



Welcome to this weeks' edition of **Flame** our Religious Education and Spirituality newsletter. Please share the contents and links with those who learn and work in your school communities.

May you all have a very blessed and restful Christmas break.

**"... during this Season of Creation, may we be attentive to the rhythms of this created world. For the world was made to communicate the glory of God," Pope Francis**

## 4<sup>th</sup> Week of Advent

*God of love, help us to contemplate the heart of Mary as it opens to receive the gift of Emmanuel. May we listen to the peace within her heart and be ready to open our own hands and hearts when we hear you call our name.*

*Lawler, M. (2012). Christ our morning star. United Kingdom: Pauline Books*

## Christmas Message from Archbishop John Wilson

Archbishop John has recorded a special Christmas message for all who learn and work within schools and colleges in our diocese. It can be accessed here:

<https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk/>

## Christmas Liturgy for Schools

Archbishop John celebrated a Christmas Liturgy at on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December thank you to all who were able to join in and make it a true community event. The Liturgy was recorded and will shared in January, with Diocesan schools and colleges.

## Commission News

### Christmas Holidays 2020 – Education Commission

Please note that the Education Commission will close at 1.00pm on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and will re-open at 8am on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021. In case of an emergency over the Christmas holidays, please text Sharon Docherty on 07772287289 and she will get back to you. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Everyone at the Education Commission.

### O 'Antiphon Request

St Joseph's in Putney and St Joseph's in Kingston decided to study the O'Antiphons in depth and have produced some lovely pieces of artwork which will be featured on the diocesan website: <http://rcsouthwark.co.uk/indexold.html> in the coming 2 weeks. Thank you to both schools for your participation.



## Adviser Visits Spring Term 2021

Please be reassured that the Advisory team are going to continue to be here to support you. Unfortunately, we are unable to visit schools for the purpose of advisory visits at the present time. Should the official guidance change we will commence in person visit. Online Religious Education and Catholic Life visits will continue as will our online CPD offer. The weekly mail out and this newsletter will continue to be published as usual. If you need advice and support do not hesitate to contact one of us. Staff contact details can be found here:  
<https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk/staff/>

## Living and Learning the Liturgical Year

Learning about the Liturgical Year can add an extra rich dimension to the teaching of R.E and to the prayer life of the school. This section is meant to provide some ideas; people and events, which may be incorporated into the lessons and prayer times.

Pope Francis has announced that this year (8<sup>th</sup> December 2020 – 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021) will be a Year of St Joseph. 2021 is the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the proclamation naming St Joseph as the patron of the Universal Church. More information can be found here:  
<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/latest/a-year-in-honour-of-st-joseph>

## December 2020

Pope Francis's prayer request for December: *We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.*

The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception. Advent falls during the first 24 days of December which is represented by the colour purple and during which we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. From the 25<sup>th</sup> December we enter the joyous season of Christmas.

### Upcoming December Saints & Notable Days

21<sup>st</sup> St John of Kanty  
31<sup>st</sup> St Sylvester I, Pope

### Upcoming Notable December (F)easts, (S)olemnities & (M)emorials

25<sup>th</sup> Nativity of the Lord (S)  
26<sup>th</sup> St Stephen, the first martyr (F)  
27<sup>th</sup> the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (F)  
28<sup>th</sup> The Holy Innocents (F)  
29<sup>th</sup> St Thomas a Beckett, Martyr (F)

The following feast day falls on a Sunday this year and are therefore superseded by the Sunday liturgy:

27<sup>th</sup> St John the Evangelist (F)



## Advent and Christmastide Resources

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Primary-school-assemblies/Light-of-the-world-primary> <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-and-youth-resources/Secondary-school-assemblies/Light-of-the-world-secondary>

<https://education.rcdow.org.uk/catholicism-unpacked-new/>

[The Christmas Crib \(Parents\) \(tentenresources.co.uk\)](https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/)

[Jesse Tree for Families - free download - Brentwood Diocese \(dioceseofbrentwood.net\)](https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/)

<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/focus/advent-christmastide/>

**Aid to the Church in Need.** This resource may be useful for Year 6 pupils as well.  
[Aid to the Church in Need | Advent Resource 2020 \(Secondary\) \(acnuk.org\)](https://www.acnuk.org/)

### Missio

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.

<https://missiontogether.org.uk/resources-by-month/calendar-december/>

## January 2021

*Pope Francis's prayer request for January: Human Fraternity: May the lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.*

The month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus. The first 10 days fall during the liturgical season known as Christmas and is represented by the liturgical colour white. The remaining days of January fall within Ordinary time and are therefore represented by the liturgical colour green.

### January Saints & Notable Days

7<sup>th</sup> St Raymond of Penafort  
12<sup>th</sup> St Aelred of Rievaulx  
13<sup>th</sup> St Hilary, Doctor of the Church  
19<sup>th</sup> St Wulstan  
20<sup>th</sup> Ss Fabian and Sebastian, Martyrs  
22<sup>nd</sup> St Vincent, Martyr  
27<sup>th</sup> St Angela Merici

### Notable January (F)easts, (S)olemnities & (M)emorials

1<sup>st</sup> Mary, the Holy Mother of God (S)  
2<sup>nd</sup> SS Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Doctors of the Church (M)  
6<sup>th</sup> Epiphany of the Lord (S)  
10<sup>th</sup> The Baptism of the Lord (F)  
21<sup>st</sup> St Agnes, Martyr (M)  
25<sup>th</sup> The Conversion of St Paul (F)  
26<sup>th</sup> Ss Timothy and Titus (M)  
28<sup>th</sup> St Thomas Aquinas, Doctor of the Church (M)

# Flame Newsletter

## January Resources



### Epiphany and Baptism of the Lord

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Collective-worship-primary/Epiphany-resources>

<https://missio.org.uk/advent-and-christmastide/>

<https://missiontogether.org.uk/resources-by-month/calendar-january/>

<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/focus/advent-christmastide/>

## Catholic Life

### Agency for Evangelization and Catechises

The main goal of the Agency is to support the parishes of the Archdiocese of Southwark in terms of Evangelisation, Catechesis and Formation and to encourage the development and formation of lay people in the diocese. Their new website contains some excellent resources which may help to develop teachers' understanding of Church Teaching. They are also the agency which is responsible for the delivery of the CCRS in our diocese.

<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/ccrs>

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

The Mark 10 Mission, in partnership with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, has been able to commit to creating content for the Spring 2021 Term. Each week they provide a video about the Sunday Gospel. Each session includes an introduction, the reading of the Gospel, a reflection and a hymn. All resources are free to access. The Mark 10 Mission relies solely on donations to keep up their work. Please consider giving to this charity.

### Columban Missionary Society Image and Writing Competition

'Let's Create a World Without Racism' is the theme for a schools' competition launched by the Columban Missionary Society. It is open to young people aged 14-18. You can learn more about the competition (closing : 20<sup>th</sup> February 2021) and the Columbans here:

<https://columbans.co.uk/education/4919/columbans-launch-schools-media-competition-end-racism/>

## Online Courses for Religious Education & Catholic Life

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://rcaoseducation.org.uk/events/) .

Delegates will be sent joining details in their booking confirmation email and course materials will also be sent to the delegate email address used on the booking form.

**Please always check your junk and spam folders if you have registered for a course and not received confirmation. We have found that often the automatic responses are sent to these folders.**



## Spring 2021

Courses for Spring 2021 will be uploaded the week of 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### Foundation Stones

Multiple dates during the spring term

Zoom – £120

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. The cost will be per school; £100 for 1 session of up to 2hrs; £175 for 2 sessions up to 4hrs in total; £250 3 sessions up to 6hrs in total. You can choose to have the sessions over the course of one or several days. We can also provide any of our main offer R.E. and Catholic Life CPD courses in this manner.

## External Courses and Events

### *ATCRE Free Online Courses*

ATCRE aims to support and represent teachers of Catholic religious education by: facilitating dialogue amongst teachers of Catholic religious education; providing a voice at a national level for teachers of Catholic religious education and celebrating and sharing excellent practice of Catholic religious education. To that end the upcoming online course is: and **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January at 4pm Teaching Scripture - Dr Margaret Carswell**. You can find the registration link, as well as the link to become a member, here, [Catholic RE teachers | ATCRE](#)

The most recent uploads are from the October Conference 2020 [Virtual Conference October 2020 | ATCRE](#) and Fratelli Tutti <https://www.atcre.co.uk/cpd-monthly-zoom-2020> .

### *CAFOD's Everything is Connected CPD Offer*

Supported by the British Council, *Everything is Connected* provides teachers with skills they can use to enrich school life through global learning. Further information about the programme can be viewed here. <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/For-teachers>

### **NATRE: Strictly R.E.**

This year the annual Strictly R.E. Conference will be going virtual. There are discounts available for those who are subscribers. To find out more, please visit: <https://www.natre.org.uk/courses-events/strictlyRE-2021/>



## 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](http://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk) . It has now been approved for use within the Diocese.

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> . *It is highly recommended that all members of staff who will be involved in the teaching of RSE complete these modules.*

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>