



# Catholic Schools Week 2020

Catholic Schools: Living in Harmony with God's Creation

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Each year, Catholic Schools Week presents Catholic schools with an opportunity to celebrate the educational experience afforded to all members of their school communities through their living out of the vision and mission of Catholic education. Catholic Schools Week 2020 assists Catholic schools in reflecting and celebrating their unique vision and mission by placing the importance of relationship with God, other persons and creation at the centre of our celebrations. The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2020 is 'Catholic Schools: Living in Harmony with God's Creation' and we invite Catholic schools to reflect on and celebrate this important relationship within the context of home, school and parish through participation in two catechetical moments.

### Preparatory Catechetical Moment – November 2019 'Month of the Holy Souls'

Catholic Schools Week 2020 will have a preparatory catechetical moment in November 2019 for the 'Month of the Holy Souls'. Jesus Christ did not remain in the confines of death. Rather, as a consequence of his resurrection and ascension, he was glorified and transfigured. Hence, this preparatory moment is rooted in our belief in the promise that Jesus made when he said, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even though they die' (Jn 11:25–6). Our hope as Christians is that death is not the end but that at the end of our time here on earth we will be reunited eternally with Jesus in heaven. Through participation in this catechetical moment, Catholic school

communities are provided with the opportunity to joyfully celebrate their Easter faith.

Each November (the Month of the Holy Souls), the Church, as a family of families, collectively remembers those who have passed away in the hope of the resurrection. This November, as we remember those who have passed away, we invite Catholic primary and post-primary schools to engage with the resources made available as part of our preparations for Catholic Schools Week 2020. The resources for this moment are rooted in our Easter faith. In this way, the resources aim to assist Catholic school communities with their reflections and celebrations during the Month of the Holy Souls as they prepare for their celebration of Catholic Schools Week 2020, beginning on 26 January 2020.

### Primary School Resources:

- ★ Relevant content from the *Catholic Preschool and Primary School Religious Education Curriculum for Ireland*
- ★ Junior Lesson (Junior Infants–Second Class/P1–P4)
- ★ Senior Lesson (Third Class–Sixth Class/P5–P7)
- ★ Prayer Service of Remembrance

### Post-Primary School Resources:

- ★ 1 Junior Cycle Lesson Plan
- ★ 1 Senior Cycle Lesson Plan
- ★ 1 Liturgical Resource





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Catholic Schools Week 2020 will run from **26 January to 2 February 2020**. As in previous years, each day of Catholic Schools Week 2020 has a theme and a correlating resource for the following class groupings:

### Primary Schools

- ★ Junior and Senior Infants (P1 and 2)
- ★ First and Second Class (P3 and 4)
- ★ Third and Fourth Class (P5 and 6)
- ★ Fifth and Sixth Class (P7)

### Post-Primary Schools

- ★ 3 Junior Cycle Lesson Plans (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday)
- ★ 2 Senior Cycle Lesson Plans (Wednesday, Friday)
- ★ 1 Liturgical Resource
- ★ 1 Board of Management and Staff Reflection

### The daily themes are:

**Monday:** Living in Harmony with God

**Tuesday:** Living in Harmony with Our Neighbours

**Wednesday:** Grandparents' Day/Intergenerational Education

**Thursday:** Living in Harmony with the Earth

**Friday:** Living in Harmony in Our Catholic School

On Wednesday, we celebrate Grandparents' Day. On that day we offer some suggestions for class activities.

A prayer service for use in the school or classroom is also available, as well as suggestions for parish celebrations for Sunday, 26 January 2020.

All resources are available as Gaeilge.

All resources are accessible via: [www.catholicschools.ie](http://www.catholicschools.ie)

