

St David's Day



1. As the pupils enter

Have the webpage open:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/assemblies-ks1-ks2-st-davids-day-paulinus/zbsrydm>

Play your chosen music and display the gallery 'Which patron saint..?'

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/assemblies-ks1-ks2-st-davids-day-dewi-sant/slideshow/z9gdcmn>

2. Introduction

Ask pupils what they think a 'saint' is? [Gather responses. You could also play the Voxpops video 'What is a saint' - see 'Related links' - for inspiration.]

If your school is associated with a particular saint, what do the children know about them?

Ask pupils what they think a 'patron saint' is. [Gather responses].

Explain: *A patron saint is someone regarded as the special protector of a country or place...or perhaps a type of profession or activity. Each of the four countries that make up the UK and Ireland have a patron saint and each of them has their own special saint's day. One of those special days is today [will be happening soon]. But which is it? Perhaps we can decide by looking at these pictures...* [Display the gallery 'Which patron saint..?']

Continue: *St David lived in Wales about 1500 years ago. There are many stories about David's life and we're going to find out about one of them now...*

3. Play the video

Play the video. The duration is 4' 10" and the final words are: '...the very one where St David's Cathedral now stands.'

4 & 5. Time to talk

You could use the Story questions to help the children focus on details of the story. Then lead a discussion about the story and the character of David. Ask:

- i) *Why do you think David's touch restored Paulinus's sight?*
- ii) *What do you think was different about David?*
- iii) *How did Paulinus know that David was special?*
- iv) *What qualities do you think David had that made him become a saint?*
- v) *The story ends with an event called a 'miracle'. What other miracles are the children aware of in stories?*

6. Time to sing

An opportunity to sing your chosen song.

Play video



7. Opportunity to reflect

Make sure the assembly is quiet and listening carefully. Then:

We've been thinking today about St David and about St David's Day - a special day when people choose to remember St David's achievements... David told his followers: 'Do the little things you have seen me do'...

Think to yourself about what that might mean...

What 'little things' can we all do that, however small, are actually important things..?

What 'little things' can you do today to make a difference, like St David..?

For a friend...or a family member...or for someone else..?

8. Opportunity for prayer

Use your standard form of address ('Dear God, Lord Jesus' etc) and:

Thank you for the life of Saint David... Thank you for giving him such courage and wisdom...

Help us to remember all the remarkable things he did in his life...

And help us all to do the 'little things' that make a really big difference.

Amen.