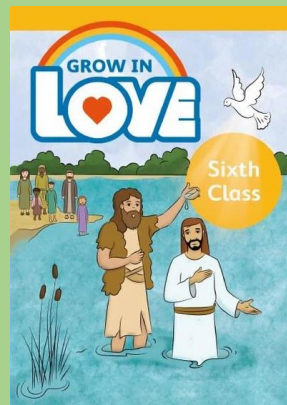
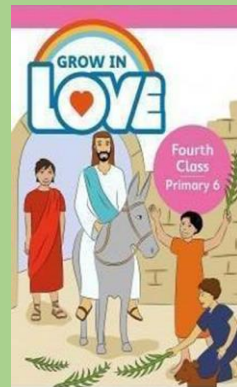
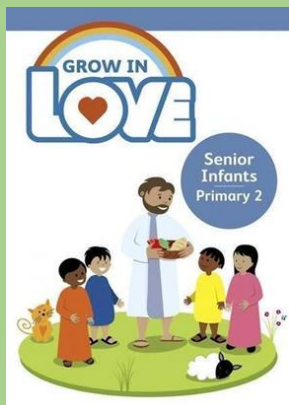




St Brigid

Grow in Love

Prepared by Primary Diocesan Advisors, Dublin
1 February 2022



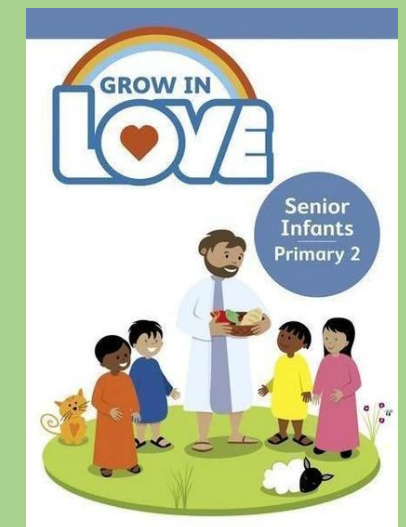
What children can learn in *Grow in Love (Theme 5, Lesson 1 and 2)* about St Brigid in Junior and Senior Infants

- We celebrate St Brigid's feast day on the first day of Spring
- St Brigid was born near Faughart in Co Louth around the year AD 454
- As a child she was always aware of the needs of others and helped out as best she could. She remembered Jesus' words, 'Love one another as I have loved you.'
- There are many legends told about St Brigid's kindness. Senior Infants will hear the story of how Brigid shared the apples she received as a gift, with some people who were in need.



Junior and Senior Infants continued...

- People visit St Brigid's Well near Faughart, Co Louth
- St Brigid built a monastery near an oak tree in Co Kildare. Today it is a place of prayer and pilgrimage. It was one of the finest monuments in ecclesiastical history according to Colm Keane and Una O'Hagan (The Book of St Brigid, 2021)
- In 1807, the Brigidine Sisters for more than a 1000 years at the convent in Kildare kept a flame alight. They followed the way of St Brigid. Today, the Brigidine Sisters keep the flame alight as they spread the Good News of God's love, as Brigid did, all over the world
- St Brigid always tried to show love and kindness
- Children will watch a video on St Brigid in Junior Infants/Senior Infants and they will learn a song called 'We Sing a Song to Brigid.'



What to learn about St Brigid in First and Second class in *Grow in Love*.

- In addition to what the children learned in Junior/Senior Infants, they now explore the story of how St Brigid came to acquire land on which she built her Church and Abbey in Kildare. This shows her trust in God and her determination to spread the Good News of the Gospel.
- Teachers will teach 'St Brigid Builds her Church'
- Children will participate in a Prayer Service

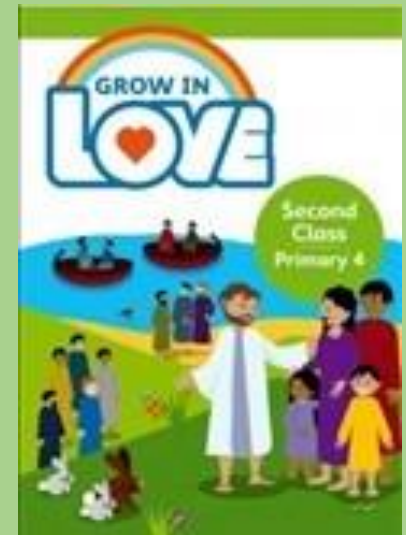
Prayer to St Brigid

St Brigid of Ireland

Help us. We pray.

To remember God's love

In our lives every day.



What to learn about St Brigid in Third and Fourth Class in *Grow in Love*

- In addition to what teachers have taught from Junior Infants, children will now hear that Brigid is known as 'Mary of the Gael' (Mary of the Irish)
- They will learn the prayer associated with St Brigid's Cross and hear the legend associated with it.
- St Brigid was a woman of great faith and responded to God in prayer and love
- Children will chat about other saints and their lives in addition to St Brigid

Prayer associated with St Brigid's Cross

May the blessing of God and the Trinity be on this cross, and on the home where it hangs and on everyone who looks at it.



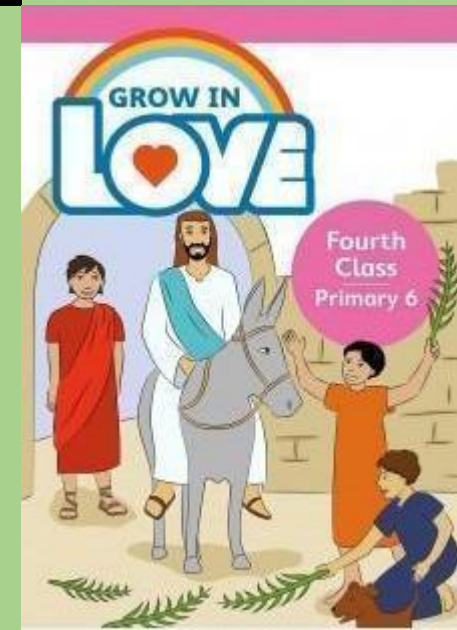
Third and Fourth Class continued..

- Children hear that the feast of St Brigid, Lá Fhéile Bríde is celebrated on 1 February every year. From 2023 it will be a National Holiday....
- The children will hear the legend of 'The Dying Chieftain'
- Children will engage in a craft activity and follow instructions on a video clip to make a St Brigid's cross



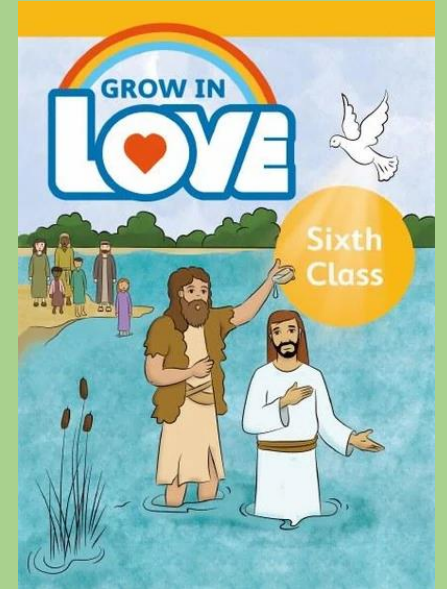
Continued..

- Children will hear the legend about 'St Brigid the Healer', telling how St Brigid healed her two companions
- They will recall the following aspects of the story of St Brigid
- St Brigid's Cross, St Brigid's Well, St Brigid's Flame, St Brigid the teacher, St Brigid the healer
- They will take a moment to think of St Brigid as a young girl, a daughter, a teacher, a healer, a leader, as one who loved the environment, a woman of faith
- They will participate in a Prayer Service and sing a 'Hymn to St Brigid' found as a video lyric in *Grow in Love* Fourth Class



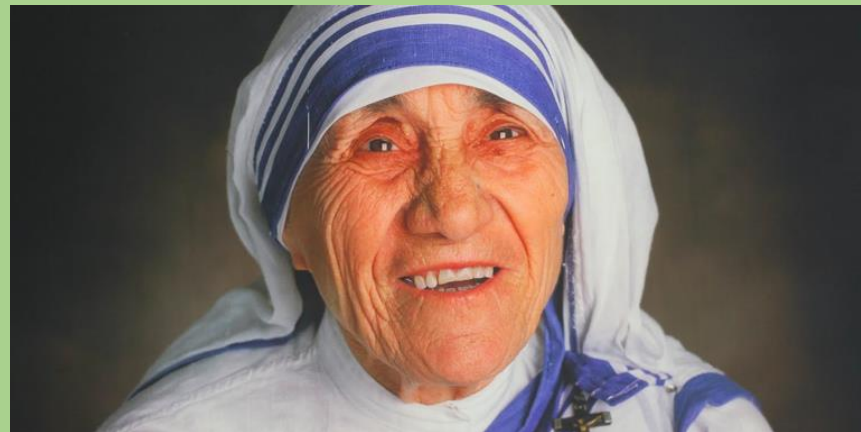
What to learn about St Brigid in Fifth and Sixth Class in *Grow in Love*

- Having reflected on the life and person of St Brigid from Junior Infants to Fourth Class pupils are guided to see how St Brigid became a role model for women through the ages to be strong leaders with compassionate hearts.
- They explore the lives of other women such as Gladys Aylward, Florence Nightingale and Chiara Luce Badano



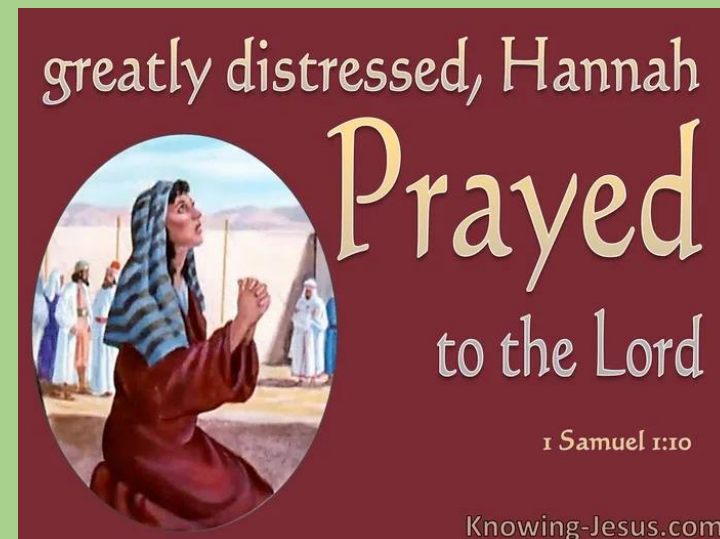
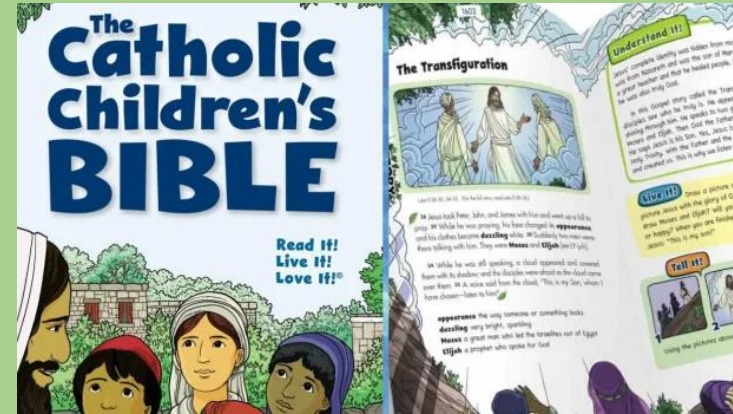
Fifth and sixth Class...continued

- In exploring women who made a difference children will examine the lives of St Brigid, St Thérèse of Lisieux, St Bernadette, St Teresa of Calcutta



Fifth and Sixth Class continued

- Children will listen to the Story of Hannah from sacred Scripture and some lines from Hannah's prayer, from the Book of Samuel. The Bible references are Hannah and Eli (1 Samuel 1:9-13, 17-19) and Hannah's Prayer (1 Samuel 2:1,2)



Fifth and Sixth class continued

- The children will revise the song from *Grow in Love*, Fourth Class, a 'Hymn to Brigid'
- They will take time to reflect on the person of St Brigid
- They will pray St Brigid's Blessing



Saint Brigid's Blessing

May Brigid bless the house
wherein we dwell.
Bless every fireside, every wall
and door.
Bless every heart that beats
beneath its roof.
Bless every hand that toils to
bring its joy.
Bless every foot that walks
portals through.
May Brigid bless the house that
shelters us.

Amen

Photo of the statue of Saint Brigid,
Secondary Patron of Ireland, at Saint
Brigid's Well in Kildare town, Ireland.
We celebrate her Feast on 1 February.

Quiz.... Can you answer these questions and make up your own

- Where and when was St Brigid born?
- Have you ever gone on a pilgrimage? Where?
- Can you name any places of pilgrimage in Ireland?
- Tell the story of how we came to have a St Brigid's Cross.
- Why is St Brigid a good role model for society today?
- Do you know anyone called Brigid, Bride, Bridie, Breedá?



ANY MORE
IDEAS?