**6.6 CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING: FAITH IN ACTION**

**CONCEPTS:** Human Dignity, Church, Solidarity

**About this unit**

This unit introduces the children to some aspects of Catholic Social Teaching. It focuses on Dignity, Solidarity and the seven Works of Mercy.

**Where this unit fits in**

This unit is an extra sequence of work because the unit ‘The Work of the Apostles/Transforming Spirit’ has been placed in Year 5. The unit ‘Called to Serve’ precedes the present unit and focuses on the Sacrament of Confirmation.

**Prior learning**

The units ‘The Kingdom of God’ and ‘Justice’ from the autumn term provide the context for the present unit.

**Key words**

God’s Image, Creation, Person, Dignity, Respect, Golden Rule, Stewardship, Commitment, Church, Body of Christ, Diversity, Equality, Fairtrade, Solidarity, Mercy

**KEY SCRIPTURE**

Genesis 1:27 (Made in God’s Image)

Genesis 2:7 (Creation of Adam)

1 Corinthians 12:27 (Body of Christ)

Ephesians 4:1-7; 11-16 (Body of Christ)

Matthew 25:34-41 (Parable of Sheep and Goats)

**KNOWLEDGE SEQUENCE**

* God made each person in his image so every life is important
* We belong to families, communities and countries
* When we belong, we have rights, responsibilities and commitments
* The Church is a community
* One important image of the Church is that it is the Body of Christ
* Body of Christ: one people united by belief in Christ as saviour
* The world is one community with lots of diversity, like the Church
* The world is full of inequality, Christians are called to help those in need
* Solidarity is a virtue that sees all people as brothers and sisters who depend on each other for everything
* Performing the Works of Mercy is a good way to practise solidarity

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

• Know and understand that God made each person in his image, so every life is important and should be protected. Reflect on our response to this belief.

• Understand the importance of belonging to families, communities and countries. Reflect on the importance of belonging

• Know that the Church is the Body of Christ: one people in Christ. Reflect on its meaning and how belonging to the Body of Christ may influence our actions

• Reflect on the diversity and inequality in the world today. Reflect on how Jesus wants us to help those in need

• Know what Solidarity is and the Church’s ‘Works of Mercy’. Reflect on the meaning of solidarity and how the Works of Mercy can be lived out today

**BY THE END OF THIS UNIT PUPILS ARE EXPECTED TO BE ABLE TO:**

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| Show an understanding how the belief that we are made in God’s image influences the way we live and make decisions | Compare their own and others’ responses to questions about belonging to a community (including the Church) | Show how our beliefs and decisions are informed by families and communities | Use scripture passages to show an understanding of the Church as the Body of Christ  |
| Show how their actions and the actions of Christians are influenced by their beliefs | Recognise different points of view about diversity and inequality and compare them | Show understanding of how belonging to the Church is shown by living out the ‘Works of Mercy’ in solidarity with those in need |