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| **Junior Infants Grow in Love Term 3**  |
| **Theme** | **Lesson** | **Learning Objective** | **Faith Formation Goal** | **Story/Poem** | **Scripture** | **Song** | **Prayer** |
| 7.The Church | 1.Places to pray | *Understanding:** Identify the spaces and objects that help them to pray
* Explain that the church is a special place where people go to pray and talk to God

*Communicating and Participating:** Discuss three features of the church: the church bell, kneelers and candles
 | That the children would also:• Become aware of the church as a sacred place of prayer• Value the importance of praying |  |  | The Church | Morning Prayer |
| 7.The Church | 2.The church- a special place to pray | *Understanding*: * Identify the altar, the crucifix and stained glass windows as objects in the church

*Communicating and Participating*:* Discuss appropriate ways to behave in the church, and the reasons for behaving in this

way* Name their favourite thing in the church, and give a reason for their answer
 | That the children would also:• Develop an attitude of reverence for thechurch building• Have the opportunity to take part in a prayerservice in the church |  | • ‘Jesus and the Children’ (Mk 10:13-16)• ‘The Good Shepherd’ (Jn 10:11-16)• ‘Love One Another’ (Mt 22:37-39) | The Church | Night PrayerPrayer Service |
| Seasonal Lesson | Mary | *Understanding:** Identify May as a special month in which to remember Mary, and suggest a variety of ways to do this

*Communicating and Participating:** Create paper flowers for the May altar in school or at home
* Participate in a prayer service in honour of Mary
 | That the children would also:Relate to Mary as someone in whom they can confide | Ave MariaGod chose Mary to be the Mother of Jesus (adapted, Lk 1:26-38) | The Birth of Jesus is Announced (Lk 1:26-38) | When Creation was Begun | Hail MaryPrayer Service |
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| 8.Water | Water is wonderful! | *Understanding:** Identify some of the ways in which we use water on a daily basis, and so become

aware of its centrality in our lives* Recognise that there are parts of the world where clean water is not freely available

*Communicating and Participating:** Describe some of the ways in which they can conserve water
* Give thanks to God for the gift of water
 | That the children would also:Develop a sense of gratitude to God for water | Mesi Goes for Water |  |  | Glory Be |
| 8.Water | 2.Welcomed with water | *Understanding:** Explain that in Baptism, holy water is poured on the person’s head

*Communicating and Participating*:* Describe how holy water is used in people’s homes, in schools and in the church
* Bless themselves with holy water
* Participate in a prayer service on the theme

of water | That the children would also:Appreciate that they belong to God’s familythrough Baptism | Welcomed with Water |  | Water | Prayer ServiceGlory Be |
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| 9. We Give Thanks | 1.Thank you God for food | *Understanding:** Identify some of the similarities and differences between what they eat and what children like Enestina and Mesi eat each day
* Compare and contrast a typical day in their lives with a typical day in the life of Enestina or Mesi

*Communicating and Participating:** Discuss the importance of food in our lives
 | That the children would also:* Develop a sense of gratitude to God for food
* Be aware of the need to share food
 | Monday Morning in MalawiMesi’s Evening |  | Quiet and Still | Grace Before MealsGrace After Meals |
| 9.We Give Thanks | 1. At Mass

we give thanks | *Understanding:** Identify the aspects of their lives for which they are thankful
* Name Sunday as the day on which the parish community gathers together to give

thanks to God*Communicating and Participating:** Pray ‘Thanks be to God’ as a response to reading from the Bible
* Participate in a prayer service on the theme of Thanksgiving
 | That the children would also:Develop a sense of belonging to the localChurch community | Thank You God for…..God Created the WorldDaniel in the Lion’s Den | The Story of Creation(Gn 1:2-3, 26-7) Daniel in the Pit of Lions(Dn 6:16-23­) | We Give Thanks | Prayer Service |
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| Seasonal Lesson | Summer | *Understanding:** Participate in a nature walk and recognise the changes that occur in the natural world during summer
* Recognise those things that are particular to the world of nature in summertime

*Communicating and Participating:** Discuss their favourite part of God’s Creation
 | That the children would also:• Deepen their sense of appreciation forsummer• Give praise to God for Creation in summertime |  |  | Summertime | Responses: * We praise you God
* Let us praise him

Thank you, God, for summertimePrayer Service |
| Seasonal Lesson | Grow in Love! | *Understanding:** Recall some Bible stories they read during the year
* Identify their favourite story from the Bible

*Communicating and Participating:** Discuss their favourite way to pray based on their experience of prayer this year
* Participate in a prayer service to mark the end of the school year
 | That the children would also:Recognise God’s presence and action in their lives this year. |  | Revision | I Have a NameGrow in LoveRevision | Glory BePrayer Service |