

St Bede's RC Comprehensive

Weekly Theme

Theme - Harvest

26th September - 30th September 2022



The liturgical colour is **GREEN**.
We are in **ORDINARY** time.

When is harvest in the UK?

In the UK the harvest festival, also known as the harvest home, is traditionally celebrated on the Sunday nearest the harvest moon. This is the full Moon that occurs closest to the autumn equinox, which is often between 21-23 September.



Normally falling towards the end of September, or early October, the harvest festival is the closest thing we have to a day of thanksgiving. Although today we can plan a fixed day for this celebration, in the past the harvest festival differed, based on when all the crops had been brought in. The whole community, including children, needed to help right up until the end, as lives depended on the success of the harvest.

The word 'harvest' comes from the Old English word *hærfest* meaning 'autumn', aptly the season for gathering the food of the land. This was a vital time of year, when success was a genuine matter of life or death. A prosperous harvest ensured that a community would be fed throughout the potentially barren winter months. It's therefore no surprise that it was also a time steeped in superstition and, if successful, much celebration. Many of these traditions even pre-date Christianity.

Many people in our local community do not have enough food every day. This Friday can you help others in your local community by donating a food item to the Harvest collection. This could be tinned food, pasta, bread, rice, sandwich spreads or any other suitable item.

WORLD food crisis



In East Africa, with all these challenges, as well as swarms of locusts and a long drought, families can no longer cope.

20 million people are struggling to survive.



This harvest, there is a world food crisis.

Millions of people are wondering where their next meal will come from. Food prices have soared, even in the UK.

This crisis was not inevitable.

Its causes include a global food system that is not working, climate change caused by humans, the Covid pandemic, war in Ukraine, and political leaders not taking action.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-and-youth-resources>

Last term in the pupil voice survey, you asked to support an international charity. In this year we will be hosting fundraising events to offer our support to such charities.