



The Diocese of
Canterbury

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK

YEAR 2/TERM 5/WEEK 2

CHANGING OUR PERSPECTIVES ON THE SYMBOL OF THE CROSS

The image of the Cross changes when you look at different parts of the world. The different images carry the same core message about the Christian belief that Jesus came to suffer and to die as part of God's plan for him and for the world (John 3 v 16). However the ways in which the crosses are constructed also often says something important about the communities in which they were created and conceived.

By exploring different crosses make sure that you are able:

- to enable children and adults to see the cross through the eyes of other cultures and traditions
- to prompt discussion and debate on why this single, historical event continues to exercise such an influence worldwide
- to explore how Christians in a wide variety of places, different times in history and in different circumstances, have lived purposeful lives because of their faith in a Christ, who died and who is risen - symbolised by the cross

Although we have celebrated Easter, the Church season continues for several weeks, providing the opportunity to continue to reflect upon the meaning of the Cross and what it can teach us.

SEAL link – New Beginnings

Values link - Courage

GATHER	ENGAGE	RESPOND	SEND
Use a greeting from the country which is your focus for the day	Use http://www.barnabasinchurches.org.uk The 'ideas' search will help you to find a selection of ideas about crosses around the world. I suggest the following (but there are other options which you may prefer to explore) Make sure that the pupils see lots of images, not only in worship but around the school, to remind them of the theme for the week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tau Cross - with a link to St Francis • Spanish Cross - links to St James and Santiago De Compostela 	Specific prayers associated with each of the crosses are included on the website suggested You might also like to use The Lord's Prayer (or parts of	May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (<i>hands reaching out ready to receive, with palms upward</i>) and the love of God (<i>hands crossed over one's heart</i>) and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (<i>hands reaching out to touch and hold those</i>)



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Belgian Cross – links to Father Damien and his work with lepers• Palestinian Cross – links to St George• Ugandan Cross – thinking about faith in times of war and conflict• Rosary Cross – how the Cross might help us to pray	this) linked with the language of the country you have been thinking about	<i>around us</i>) be with us all now and for evermore. Amen
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