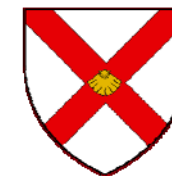


## DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK

### TERM 4/YEAR 1 /WEEK 5 SYMBOLS FROM THE SEA

A number of images based on the sea have been adopted as helpful symbols by the church. An understanding of symbolism is fundamental to an understanding of all religions including Christianity. It is important to explore the symbolism as much as possible rather than simply telling the story which includes the image/picture. You might add these symbols to the 'Tide' display at this point - but do not necessarily include them for the whole period  
SEAL link – Relationships (God, others and self) Values link - Thankfulness

GATHER	ENGAGE	RESPOND	SEND
<p>Show images of the 'symbol of the day' with some questions for pupils to think about eg what can you see? what is happening? why is the (eg boat) important in this picture? etc</p> <p>Play some reflective music to encourage thinking and reflection</p>	<p><b>THE BOAT (ARK) (whole school)</b> Genesis 7 v 18 Start with a quiz about some famous ships – The Golden Hind, the Beagle, the Endeavour etc. There have been a number of stories earlier in the term which include a boat in which Jesus and the disciples could often be found. As a symbol, the boat represents the church, as St Augustine explained in his exegesis of Noah's ark. The image of the church as a boat in which the faithful find refuge from the 'sea' of the world is found in medieval iconography. The architecture of the church building itself is meant to recall an image of a boat; the nave (from the Latin "navis" meaning "ship") is often constructed so that the roof resembles an upside-down ship's keel. Another image (rather than symbol) of the boat can be found in The Goodbye Boat by May Jorlin (Lion ISBN 07459-3693-8) and this picks up the final traditional symbolic meaning of the ship as a means of conveyance between this world and the next. In Christian tradition, in which earthly life was seen as a pilgrimage, the ship of the church transports the faithful through the seas of this world to the heavenly home. The ark in the Old Testament is that of a place of safety and refuge in the story of Noah as well as a place for a new beginning after the flood (in the same way, Christians go from the church out into the world). Use lots of images to convey the rich symbolism here.</p>	<p>Use the particular image of the day for a prayer of thanksgiving Eg Lord God, thank you for the pictures which you give us to help us to understand more about you.....</p> <p>Think of people who are 'rocks' in the pupils' lives. Give the opportunity for pupils to say a quiet prayer of thanks individually or to use a prayer station in school to name these people.</p>	<p>The Lord God almighty is our Father: <b>he loves us and tenderly cares for us.</b> The Lord Jesus Christ is our Saviour: <b>he has redeemed us and will defend us to the end.</b> The Lord, the Holy Spirit, is among us: <b>he will lead us in God's holy way.</b></p>
	<p><b>THE ROCK (whole school)</b> 1 Corinthians 10 v 4 The rock sometimes represents Christ and sometimes the church. It is also Jesus' description of Peter and, from this description, the apostolic succession of the papacy is traced (Matthew 16 v 18). A good illustration of the importance of rock is that of the wise and foolish builders (Matthew 7 v 24-29 – used earlier in the term) or that of the lighthouse standing firm on a rocky island in the middle of a dangerous sea. Jesus is standing on a rock in "The Last Judgement" by Michelangelo.</p>		



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	<p><b>THE FISH (whole school)</b>          Matthew 4 v 15          Although there is a connection with the first disciples and the instruction that they become fishers of men, the main importance of the fish symbol was as a secret sign during the time of persecution in the Roman Empire in the years following Jesus' crucifixion. The Greek word for fish ΙΧ ΘΥΣ (Ichthus) comprised the Greek letters which stood for</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">I Jesus          X Christ          Ω Son          U God          S Saviour</p> <p>Some people still continue to wear a lapel pin/bracelet containing this symbol.</p>	<p>Give each pupil a simply drawn fish sticker to wear during the day saying that you might ask them what it means at some point!          Say that it should remind them of Jesus when they look at it.</p>	
	<p><b>A SCALLOP SHELL (class or Key Stage worship)</b>          A scallop shell is sometimes used to pour the water over the baby's head in baptism and there is a particular reason for this (cleansing, repentance, forgiveness, and then the threefold pouring for the Trinity). Watch a clip of this (eg BBC clips online) or show using a doll. This shell is the symbol of St James who is believed to have been buried at Santiago de Compostela. Pilgrims used to visit his tomb which is close to the coast. They might pick up a shell to show that they had made that pilgrimage and perhaps put it in their hatband. See if you can find any images of this. In the baptism service, baptism is described as a journey or pilgrimage. What "souvenirs" do the children have of their journeys? Why are souvenirs important? Christian symbols are so important because of the help they provide in deepening an understanding of faith and its significance.</p>	<p>We praise and thank You, Lord, for the gift of living water.          Guide us to use it wisely, consume it sparingly, and protect its purity.          Amen          (or similar age appropriate prayer)</p>	