



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.

"Common Prayer for Earth and for Humanity"

*Loving God,
Creator of Heaven, Earth, and all therein contained.
Open our minds and touch our hearts,
so that we can be part of Creation, your gift.*

*Be present to those in need in these difficult times,
especially the poorest and most vulnerable.
Help us to show creative solidarity as we confront the consequences of the global pandemic.
Make us courageous in embracing the changes required to seek the common good.
Now more than ever, may we all feel interconnected and interdependent.*

*Enable us to succeed in listening and responding to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor.
May their current sufferings become the birth-pangs of a more fraternal and sustainable world.
We pray through Christ our Lord, under the loving gaze of Mary, Help of Christians.
Amen.*

(Prayer for the 5th Anniversary of Laudato Si' May 2020)

Commission News

Celebration of Mass and other Liturgical Events in Schools

If social distancing rules are lifted on 21st June 2021, schools may work with their local PP/chaplain to arrange for an appropriate liturgical end to the school year. However, this should be limited to staff and pupils currently at the school and should not involve visitors - including parents, g/parents siblings etc. The mantra will need to be, 'retaining hard-fought COVID security'.

Then, if all goes according to the Government's plan, schools should be allowed to return to a more normal pre-COVID pattern of liturgical celebration from the start of the new academic year. Archbishop John would then welcome invitations to forward planned events where it might well be appropriate to celebrate long and/or outstanding service that would have been marked in some way this year. We're hoping to get back to the big beginning of the year celebration in the Cathedral.

Request from Archbishop John Wilson

Archbishop John is exploring the development of 'Caritas Southwark and is requesting that schools and parishes complete an online survey which will provide a diocese wide picture of the charitable work being undertaken. Click here for more information:

<https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Schools-Southwark-Caritas13.pdf>



Adviser Visits Summer Term 2021

We are offering in person or virtual visits this Summer term. Naturally, all school protocols will be followed by the advisers. The centralised Religious Education and Catholic Life CPD offer will continue to be online only. 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 and the Family

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. Pope Francis announced that from 19th March 2021 – 26th June 2022 would be the Year of the Family. This is in celebration of the 5th anniversary of the publication of *Amoris Laetitia*, on the pastoral care of families. More information can be found here.

<http://www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en/amoris-laetitia.html>

<https://education.rcdow.org.uk/support-resources-catholic-life/> (a new PowerPoint each month)

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/resources/education-resources/year-saint-joseph/>

<https://yearofstjoseph.org/devotions/sacred-artwork/>

The God Who Speaks

The May focus is Pentecost: [The God Who Speaks](#) with several videos exploring the various themes related to Pentecost. The most recently uploaded resources include a Proverbs Challenge for primary schools and some thought provoking articles. There is also a growing bank of resources on their Education page for both primary and secondary schools. [The God Who Speaks](#) (education link)

May 2021

*Pope Francis' prayer request for May is for the World of Finance: **We pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.***

The month of May is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The first 23 days fall in Easter and the liturgical colour remains white. The remainder of the month of May falls in Ordinary Time which is represented by the liturgical colour of green.



Notable Saints Days

1st St Joseph the Worker
5th St Asaph, Bishop
12th St Nereus and St Achilles; St Pancras, Martyrs
18th St John I, Pope, Martyr
19th St Dunstan, Bishop
20th St Bernadine of Siena, Priest, Religious, Missionary
21st SS Christopher Magallanes, Priest and Companions, Martyrs
22nd St Rita of Cascia, Religious
25th Gregory VII, Pope; St Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi
29th St Paul VI, Pope

Notable (M)emorials, (F)east & (S)olemnities

3rd St Philip and St James, Apostles (F)
4th The English Martyrs (F)
13th Ascension of the Lord (S)
14th St Matthias, Apostle
23rd Pentecost Sunday (F)
24th Mary, Mother of the Church (M)
25th St Bede the Venerable, Priest, Doctor of the Church (M)
26th St Philip Neri, Priest (M)
27th Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest (F)
30th The Most Holy Trinity
31st the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (F)

Resources for May

Aid to the Church in Need

The Maisy Milk Rosary for Peace Initiative is a good way to pray, in solidarity with children in war torn countries, the Rosary with your class. It is linked to the Maisy Milk Campaign which supports children in living in these countries. <https://acnuk.org/resource/maisy-milk/> There are several resources to use during the week commencing 10th May. Registering schools will receive free Rosaries.

Recommended resources about the Blessed Virgin Mary:

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/saints/saints-activities/resource-collections/marian-resources/>

<https://www.catholicicing.com/how-to-plan-a-may-crowning-for-kids/>

<https://education.rcdow.org.uk/the-rosary-resources/>

<https://education.rcdow.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Mary-Copyright-Compliant-Reduced.pdf>

June 2021

*Pope Francis' prayer request for June is for the Beauty of Marriage: **Let us pray for young people whoa reparing for marriage with the support of a Christian community: may they grow in love , with generosity, faithfulness and patience.***

The month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart. This Solemnity is celebrated by the Church the Friday following the second Sunday after Pentecost. The whole month of June falls within the liturgical season of Ordinary Time which is represented by the colour green.



Notable Saints Days

2nd St Marcellinus and St Peter, Martyrs
9th St Ephrem, Doctor of the Church; St Columba, Abbott
16th St Richard of Chichester, Bishop
19th St Romuald, Abbot
23rd St Ethelreda (Audrey), Abbess
30th The First Martyrs of the Church

Notable (M)emorials, (F)east & (S)olemnities

1st St Justin, Martyr (M)
3rd St Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs (M)
5th St Boniface, Bishop, Martyr (M)
6th The Most Holy Body and Blood of the Lord (S)
11th Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (S)
12th Immaculate Heart of Mary
21st St Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious (M)
St John Fisher and St Thomas More (Martyrs) (F)
24th Nativity of St John the Baptist (S)
28th St Irenaeus, Bishop, Martyr (M)
29th St Peter and St Paul, Apostles (S)

Catholic Life

Cafod

The next Cafod National Assembly is 'Fratelli Tutti' on 10th June. Please click here to join. [Fratelli Tutti national assembly | CAFOD](#) Previous assemblies may be viewed from this page. Cafod have produced a variety of resources to help children and young people to plan and lead prayer and liturgy. [Collective worship for primary schools | CAFOD](#)

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 Summer 2021. Each weekly Gospel liturgy contains the Word, a reflection, time for meditative prayer and a hymn. All resources are free to access.

OneLife Music

This Retreat and Music Ministry has a 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. For more information please visit: [Welcome to OneLife Music - Faith Retreats - South Staffordshire](#)

The St Mary's Theology Essay Competition 2021

'The Bible is the supreme authority for Christians.' Discuss

Prizes: First Place Award £250; Honourable mention £20 Book voucher (5)

The competition is open to students in England and Wales who are currently in Year 12. More details at <https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/theology/essay-competition.aspx> The deadline is 8th July 2021.

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Professional Development

Theology & Religious Studies in Higher Education (TRS-UK)

TRS-UK serves, represents, supports, and promotes the academic study of religion and theology in UK higher education institutions. They have produced a great series of videos by T&RS graduates talking about their degrees and the careers they have entered. <https://trs.ac.uk/studying-trs/graduate-videos/>

NATRE Secondary Survey

NATRE is conducting this secondary survey (its eighth) to obtain information about the current state of RE in all types of schools so that it can continue to support the teacher in the classroom by raising awareness of the impact of government policy on RE. The survey can be found at www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/natre-secondary-survey-2021/. Closing date is June 25th.

MA in Education: Religious Education

This programme is designed for anyone who is involved in the teaching of Religious Education (specialist and non-specialists), to support practitioners in all phases of schooling, whatever their location. The course seeks to develop knowledge, understanding and research skills in order to generate insights that transform professional practice in Religious Education. This MA is offered as a two year part-time course, or a full time one year course. Modules are taught at St Mary's monthly on a Saturday (online is available). More information: <https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/postgraduate-courses-london/religious-education>

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.

Summer 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.

[Primary Religious Education Meetings](#)

Multiple dates

£25 – Zoom

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[No Place for Racism and Catholic Social Teaching For Governors](#)

Saturday 19th June 2021

£50 – Zoom

[Youth Mental Health First Aid Certified Training](#)

Monday 28th June 2021 9.30am-3.30pm

Tuesday 29th June 2021 9.30am-3.30pm

£150 – Zoom

[Moderation Sessions](#)

Wednesday 30th June 2021 1.30pm-3pm

Thursday 1st July 2021 1.30pm-3pm

Free – Zoom

[Deputy Headteachers Conference – No Place for Racism](#)

Tuesday 6th July 2021

£100 – Zoom

[Chaplaincy Retreat – Refresh, Rebuild, Renew](#)

Friday 9th July 2021 1.30pm-3.30pm

£10 – St Georges Cathedral or Zoom

[Heads of Secondary Religious Education Meetings](#)

Multiple dates

£20 – Zoom & Teams

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 session, Worldview- Friend or Foe on Wednesday 16th June 2021 from 4-5pm. The registration form along with previous webinars can be found here [Events | ATCRE](#)

Relationships and Sex Education:

Please find a 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.* If you require support or advice in regard to the planning for and delivery of RSE please contact the RE team.