.)</li> </ul> <p>By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The virtues of faith, hope, and love. • The life and work of a person who was an example of faith made active in love, e.g., the intervention of Cardinal Manning in the London dockworker’s strike.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Year 5 Through this year the pupils will reflect on the significance of the Old Testament as part of Christian understanding of the revelation of Jesus</b></p>	<p><b>Year 6 In this year, pupils will focus their gospel study on St John. They will also look at the second account of Creation, understanding what is meant by the ‘Fall’ and be able to make connections with Jesus as the new Adam in St John’s gospel.</b></p>
<p>Hear - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will hear the following key texts:</p> <p>The Moses story, focusing on the two key events of the call and the covenant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Burning Bush (Ex 3:1-15)</li> <li>• The Sinai covenant and the Ten Commandments (Ex 19:3-8, 20:1-17)</li> <li>• Jesus’ summary of the law (Matt 22:36-40)</li> </ul> <p>Believe - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know that the Church teaches that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A covenant is a binding agreement between God and human beings, which makes them his people.</li> <li>• God made several covenants throughout history – with Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David.</li> <li>• God gives the Ten Commandments to help human beings live good and happy lives.</li> </ul>	<p>Hear - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will hear the following key texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The second account of Creation (Genesis 2:5-10, 15-23, 3:1-7,9-13, 17-19)</li> <li>• Jn 1:1-5, 16-18 • The Nicene Creed • Laudato Si’ 66-67</li> </ul> <p>By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The literary forms employed in the Genesis account. • The Genesis account of Creation and Fall is not a literal scientific description, but expresses beliefs about God, the world, and human beings (see CCC 159).</li> </ul> <p>Believe - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know that the Church teaches that:</p>

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- That Jesus teaches that the most important commandments are to love God and to love other people.
- Catholic Social Teaching helps us to see that loving our neighbour demands a commitment to social change and transformation: 'We profoundly belong together and are fundamentally dependent on one another'. (YC 321)

Celebrate- By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:

- That sin is the deliberate spoiling of our friendship with God and each other.
- We can develop habits that will help us accomplish what is good. These habits are called virtues. • Virtues are practical wisdom (prudence), justice, fortitude, and temperance (also known as the cardinal virtues). Through God's grace we can enjoy the theological virtues of faith, hope, and love.

Live - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:

- Examples of acting with great love (e.g., Little Way week shows the importance of doing small things with great love).
- What growing in virtue could mean in their school (e.g., Jesuit Pupil Profile, Virtues to Live By (Diocese of Leeds)).

- The world is in disarray because humans choose to do evil again and again. This is called original sin; the story of Adam and Eve explains why the world is no longer as good as it was in the beginning. (YCfK 22)

- In Jesus, God restored humanity's relationship with him.

- Baptism is the first sacrament of the forgiveness of sins. It unites Christians with Jesus Christ, who dies and rises, and strengthens the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

- Belief in God as sustainer and source of the universe is compatible with the scientific account of the beginnings of the universe and the theory of evolution.

Celebrate - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:

- The symbols in the Sacrament of Baptism that point to a Christian's new life in Christ
- The Church teaches that the Nicene Creed allows all believers to make a common statement of their faith.

Live - By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:

- Many scientists are Christians and they do not see any conflict between their faith and science.
- The work of Catholic scientists in contributing to the scientific account of the beginnings of the universe (e.g., the work of Mendel and Lemaitre). The ways in which some sin is social and embedded in social structures (cf. CCC 1868-69).

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