



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.

Lord, Creator of all living things, Help guide our daily actions and thoughts to become better stewards of the earth. Guide us to act responsibly, care for the earth you gave us, and make wise choices in our everyday living. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Toronto District Catholic School Board

Commission News

RCAOS Primary School Resources Audit

Thank you to the 108 schools who have completed the following survey concerning the commercially available resources which are being used in your school. We have heard that some schools have had difficulty in uploading the information and that it has not been accepted by the system. Sharon Docherty will be contacting schools for whom we do not have the full information.

Adviser Visits Spring 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. 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.

The Diocese of Brentwood has created a resources page for the year. There are many ideas for weaving St Joseph into both RE lessons and the liturgical life of the school. They have included links to the Mission Together pages.

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

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The Diocese of Charlotte (USA) has a website for the year. One of the pages is dedicated to works of art depicting St Joseph. Each piece comes with an explanation.

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

The God Who Speaks

The April focus is on Easter Glory: godwhospeaks.uk/easter-glory 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.

April 2021

*Pope Francis' prayer request for April is for Fundamental Rights: **We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.***

The month of April is dedicated to the Holy Spirit. The first 3 days fall in Lent and the liturgical colour remains purple. The remainder of the month of April falls in the Easter season which is represented by the liturgical colour of white.

Notable Saints Days

2nd St Francis of Paola
4th St Isidore
5th St Vincent Ferrer
7th St John Baptist de la Salle
13th St Martin I, Pope
16th St Bernadette
20th St Beuno, Abbot (Wales)
21st St Anselm, Doctor of the Church
24th St Fidelis of Sigmaringen & St Adalbert, Bishop
25th St Mark
26th Our Lady of Good Counsel
28th St Perter Chanel & St Louis Marie Grignionde Montfort
29th St Catherine of Siena, Doctor of the Church
30th April St Pius V, Pope

Notable February (F)easts & (S)olemnities

1st Maundy Thursday (F)
2nd Good Friday
3rd Holy Saturday/ Easter Vigil
4th Easter Sunday (F)
23rd St George, Patron of England

Looking ahead to May

*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 Aspaph, 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

Notable February (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

Migrants Mass

Saturday 1 May, the Feast of St Joseph the Worker is a Day of Prayer for Human Work. The London dioceses, Brentwood, Southwark and Westminster, take it in turns to host an annual Mass for Migrant Workers organised in association with the capital's ethnic chaplaincies and London Citizens. It is Southwark's turn to do this in 2021. To conform with Covid restrictions this will be livestreamed from the Parish of St William of York in Forest Hill, starting at 11.30am, with Bishop Patrick McAleenan as the principal celebrant. You can join the livestreamed Mass at www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live

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>

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Catholic Life



CAFOD

Cafod has produced new primary and secondary assemblies, in honour of Earth Day and linked to Laudato Si, which went live on Thursday 22nd April. They can be accessed here:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources>

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](#)

Eduqas GCSE Religious Studies Route B

Oxford is pleased to announce that their new course for Eduqas GCSE Religious Studies Route B: Catholic Christianity with Judaism will be publishing in April 2021. For more information about the course or to order a free inspection copy: www.oxfordsecondary.com/eduqasgcscers

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>

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.

[Looking after Diocesan Buildings: What Schools need to Know](#)

6th May 2021 11am-1.30pm

£25 – Zoom

[Resourcing and Teaching World Faiths in the Catholic Primary School](#)

18th May 2021 1pm-4pm

£35 – Zoom

[Primary Religious Education Meetings](#)

Multiple dates

£25 – Zoom

Save the date!

Deputy Headteachers Conference – 6th July 2021

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, Beyond Charity with James Trewby, is on 27th April. The registration form along with previous webinars can be found here <https://www.atcre.co.uk/cpd-monthly-zoom-2020>

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Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis (AEC) and the Southwark Archdiocese Catholic Charismatic Team, Life in the Spirit Course

The Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis and the Southwark Archdiocese Catholic Charismatic Team are delighted to offer a wonderful opportunity for personal and diocesan renewal. Participants will be invited to grow in their love of the Lord, welcome the Spirit into their lives afresh and pray for the renewal of our diocese. To find out more about the speakers and the seminar themes, please visit: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/latest/life-in-the-spirit-seminar>

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