



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.

*Jesus, you know what it's like
to feel abandoned
lost and afraid.*

Walk with us

*And show us how to walk with others,
who live in fear,
who face death
through hunger or war.*

*Show us how to pray
for those we do not know
and will not meet,
but who are always loved by you.*

Walk with us Jesus, Amen.

Linda Jones/CAFOD

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. 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/>

Adviser Visits Spring Term 2021

It is hoped that in person visits will be able to resume after the Easter Break. In the meantime, 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/>

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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.

Lenten Resources 2021

This excellent resource has been created by Susan Elderfield, Chaplaincy Adviser for Schools and Colleges in Southwark. <https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Primary-School-Lent-Resource-Pack-2021.pdf>

The Archdiocese of Southwark Agency for Evangelization and Catechesis have a page dedicated to Lenten reflection and resources which can be used with staff and older pupils. **The most recent resource is Visio Divina version of the Stations of the Cross.** <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/lent>

Lent Across the Dioceses

Thank you to the team at 'The God Who Speaks' for creating a great page to help you find out what's happening across our dioceses. More information [here](#).

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.

Westminster Diocese has created a resource for the Year of St Joseph: <https://education.rcdow.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/St-Joseph-final.pdf>

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 \(rcaoseducation.org.uk\)](https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk)

March 2021

*Pope Francis' prayer request for March: Sacrament of Reconciliation: **Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.***

The month of March is dedicated to the St Joseph and the Season of Lent. The liturgical colour for the entire month is purple.



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

Catholic Life

The [Lenten Resource 2021](#) contains charity and Catholic Life links for the coming month.

The [Mark 10 Mission](https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/) <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 Lent 2021. All resources are free to access.

RE Teachers Survey

A research project 'Promoting the Exploration of Religion and Worldviews (RW) in Schools – Fostering Coherency & Diversity' is seeking the views of RE teachers. They would like RE teachers to complete a short survey on about views on the Commission on RE 2018 report, *Religion and Worldviews: The Way Forward. A National Plan for RE*. The survey can be found at [RE Teachers Survey \(onlinesurveys.ac.uk\)](https://onlinesurveys.ac.uk). Closing date is April 18th.

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/>

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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 visit:

www.oxfordsecondary.com/eduqasgcscsers

Annual St Mary's University Essay Competition

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>

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.

[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

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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>

Bible Timeline Course

The Southwark Agency for Evangelization and Catechesis is offering a free 8 week online course on the timeline of the Bible. The series of talks, based on the celebrated Catholic Bible Study materials produced by Jeff Cavins, have been very well-received and we invite you to join them for a new live-streamed, 8-session series starting on Wednesday 7th April 2021 at 7pm.

<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/latest/bible-timeline-course-april-may-2021>

Tablet Webinar Series

Imagine facing torture and death for just five words – “I believe in Jesus Christ”

Thursday 15th April 2021 6:00 - 7:00pm

Join a distinguished panel to discuss the plight of persecuted Christians around the world and what we can do to give them hope in the 21st Century. For further information and details, visit the website: <https://www.thetablet.co.uk/events>

The Culham St Gabriel’s Leadership Programme

Finding your voice as a leader of Religion and Worldviews 2021-22. Following a successful pilot programme in 2020-21 we are now inviting applicants to be part of a new Cohort of Leaders for Change in 2021-22. Applications are now open. The deadline for 2021-22 cohort is noon on 31st March 2021. Further details at [Leadership Programme - RE: Online](#)

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.***