

## Resources for School Prayer and Worship

### *Liturgy and worship*

**“Liturgy made Simple” by Mark Searle. Published in 1981 by The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minnesota. ISBN: 0-8146-1221-0.**

*This explains quickly and simply the theological basis of all liturgy, although it mostly concentrates on the Mass. While it is not specific to schools it is a very good introduction to those who want to understand the basics.*

**“Singing the Mass” by the Music Committee of the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales. Available from the Liturgy Office, 39 Ecclestone Square, London, SW1V 1PL. Telephone: 0171 821 0553.**

*A very short leaflet explaining how music can best be used to celebrate the Mass.*

**“Forty Masses with Young People” by Donal Neary SJ. Published in 1994 by The Columba Press. ISBN: 1-85607-107-3.**

*This include appropriate readings an prayers for both seasonal and themed Masses. Themes include Self-image, Acceptance, Forgiveness and Friendship.*

Dramatising scripture is often a good way of communicating the message. Numerous books exist including:

**“The Word in Action” by Michael Forster. Published in 2001 by Kevin Mayhew Ltd. ISBN: 1-84003-744-X.**

**“Say it, Act it!” by Michael Catchpole and Pat Lunt. Published in 1999 by Kevin Mayhew Ltd. ISBN: 1-84003-377-0.**

**“Spontaneous Melodramas” by Doug Fields, Laurie Polich and Duffy Robbins. Published in 2001 by Youth Specialities, Zondervan Publishing House. ISBN: 0-310-23300-3.**

*The sketches in the two books above need very little, if any, rehearsal!*

The following contain a mixture of liturgical material, prayers, readings, meditations, scripts and symbolic actions, all of which can be incorporated into school liturgies. They are not written exclusively for use with young people and so may need some adaptation.

**“A Wee Worship Book” by The Wild Goose Worship Group. Published in 1999 by Wild Goose Publications. ISBN: 1-901557-19-7.**

**“Present on Earth. Worship Resources on the Life of Jesus” by The Wild Goose Worship Group. Published in 2002 by Wild Goose Publications. ISBN: 0-901557-64-2.**

**“Cloth for the Cradle. Worship resources and readings for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany” by The Wild Goose Worship Group. Published in 1997 by Wild Goose Publications. ISBN: 0-901557-01-4.**

**“Stages on the Way. Worship resources for Lent, Easter and Holy Week” by The Wild Goose Worship Group. Published in 1998 by Wild Goose Publications. ISBN: 0-901557-11-1.**

**“Celebrating One World. A worship resource on social justice” edited by Linda Jones, Annabel Shilson-Thomas and Bernadette Farrell in association with CAFOD. Published in 198 by Harper Collins. ISBN: 0-00-599376-8.**

**“Harvest for the World. A worship anthology on sharing in the work of creation” compiled by Geoffrey Duncan for Christian Aid. Published in 2002 by The Canterbury Press, Norwich. ISBN: 1-85311-461-8.**

The following web sites may also be useful:

<http://www.liturgyplanning.com>

*A web site edited by Monica Brown offering “creative, engaging prayer, rituals and liturgies for children, youth and adults” linked to the Church’s seasons.*

<http://welcome.to/cjmministry>

*The home page for CJM music. CJM provide music and other worship resources, specifically linked to liturgy. “The Promise”, a collection of resources for Advent and Christmas and “Born for This”, a musical version of the Stations of the Cross, are both excellent, as is their music in general. They also provide workshops for schools and parishes that are well worth attending.*

<http://www.biblegateway.com/>

*A bible search engine, ideal for finding the book, chapter and verse for you favourite bible stories.*

## **Prayer**

See also *Liturgy* section, above.

**“Walk in my Presence 1” and “Walk in my Presence 2” by Nicholas Hutchinson FSC. Published in 2002 by Matthew James Publishing Ltd. ISBN 1-898366-60-8, 1-898366-76-4.**

*Collections of prayers, readings and reflections. Book 1 groups prayers according to spiritual themes (e.g. Faithfulness in daily living, Giving thanks, Praying for the Sick). Book 2 groups prayers according to seasonal themes. Mostly more appropriate for older students..*

**“Praying Each Day of the Year” by Nicholas Hutchinson FSC (3 volumes)  
Matthew James Publishing Ltd. ISBN 1-898366-32-2 ISBN 1-898366-30-6  
ISBN 1-898366-31-4**

*A reading or story and prayer for every day of the year using the calendar dates. Each volume is linked to the school terms i.e. Volume 1 September. to December. They are linked to the liturgical seasons or major events. There is a useful index of topics.*

**“Lord, Teach us to Pray” by Nicholas Hutchinson FSC. Published in 1999 by Matthew James Publishing Ltd. ISBN: 1-898366-65-9.**

*Outlines for short prayer services. Again, mostly appropriate for older students.*

**“Pathways to Praying with Teens” by Maryann Hakowski. Published in 1995 by St. Mary’s Press. ISBN: 0-88489-296-4**

**“Prayer Ideas for Ministry with Young Teens” by Joseph Grant. Published in 2000 by St. Mary’s Press. ISBN: 0-88489-570-X**

*Two books containing imaginative and, usually, active ways of praying. Structured as short prayer services with full instructions on how to lead them.*

**“Multi-sensory Prayer. Over 60 innovative and ready to use ideas” by Sue Wallace. Published on 2000 by Scripture Union.**

*As above but not structured as prayer services.*

**“Looking Past the Sky. Prayers by young teens” edited by Marilyn Kielbasa. Published in 1999 by St. Mary’s Press. ISBN: 0-88489-582-3.**

**“Listen for a Whisper. Prayers, poems and reflections by girls” edited by Janet Claussen and Marilyn Kielbasa. Published in 2001 by St. Mary’s Press. ISBN: 0-88489-685-4.**

**“Prayers for Teenagers” compiled by Nick Aiken. Published in 2003 by SPCK. ISBN: 0-281-05543-2.**

*Three books containing collections of prayers written by teenagers.*

Also see:

<http://www.prayingeachday.org/>

*Reflections and prayers for each day of the year by Nicholas Hutchinson, suitable for young people.*

### ***Bible study and other group work***

**“Get Real God! A sort of bible study book for teenagers” by Michael Forster and David Gatward. Published in 1997 by Kevin Mayhew Ltd. ISBN: 1-84003-099-2.**

*Amusing passages based on bible texts with linked questions and prayers.*

**“Mindgames. Meeting God through experience and feeling” by Simon Hall. Published in 1998 by Scripture Union. ISBN: 1-85999-281-1.**

*A range of imaginative activities to help young people to experience God.*

**“The Christ We Share” by the Church Mission Society. Published in 2000. Available from [www.cms-uk.org](http://www.cms-uk.org).**

*A number of activities based around 32 images of Jesus from around the world. Suitable for group work but also for assemblies and worship.*

**“A-cross the World” by the Church Mission Society. Available from [www.cms-uk.org](http://www.cms-uk.org).**

*Similar to the above but based on images of crosses from around the world.*

Videos can be a useful way of introducing teenagers to religious ideas. The following publications and web sites can help:

**“Videos that Teach 1” and “Videos that Teach 2” by Doug Fields and Eddie James. Published in 1999 and 2002 by Youth Specialities, Zondervan Publishing House. ISBN: 0-310-23115-9, 0-310-23818-8.**

*Includes a synopsis of the story, which clip to use, questions for discussion and scriptural references. Indexed by film, theme and scriptural reference.*

<http://www.movieglimpse.com>

<http://www.hollywoodjesus.com>

*Both of these websites review new films and link them with discussion about their spiritual and moral significance, complete with scriptural references.*

## **Images**

Images are often a powerful way of communicating a message. Start by searching on the internet for what you want at [www.google.co.uk](http://www.google.co.uk), clicking on the images tab (although school internet servers often block this for the obvious reasons). Go to the original source and view the full sized image but be careful to check that the resolution is what good enough for what you need. You can then copy the images onto your computer by right clicking and selecting “Save Picture As...”.

A vast amount of clip art and photographs are also available online from Microsoft. In any Microsoft Office application (e.g. Word, Powerpoint etc.) click on the “Insert Clip Art” button and then when the window comes up, click “Clips Online.”

Also have a look at the following web sites:

<http://cruzblanca.org/hermanoleon/index.htm>

<http://christusrex.org/www2/art>  
<http://www.heavenlyvisions.com>  
<http://icons.vitualave.net>

all contain some excellent art based on Christian themes and symbols .Please be sure to check copyright permission.

Finally, many retailers offer some excellent images in a number of formats. In particular, have a look at:

<http://www.stpauls.org.uk/>  
<http://www.mccrimmons.com>

### **Assemblies**

The following are suitable for year assemblies and also for class assemblies when there are only a few minutes available for prayer.

**“The Complete Assembly Resource Book” Mike Anderson, Martin Grace , Paul Heesome.**

**Published by Kevin Mayhew**

**“Dreams and Visions: A Way into prayer for young People”**

**Published by Kevin Mayhew**

**“Weekly Themes for Assemblies” Phil Grice**

**Published by Heinemann**

**“A World of Stories for Preachers and Teachers” William J Bausch**

**Published by The Columba Press**

**“Praying with Children” Jenny Pate**

**Published by McCrimmon**

*Although written for younger children it is adaptable for secondary use.*

**“Classroom Prayer services for the Days of Advent and Lent” Gwen Costello**

**Published by Twenty – Third Publications**

*Although written for younger children it is adaptable for secondary use*

**“Prayer Services for Adolescents” Gwen Costello**

**Published by Twenty – Third Publications**

**“A CAFOD Prayer book: They shall not rob us of hope”**

**“Celebrating one world: A resource book on Liturgy and Social Justice”**

**Published by CAFOD**

See [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk) for more information

