# Collective Worship Primary

Loving our Neighbours in Hard Times



### Gathering

Father of all

We gather here together as your children in this place.

We thank you for our families, our community and our school.

Be present among us as we think about what it means to love our neighbours.

Thank you for the example of Jesus, whose love is offered to everyone.

Amen



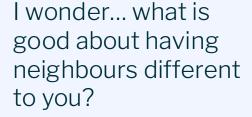


I wonder... where do your neighbours live?

I wonder... what your neighbours are like?

Who are your neighbours?

I wonder... what is good about having neighbours similar to you?





## When Jesus was asked 'who is my neighbour?' he told this story...

'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half-dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he travelled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said, "and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have."





I wonder, do you know anyone like the characters in this story?



## Someone having a difficult time?



Someone who has turned their back, ignoring those in need?



Someone who helps those in need, even if they are different?



## Thinking of each character, how might they have been feeling?







The injured person?

The one walking away?

The one who helped?



## Who was the good neighbour?

What qualities do you look for in a neighbour?

I wonder, what kind of neighbour are you?





How can we love our neighbours, even when it is hard?

Love never gives up.
Love cares more for others
than for self.
Love doesn't want what it
doesn't have.
Love doesn't strut,
Doesn't have a swelled head,
Doesn't force itself on others,
Isn't always "me first,"
Doesn't fly off the handle,
Always looks for the best.
(1 Corinthians 13)





### **Closing Prayer**

Dear God

Thank you for the story Jesus told about loving our neighbours.

Thank you that you understand when we feel angry, frustrated or anxious.

Please help us to act with kindness and respect towards our neighbours, even when it is the hard thing to do.

Help us always to show love to others. Amen



