

Pray in May Assembly – 5-7 year olds

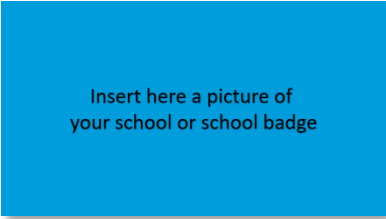

This assembly will allow pupils to explore the importance of Mary as the mother of Jesus and the different ways we can pray.





It will also introduce the work of Mary's Meals and how pupils can support this through prayer.

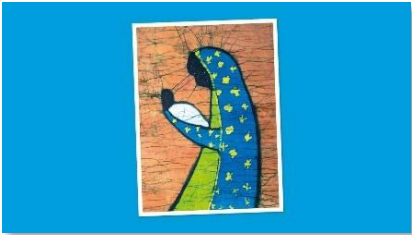




You will need copies of the script for each reader (one adult and up to four pupils, if it is suitable for pupils to read). Otherwise, older pupils could take part to read for the younger ones.




Or you could contact Mary's Meals to ask if there is a volunteer available to lead the assemblies for you. You will also need to be able to display the PowerPoint presentation.

This assembly can take 10 to 15 minutes.

Slide	Wording	Discussion points
	<p>Adult: Welcome to our assembly today where I am going to ask you to help me with something please.</p> <p>To start with though, can anyone tell me what their favourite thing about our school is?</p>	<p>Ask children to share their answers.</p>
	<p>Adult: One of my favourite things about our school is the school lunches!</p> <p>Hands up if you have school meals?</p> <p>Does anyone have a packed lunch?</p> <p>What would happen if we forgot our school lunch?</p> <p>How do we feel if we haven't had anything to eat?</p>	<p>Ask children to share their answers.</p>

	<p>Pupil 1: This man is called Magnus, and he thinks it is very important that all children get a nutritious meal when they are at school.</p>	
	<p>Pupil 2: This is because Magnus met this lady, Emma, and her children when he was visiting a country in Africa and found out that children there weren't going to school because there were no school meals.</p>	
	<p>Pupil 3: Magnus and lots of other people have worked hard over the last 20 years and the charity he started called Mary's Meals is now helping to feed more than 2.4 million children in 18 countries across the world!</p> <p>But why is it called Mary's Meals?</p>	<p>Ask children to share their answers.</p>
	<p>Adult: Who do we think this lady is?</p> <p>Why is she important?</p> <p>Mary said yes to God – the angel came to ask the question.</p> <p>(If pupils know about the Angel Gabriel it would be good to revisit this knowledge here by asking if they know this story and what the angel was called).</p>	<p>Ask children to share their answers – and try to tease out that she was Jesus' mother.</p>

<p>OPTIONAL SLIDE</p> 	<p>Adult: She had baby Jesus and when do we celebrate this?</p> <p>(Again, this is an opportunity to revisit pupils' prior knowledge).</p>	<p>Ask children to share their answers.</p>
	<p>Pupil 3: Magnus loves saying prayers to Mary. He visited a very special place a long time ago where Mary is prayed to a lot.</p> <p>To show how important he thinks Mary is he named his work after her and that is why the charity is called Mary's Meals.</p>	
	<p>Adult: Does anyone know what month we are in (or what month comes next if you use this assembly in April!)</p>	<p>Ask children to share their answers.</p>
	<p>Adult: In the month of May lots of people try their hardest to say lots of special prayers to Mary.</p>	
	<p>Pupil 4: These special prayers help children like Sonia, who is 10 years old and lives in Eastern India.</p> <p>Sonia eats Mary's Meals in school and this helps her to feel happy and to have lots of energy to learn and to play with her friends.</p>	

 <p>The image shows a collection of resources for the 'Pray In May' campaign. It includes a blue header with the word 'Resources' and a yellow arrow pointing to a list of documents. Below the header, there are several documents, including a 'Pray In May' prayer card and a 'Pray In May' prayer book. The documents are arranged in a collage-like fashion.</p>	<p>Adult: Throughout this month we'll work on some activities to help us think about Pray In May and the children who receive Mary's Meals.</p>	<p>Show children the different resources if you have them to hand.</p>
<p>VIDEO CLIP</p>  <p>The video clip shows a group of children sitting on the ground in a circle, engaged in an activity. The background is a simple outdoor setting with a dirt ground and some trees. The children are wearing colorful clothing, and one child in the foreground is wearing a white shirt and a pink headscarf.</p>	<p>Adult: Who can remind me how we said we feel when we are hungry?</p> <p>When children like Sonia have their lunch, this is how much energy it gives to them! This is two little nursery girls at a school in Malawi after they have had their Mary's Meals lunch.</p>	
 <p>The logo for 'Mary's Meals Pray In May' is displayed on a blue background. It features the 'mary's meals' logo on the left, which includes the text 'mary's meals' and 'a simple solution to world hunger'. To the right, the words 'PRAY IN MAY' are written in large, bold, white letters, with a white icon of hands clasped in prayer below them.</p>	<p>Adult: At the beginning I said I wanted to ask you to help me with something.</p> <p>Would you please help me by saying prayers in May to Mary to ask her to help children like Sonia and those two little girls we saw then dancing?</p>	<p>Finish with a prayer that the children know.</p>