



Year 5: Spring 1
Branch 3: Galilee to Jerusalem

Notes for teachers from the RED: In this branch, pupils will explore the 'new law' given by Jesus, his summary of the law of Moses, and the transfiguration of the Jesus, where the disciples Peter, James and John see him accompanied by Elijah, the greatest of the prophets and Moses, the giver of the Law. Pupils will also look at how Jesus shows the love of neighbour in action through one of his parables and the Our Father as the perfect prayer and summary of the whole gospel (CCC 2774).

The collection of teaching known as the 'Sermon on the Mount' may have been given over time and in different locations but St Matthew places Jesus, like Moses, in a high place. Pupils will focus on the Beatitudes, though the sermon does go on to explain why the new law is of a higher standard than the old law. Jesus goes beyond the letter of the law into the heart of sinful behaviour, it is wrong to kill but it is also wrong to show anger, you should love your neighbour, but also your enemy. St Luke illustrates this in his account of Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan. Beatitude comes from the Latin 'beatus'. In English it is often translated to happy or blessed, though it is closer to a state of happiness, or a state of wholeness in the presence of God rather than a passing emotion. Like the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes offer an affirmation of what it is to have a good life, though Jesus points to some unfamiliar paths of happiness for the human eye. For example, 'Happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven', flies in the face of what is judged as bringing earthly happiness. The term translated as poor comes from a Hebrew word closer to 'crouching beggar'. But the poor are not attached to material things, they are aware of their state and need for God, as references in Psalm 34:18. The additional dimension of the poor in spirit calls attention to the emptiness of an inner life without God. Jesus calls attention to the need to love God first, as did Moses in the first commandment.

Both St Matthew and St Luke offer Jesus' summary of the law that pupils have looked at when studying Moses. It is worth revisiting this summary in light of the Beatitudes and consider the implications this has for a Christian's way of life. Pupils are invited to do this through looking at a parable. The Parable of the Good Samaritan is one example, but teachers could choose something less familiar if they felt it appropriate. For example, the Rich Man and Lazarus (Lk 16: 19- 31), the Workers in the Vineyard (Matt 20: 1-16) or the Lost Son (Lk 15:11-32).

At the Transfiguration Jesus reveals his divine glory to his disciples just for a moment. Moses and Elijah both experience revelations of God on the mountain and they are with Jesus at the Transfiguration. Moses is the law giver and Elijah the prophet who was expected before the arrival of the Messiah (Malachi 4:5). The awe and wonder of the disciples reflect that this is a mystery that they cannot explain or understand.

St Thomas Aquinas describes the Our Father as the perfect prayer because it shows Christians how to ask for what they desire in the order they should be desired (CCC 2763). Pupils could reflect on Jesus' invitation to call God 'Father' or 'abba' which is closer to Daddy in English. It is a prayer that calls Christians into a family relationship with God.

Key vocabulary

Beatitude, sermon, petition, Transfiguration, Our Father, virtue

CCC links	RED links	Lesson	Learning Objectives & Catholic Social Teaching (CST) Principles	Key scripture, prayers, hymns, etc...	Suggested pupil outcome / linked activities / Greater Depth (GD) questions	Key vocabulary for the lesson
Focus 1: Hear 📖						
The Beatitudes YCfK 136, YC 282-284, CCC 1716-1717, 1725-1726	U5.3.1	Lesson 1	LO: To know the Beatitudes and what makes a life blessed CST Principle: Human Dignity - Jesus shows that all people, especially the marginalised, are blessed by God.	Matthew 5:1-12 (The Beatitudes)	In this lesson, pupils will retell the Beatitudes through role play, create a poster to visually represent each Beatitude, and discuss how the Beatitudes teaching relates to everyday life.	blessed, poor in spirit, mourn, meek, hunger and thirst for righteousness, pure of heart, peacemakers, persecuted

Transfiguration CCC 554-556 Our Father YCfK 149 YC 511-527 CCC 2857-2865 Prayer YC 483,486 CCC 2629- 2933 Our Father CCC 2763 Virtues CCC 1820- 1823 Virtues CCC 2597					GD question: How can the Beatitudes guide us to live a blessed life?	
	U5.3.2	Lesson 2	LO: To compare Matthew and Luke's description of the new law or great commandment, considering how it shapes Christian life today CST Principle: Solidarity and Peace - Loving one's neighbour brings unity and peace.	Matthew 22:34-40 (The Great Commandment) Luke 10:27 (Great Commandment)	Pupils will compare Matthew and Luke's versions of the Great Commandment, write a letter to a friend explaining the importance of the Great Commandment. GD question: What does it mean to love your neighbour as yourself?	Commandment, love, neighbour, God, heart, soul, mind, strength, unity, peace
	U5.3.3	Lesson 3	LO: To make links between the Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments CST Principle: Preferential Option for the Poor - The Beatitudes emphasize care for the poor and marginalised.	Exodus 20:1-17 (The Ten Commandments) Matthew 5:1-12 (The Beatitudes)	Pupils will create a Venn diagram comparing the Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments, discuss how both sets of teachings guide us in Christian life. GD question: How do the Beatitudes help us live out the Ten Commandments?	Ten Commandments, Beatitudes, laws, Christian life, ethics, guide
Focus 2: Believe †						
	U5.3.4 D5.3.2.	Lesson 4	LO: To know what the disciples saw at the Transfiguration, recognising the importance of Moses and Elijah CST Principle: Community and Participation - The Transfiguration calls us to live in community and share the glory of God.	Matthew 17:1-8 (The Transfiguration)	Discuss the significance of of Moses and Elijah at the Transfiguration. Pupils to imagine being one of the disciples at the event (peter, James or John) and write a journal entry from their perspective, considering why this event is a mystery. GD question: Why was the Transfiguration a mystery and what can we learn from it?	Transfiguration, Moses, Elijah, mystery, glory, disciples, faith
	U5.3.5 R5.3.2.	Lesson 5	LO: To explore the seven petitions of the Our Father and discuss their meaning for Christians today CST Principle: Human Dignity - The Our Father teaches us to respect and care for one another in prayer.	Matthew 6:9-13 (The Our Father)	Pupils will break down each petition of the Our Father and discuss / note down its meaning. Then, write a prayer using elements from the Our Father. GD question: How can the Our Father guide our actions and relationships today?	prayer, petitions, Father, heaven, kingdom, will, forgiveness, temptation, deliverance
	U5.3.6	Lesson 6	LO: To understand how virtues of hope and charity (love) relate to Jesus' teaching in the Beatitudes CST Principle: Human Dignity - Jesus teaches us to love others as an expression of faith.	Matthew 5:1-12 (The Beatitudes)	Pupils will discuss the virtues of hope and charity (love) as they relate to the Beatitudes, role play situations where love or hope can be shown. GD question: How can we show love and hope to others like Jesus teaches in the Beatitudes?	hope, charity, virtue, love, Beatitudes, faith
Focus 3: Celebrate 📖🕯️						
	U5.3.1	Lesson 7	LO: To identify how Jesus' teachings in the Beatitudes are lived out in our school community	Matthew 5:1-12 (The Beatitudes)	Pupils will create individual "Blessings Trees" where they add leaves with Beatitudes they want to live out and underneath discuss how	community, blessings, transformation, peace, solidarity

		CST Principle: Solidarity and Peace - Celebrating the teachings of Jesus strengthens our school community.		each Beatitude can transform a school community. GD question: How does living the Beatitudes make our community stronger?	
U5.3.4 D5.3.3.	Lesson 8	LO: To explore how people interpret artists' meanings, in response to paintings of the Transfiguration CST Principle: Human Dignity - The Transfiguration shows that we are invited into God's glory and share in His mission.	Matthew 17:1-8 (The Transfiguration)	Pupils will reflect on the Transfiguration through art, discussion and written responses comparing different artworks. GD question: How can we share in the glory of God in our own lives?	glory, Transfiguration, mystery, disciples, revelation
Focus 4: Live 					
U5.3.2 D5.3.1.	Lesson 9	LO: To express a point of view about Jesus' great commandment as a rule for life CST Principle: Community and Participation - Loving our neighbour as ourselves transforms our relationships and actions.	Matthew 22:34-40 (The Great Commandment)	Pupils will discuss how the Great Commandment applies to school, home and wider society, creating a "Love Your Neighbour" challenge for the week. GD question: How can you show love for your neighbour this week?	neighbour, love, community, action, care, transformation
U5.3.2 R5.3.4.	Lesson 10	LO: To consider how we can transform our wider parish community by following Jesus' teachings CST Principle: Solidarity and Peace - Jesus' teachings guide us to act justly and peacefully.	Matthew 5:1-12 (The Beatitudes) Matthew 22:34-40 (The Great Commandment)	Pupils will reflect on how wider parish communities could change if everyone lived according to the Beatitudes, discuss the importance of living out the Great Commandment and the Beatitudes for peace. GD question: How can we transform our community by loving our neighbours?	transformation, peace, Beatitudes, community, love
U5.3.4 R5.3.1.	Lesson 11	LO: To reflect on the mystery of the Transfiguration and its significance for Christian life CST Principle: Human Dignity - The Transfiguration shows the potential for all to share in God's glory.	Matthew 17:1-8 (The Transfiguration)	Pupils will discuss the mystery of the Transfiguration and its impact on Christian life, write a reflection on how the Transfiguration reveals the nature of Jesus and draw their own interpretation of the event decorated with key words such as "glorious", "magnificent", "dazzling", "purity", "heavenly", etc... GD question: What does the Transfiguration teach us about Jesus and our relationship with God?	mystery, glory, nature, revelation, Transfiguration
U5.3.1 U5.3.2 R5.3.3.	Lesson 12	LO: To understand how the Beatitudes and Great Commandment shape and guide our lives today CST Principle: Solidarity and Peace - Living the Beatitudes and Great Commandment brings peace to our relationships.	Matthew 5:1-12 (The Beatitudes) Matthew 22:34-40 (The Great Commandment)	Pupils will reflect on how both teachings guide us in our daily lives, create a personal plan for living out the Beatitudes and the Great Commandment. GD question: How can we live out Jesus' teachings in our everyday actions?	peace, love, commandments, Beatitudes, guide