



2nd October 2020

Edition 4

Welcome to this weeks' edition of **Flame** our Religious Education and Spirituality newsletter. Thank you for the wonderfully positive response to our last as well as the suggestions for items to include. Please know that the R.E. and Spirituality team continue to keep you all in our prayers.

*Father, we gather in your presence in prayer and praise.
We thank you for our health and happiness, for forgiveness and healing,
for our talents, and for our friends.*

*We thank you for the wonderful world you have given us to explore
and to use to your greater glory.*

*We thank you for the gift of Jesus Christ, your Son,
who died that we might have life and live it to the full.
Send your Spirit to accompany us on our daily journey.*

*Give us wisdom that we may find you in all things.
Give us understanding that we may learn our lessons well.*

Give us compassion that we may show your face to those we meet.

Give us generosity that we may share the gifts you have given us.

Give us faith that we may have confidence in ourselves.

Above all give us love that we may bring joy into the lives of those around us.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Churches together in England: Education Sunday September 2020 Prayer of Dedication
(Adrian Porter SJ)

Celebrating our Schools

Harvest Collection at St. Peter and St. Paul Catholic Primary Academy, Orpington
Submitted by Erika Mint, SENDCo

On Friday 25th September, the children of St. Peter and St. Paul donated food to the local Trussell Trust food bank in Bromley. As a designated 'cereal' school, many families kindly gave boxes of cereal, cereal bars and porridge. As the children walked onto the Academy grounds, the food was placed into large coloured buckets to avoid any items entering the building. All donations were transferred immediately to the food bank warehouse. It was wonderful as an Academy, to be able to collectively support a charity who continue to do amazing work within our local community.



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Commission News

All Commission based courses and meetings will be held via Zoom until further notice. To see the full offer and to register please visit the website at [rcaoseducation.org.uk/events/](https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk/events/). Delegates will be sent joining details and where appropriate course materials via email.

Adviser Visits 2020 - 2021

Religious Education and Catholic Life visits will resume from the first week of October and may be conducted either as a virtual visit or as an in-person school visit. The format of the visit is at the discretion of the school. If the school leadership feel comfortable with an adviser visiting, then the day will be planned to take all Covid-19 protocols into consideration. The virtual visits will be conducted via Microsoft Teams or Zoom and will last a maximum of 2 hours. They may include discussions with designated stakeholders (which may include pupils), opportunities to share samples of pupil work and the possibility of virtual learning walks. A member of the team will be in contact to shortly to arrange the visits. In the meantime, if you require support please contact the advisers individually.

Request for Primary R.E. Lead Details

If your school has appointed a new R.E. Lead for this academic year please ask the new postholder to update their details via this page <https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk/update-your-details/>. We will shortly be contacting all schools for whom we do not have R.E. Lead details.

Relationships and Sex Education:

Please find a copy of the copy of the Diocesan Relationship and Sex Education Policy: Education in Human Love 2020 here www.rcaoseducation.org.uk. It has now been approved for use within the Diocese.

As stated in the policy it is expected that all schools and colleges follow the CES model curriculum for the primary and secondary phases which meet both Church and State requirements and is subdivided into age appropriate phases. This can be achieved through following a commercially available programme/s which meet the requirements and/or through the creation of their own resources. Please contact a member of the R.E. advisory team if you require additional support.

Support documents and free training modules for staff may be accessed at the Catholic Education Service (CES): <http://catholiceducation.org.uk/schools/relationship-sex-education>

The Department for Education and Training: DfE has released a series of PowerPoints designed to support teachers in the teaching of the new statutory curriculum for Relationships, Sex and Health Education. These contain information not covered in the CES modules such as personal hygiene, mental health, first aid and drugs/alcohol education. They can be accessed here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/teaching-about-relationships-sex-and-health#train-teachers-on-relationships-sex-and-health-education>

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Online Courses for Religious Education and Catholic Life

A decision has been made to cancel courses which do not have at least 5 registered delegates, 5 school days before the course date. Schools will not be charged if a course does not run but will be charged for non-attendance. If you wish to deregister, and avoid non-attendance charges, please contact Claire at clairewilliams@rcaos.org.uk The following courses have been scheduled for the Autumn Term. Please click on this link to book: rcaoseducation.org.uk/events/

- [Digital Chaplaincy – Mission In The Digital Curriculum](#)
Monday 5th October 2020 2pm-4pm Zoom – £20 per login
- [Primary Religious Education Leaders Meetings](#)
Tuesday 13th October 2020 2pm-4pm , Wednesday 14th October 2020 2pm-4pm
Thursday 15th October 2020 2pm-4pm Zoom – £20 per login
- [Secondary Heads of Religious Education Meetings](#)
Tuesday 20th October 2020 2pm-5pm, Wednesday 21st October 2020 2pm-5pm
Zoom – £20 per login

If you would like a bespoke course, virtually or in person, delivered in your school please contact a member of the R.E. Advisory Team.

External Courses and Organisations

Diversity, Inequality and Racism in the U.K. – A challenge for Catholic Schools

The Catholic Association for Racial Justice (CARJ), is hosting a series of workshops for school chaplains, teachers and others interested in Catholic Education. This series had been made possible with support from the CAFOD Development Education Fund. The Workshops will attempt to relate key issues to the life of the school, be informative, participative and practical, as well as providing a safe space for raising sensitive questions and concerns. All are welcome. For further information and to register for the Series or for individual Workshops please contact CARJ, 9 Henry Rd, London N4 2LH. 020 8802 8080. info@carj.org.uk All those who register will be acknowledged and will be sent a link a few days prior to the event. Participation is free of charge with the next course: *The history of Britain as a diverse society* being held on 15th October via zoom.

ATCRE Conference – Online and Free

The Association of Teachers of Catholic Religious Education (ATCRE) is hosting an online conference held over 4 evenings (5th – 8th October). Delegates can register for the individual 25- minute sessions which begin at 4:30 and 5::00pm. Please visit the website to register: <https://www.atcre.co.uk/>

'Everything is Connected'

Cafod is continuing to offer training sessions for their 'Everything is Connected' initiative. During this year which Pope Francis has declared Year of Laudato Si', 'Everything is Connected' focuses on how the key themes of the document can be enriching to both the curriculum and Catholic life of the school. Previous participants have commented on the course positively:

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"It was brilliant. Packed with information and practical strategies. Simple and powerful ideas. Great resources."

"It was inspiring and enriching: an opportunity to reflect on my own responsibility in the world as well as educating the young people and my own children."

Cafod are offering a variety of flexible training options:

- Existing online courses – 3 twilight sessions per course;
- Bespoke online/face to face courses for whole school INSET;
- Whole MAT/cluster group training – ideal for developing a shared focus and partnership working

If you are interested in being part of this programme, please contact Cafod at schools@cafod.org.uk.

Resources and Virtual Experiences

The Mark 10 Mission <https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/>

The Mark 10 Mission, in partnership with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, is a brand-new project for Catholic primary schools in England. Each week they provide a video about the Sunday Gospel. Each session includes an introduction, the reading of the Gospel, a reflection and a song. This is a new project and the Mark 10 Mission team are building on their resources weekly. All resources are free to access.

OneLife Music Virtual Retreats <https://www.onelifemusic.co.uk/>

OneLife Music is a Retreat and Music Ministry that has passion and belief for delivering original, exciting and faith-filled retreat days for Primary and Secondary schools which are rooted in Scripture and formed by Christian Values. In addition to offering a wide variety of resources, OneLife Music have recently launched a virtual retreat programme.

The God who Speaks

In his letter sent to headteachers and clergy on 26th August, Archbishop John wrote about how the 'God who Speaks' initiative has been extended through to 2021. The Bible Society has updated their God who Speaks sections to include resources for the Gospel of Mark. These resources and updates about online events and uploads: <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/education/>.

Liturgical Engagement in Schools

Prayer and worship is central to the life of the Catholic school, particularly at this time. We know that within the diocesan schools this meaningful engagement is already happening in many different forms. To support the staff who are responsible for planning and leading on this aspect we are offering *Digital Chaplaincy – Mission in the Digital Curriculum*. Please [click here](#) to view

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more details and book. Susan Elderfield will continue to support the work of school Chaplains in this regard and the primary R.E. Lead meetings scheduled for October will also look at introducing new ways of praying with children.

Charities Updates

“Christian charity is not simple philanthropy,” said the Pope. “On the one hand, it is looking at others through the eyes of Jesus Himself and, on the other, seeing Jesus in the face of the poor.” Pope Francis 23rd August 2020

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-08/pope-francis-angelus-charity-high-road-of-perfection.html> for the full article and video link.

Cafod

We hope that many of you were able to attend one of Cafod’s virtual assemblies on 10th September. If you were unable to watch it live, the videos are available here <https://www.youtube.com/user/cafodtv> The next Cafod Virtually Assembly will be held on 8th October. The annual Harvest campaign is themed around the question: “How do I keep my child safe if we don’t have water for handwashing?” with the resources now available on the website.

Catholic Children’s Society

Please [click here](#) to see information from the Catholic Children’s Society. It provides links to the Crisis Fund page and the Rainbows Bereavement Support Programme. There is also a series of documents from their ConnectEd: Mental Health Service for Schools on how to support pupils as they return to school after lockdown. They also have resources for the Year of the Word.

Missio

In the Catholic Church, October has long been associated with mission. It is also the Month of the Rosary and there are several significant Saints’ days in the month. Missio has compiled all the necessary resources for these events. <https://missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/missionmonth/> The Mission Together website has been redesigned and updated for the new school year. It is now easier to navigate and contains many new resources for prayer and liturgy. This year’s primary phase campaign is *Together in Myanmar* among the resources created are an assembly and a cross curricular booklet which can be used for in school or home learning. <https://missiontogether.org.uk/teaching-resources/>

Aid to the Church in Need (ACNUK)

In addition to a variety of educational resources, ACNUK has completed their spoken Bible, a resource for use at home and in schools. <https://acnuk.org/resources-landing/>