



Welcome to this 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.

Loving God, rewarder of the humble, you blessed St. Josephine Bakhita with charity and patience. May her prayers help us, and her example inspire us to carry our cross and to love you always. Pour upon us the spirit of wisdom and love with which you filled St. Josephine Bakhita.

By serving you as she did, may we please you by our faith and our actions. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen

Commission News

New Lenten Resource 2021

Susan Elderfield, Chaplaincy Adviser, has created this Lenten resource. It contains many ideas for prayer and reflection throughout Lent. There are also up to date links to all our main charity partners. A PDF of the document was sent to all RE leads earlier this week. The document can now be accessed here: [PowerPoint Presentation \(rcaoseducation.org.uk\)](https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk)

Lent Reflection for School Staff

The Education Commission will be running four morning prayer sessions during Lent. These sessions are for all school staff and are free. Please [click here](#) to book onto these sessions.

RCAOS Primary School Resources Audit

Please complete the following survey concerning the commercially available resources which are being used in your school. The information provided will support the R.E. and Chaplaincy Advisors in creating support documents and courses. <https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk/rcaos-primary-school-resources-audit-january-2021/>

Primary Religious Education Conference – Friday 26th February 2021

This full day conference will contain two main sessions: Creative, spiritual and thoughtful RE led by Lat Blaylock a national advisor for RE Today; and Creative, engaging collective worship led by Tom Baptist, Director of Youth for Nottingham Diocese. Full day participant can also choose from a selection of workshops led by members of the RE team.

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Keeping in touch during lockdown

The RE Team are here to support you during this time of uncertainty and great stress. This includes attend Deanery/cluster HT and RE meetings as requested. Please visit our [website](#) to view our contact details.

Adviser Visits Spring Term 2021

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.

Year of St Joseph

Pope Francis has announced that this year (8th December 2020 – 8th December 2021) will be a Year of St Joseph. 2021 is the 150th 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>

Following St Joseph through Lent

The Diocese of Hallam have created a Powerpoint to support schools who wish to journey through /lent with St Joseph. It can be accessed here: [Following St Joseph through Lent \(rcaoseducation.org.uk\)](#)

February 2021

Pope Francis' prayer request for February: Violence against women: We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

The month of February is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus. The first 16 days of the month falls within Ordinary time and are therefore represented by the liturgical colour green. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (17th) when the liturgical colour changes to purple.

Notable February (F)easts & (S)olemnities

2nd Presentation of the Lord (F)
17th Ash Wednesday (F)
22nd The Chair the St Peter, Apostle (F)

Days of Special Prayer

8th February Day for Victims of Trafficking
11th February World Day for the Sick
14th February Day for the Unemployed
26th February Lent Fast Day

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February Resources

Catholicicing.com has resources for many of the Saint and feast days this month:

<https://www.catholicicing.com/february-saint-feast-days-to-celebrate-with-kids/>

The Diocese of Westminster Education Service has uploaded a new document for Lent. It can be accessed here:

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

February Saints

1st St Brigid
3rd St Blaise, Martyr
3rd St Ansgar
5th St Agatha, Martyr
6th St Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs
8th St Josephine Bakhita
8th St Jerome Emiliani
10th St Scolastica
11th Our Lady of Lourdes

RE Curriculum

Come and See Home Learning Resources

<http://edurcdhn.org.uk/school/resources/schoolresourcescovid19.php>

Hexham and Newcastle Diocese have home learning resources for most topics in all year groups on their websites. Please feel free to look at and adapt if you feel they would suit your school community. If you wish to use any letters, messages from the Archbishop John Wilson in your teaching. They can be found here: <http://rcsouthwark.co.uk/pastoral.html>

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 AEC and Education Commission have produced a document '*Meditation, contemplation and well-being: serving the spiritual and mental health of our children in a time of pandemic*' for families and schools staff. It can be accessed here:

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

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.



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/et/

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

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.

[Secondary Heads of Religious Education Meetings](#)

Multiple dates

2pm-5pm

Zoom or Teams – £25

[Primary Religious Education Conference](#)

Friday 26th February 2021

9.30am-3.45pm

Zoom

There is a limit of 50 places on this conference. There are currently 11 spaces available. The booking form will close once the 50 places are filled.

[Planning for the teaching of Religious Education using Come and See](#)

Wednesday 10th March 2021

3.30pm-5pm

Zoom – £25

[Planning for the teaching of Religious Education using the Way, the Truth & the Life](#)

Thursday 4th March 2021

3.30pm-5pm

Zoom – £25

[Headteachers Conference 2021](#)

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 15:5-6

Thursday 18th March 2021

9am-4pm

Zoom-£100



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. The next webinar will be on Wednesday 10th March – RE: The Big Picture with Sr Judith Russi. You can register here: <https://www.atcre.co.uk/events>

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. There are two programmes which have been approved for use within the diocese. They are *Ten:Ten Life to the Full* <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/> and *A Journey in Love* <https://www.mccrimmons.com/shop/books/a-journey-in-love-volume-1--book/>

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.*