



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.

*O God,
who gave one origin to all peoples
and willed to gather from them one family for yourself,
fill all hearts, we pray, with the fire of your love
and kindle in them a desire
for the just advancement of their neighbour,
that, through the good things which you richly bestow upon all,
each human person may be brought to perfection,
every division may be removed,
and equity and justice may be established in human society.*

Amen

(Adapted from the Roman Missal)

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.

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. 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/>

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 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.

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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

Laudato Si Week 16th – 24th

This week is dedicated to celebrating the encyclical written by Pope Francis, which is all about how we need to care for our common home. Here are some links to support this week:

<https://laudatosi.com/watch> this site contains a brief video of Bishop Robert Barron explaining the Catholic teaching behind Laudato Si. At the bottom of the page there are some downloadable graphic posters which can be used in classrooms. There are also links to the full document.

[Laudato Si' for schools | CAFOD](#) a variety of resources for both primary and secondary schools including a short animation, songs, Acts of Collective Worship and teaching activities.

[Top 10 Things You Need to Know about Pope Francis' Laudato Si' - YouTube](#) A video produced by the Jesuits which explain the main points of the encyclical. Suitable for secondary school pupils and staff.

[Be the Change: encouraging schools to be pro-active for the environmental needs of our planet. Dr Clare Campbell](#) – This book contains a wealth of ideas linked to Scripture which supports the messages of Laudato Si. ISBN 9780855977856. It is published by McCrimmons [Be the Change \(mccrimmons.com\)](http://mccrimmons.com)

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.

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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>

Catholic Life

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](#)

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/>

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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.

[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

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

Monday 28th June 2021 9.30am-3.30pm

Tuesday 29th June 2021 9.30am-3.30pm

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£150 – Zoom



Save the date

Deputy Headteachers Conference – Tuesday 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, Jo Boyce: Teach us to Pray on 18th May. The registration form along with previous webinars can be found here <https://www.atcre.co.uk/cpd-monthly-zoom-2020>

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.