

GCSE



WJEC GCSE in  
**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

Scheme of learning Unit 3  
Catholic Christianity Practices



Lesson	Area of Study	Specific Content	Concepts	Resources and possible learning activities								
1-2	Practices	Practices: the Church's year as the unfolding of the Mystery of Christ (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1163-1165); solemnities that are holy days of obligation: Corpus Christi, St Peter and St Paul, the Assumption, All Saints.	Liturgical Year;	<p>Relevant passage from Catechism of the Catholic Church can be found here: <a href="http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p2s1c2a1.htm">http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p2s1c2a1.htm</a> The whole of this chapter is relevant for this area of study.</p> <p>Useful to discuss types of calendar – why they are important and what they are used for. Liturgical year = the Church's calendar.</p> <p>Important to establish different types of worship: individual, informal and liturgical. Experiences of different types can be discussed. Liturgical worship – formal, set, traditional and structured.</p> <p>N.B. Important to stress that Easter is the most important part of the Liturgical Year as in Catechism of the Catholic Church 1168: <i>'Beginning with the Easter Triduum as its source of light, the new age of the Resurrection fills the whole liturgical year with its brilliance.'</i></p> <p>Useful to note that after Easter Sunday, each Sunday is the most important day for Liturgical Worship but that during the Liturgical Year, there are some important celebrations called solemnities which are treated like a Sunday. Useful to note the key biblical passages for each of these:</p> <table><tr><td>Corpus Christi</td><td>John 6:51-58</td></tr><tr><td>St Peter and St Paul</td><td>Re. St Paul 2 Timothy 4:6-8</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Re St Peter Matthew 16:13-19</td></tr><tr><td>The Assumption</td><td>Luke 1:39-56 (and see Scheme of Learning re the Veneration of Mary</td></tr></table>	Corpus Christi	John 6:51-58	St Peter and St Paul	Re. St Paul 2 Timothy 4:6-8		Re St Peter Matthew 16:13-19	The Assumption	Luke 1:39-56 (and see Scheme of Learning re the Veneration of Mary
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3	Practices	Practices: Advent: preparation for celebrating the Incarnation; Christmas: religious observance in Catholic communities; Epiphany: the revelation of God incarnate.	Advent; Epiphany	<p>Overview of Liturgical year here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u3k3VYkYQSI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u3k3VYkYQSI</a> which can be referred to throughout this area of study.</p> <p>Understanding of 'Incarnation' as in the Nicene Creed when Jesus '<i>by the power of the Holy Spirit was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man</i>'.</p> <p>Group activities to research and put together ideas regarding Advent, Christmas, Epiphany. Advent: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ksHKrlaO1pl">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ksHKrlaO1pl</a> Christmas: from a Catholic perspective here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eUW-A2qZzWY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eUW-A2qZzWY</a> Epiphany: worth noting the three-fold aspect of this Feast Day of the Revelation of God Incarnate: the visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12) the baptism of Jesus (Mark 1:9-11) the miracle at Cana (John 2:1-11). Catholic focus on the visit of the Magi here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QHzuYa_gopU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QHzuYa_gopU</a></p>
4	Practices	Practices: Lent, including Ash Wednesday. Lenten observances.	Lent;	<p>Good overview of Ash Wednesday here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPTcMWpHfKk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPTcMWpHfKk</a></p> <p>Useful to study biblical passages read on Ash Wednesday: Joel 2:12-18 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18</p> <p>Ash Wednesday's call for all Catholics to repent: Pope Benedict receiving ashes here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BaHp9fIIY0A">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BaHp9fIIY0A</a></p> <p>Discussion on importance of the Lenten observances: 1. Prayer 2. Fasting 3. Almsgiving</p> <p>Accessible clip here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akkQCnZAwWI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akkQCnZAwWI</a></p>

5	Practices	Practices: Holy Week, including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday (Stations of the Cross)	Stations of the Cross	<p>Overview of Holy Week can be found here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HugMM_3FfnI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HugMM_3FfnI</a></p> <p>Good set of material written + video clips for Holy Week from Catholic online can be accessed here: <a href="http://www.catholic.org/lent/holyweek.php">http://www.catholic.org/lent/holyweek.php</a></p> <p>Useful to read key biblical passages for each day:</p> <table><tr><td>Maundy Thursday:</td><td>John 13:1-15 (Washing of the feet)</td></tr><tr><td>Account of the Last Supper</td><td>1 Corinthians 11:23-26</td></tr><tr><td>Passion of Jesus Christ</td><td>John 18:1- 19:42</td></tr></table> <p>Accessible clip on Stations of the Cross here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F0Y0WeNMIGM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F0Y0WeNMIGM</a></p> <p>Group work: a lot of images can be found, cut and pasted relating to Holy Week.</p>	Maundy Thursday:	John 13:1-15 (Washing of the feet)	Account of the Last Supper	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	Passion of Jesus Christ	John 18:1- 19:42
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6	Practices	Practices: Easter: The Promise of eternal life through resurrection; religious observances in Catholic communities; Ascension; significance and observance; Pentecost; significance and observance.		<p>Reminder that it is important to stress that Easter is the most important part of the Liturgical Year as in Catechism of the Catholic Church 1168: <i>'Beginning with the Easter Triduum as its source of light, the new age of the Resurrection fills the whole liturgical year with its brilliance.'</i></p> <p>Worth treating Easter, Ascension and Pentecost together as linking resurrection of Jesus through to his physical departure at the Ascension and the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost to strengthen the disciples in carrying out his mission.</p> <p>Accessible clip of Easter Sunday here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kHAVRQFzCtQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kHAVRQFzCtQ</a></p> <p>Resurrection and Ascension in a modern film version here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cF2IK-MAicY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cF2IK-MAicY</a></p> <p>Pentecost can be found here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7TyCwUrR_OM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7TyCwUrR_OM</a></p> <p>Useful to read key biblical passages for each day:</p> <table><tr><td>Easter Sunday:</td><td>John 20:1-9</td></tr><tr><td>Ascension</td><td>Acts 1:1-11</td></tr><tr><td>Pentecost</td><td>Acts 2:1-11</td></tr></table>	Easter Sunday:	John 20:1-9	Ascension	Acts 1:1-11	Pentecost	Acts 2:1-11
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7	Practices	<p>Practices: Special Places: Significance of a place of worship (Hebrews 10:24-25; Matthew 18:20); key features of a Catholic church: altar, font, lectern, Lady Chapel, confessionals, statues and votive candles.</p>	<p>Stations of the Cross; Confessionals</p>	<p>Worth noting Catechism of Catholic Church: <b>1198</b> <i>In its earthly state the Church needs places where the community can gather together. Our visible churches, holy places, are images of the holy city, the heavenly Jerusalem, toward which we are making our way on pilgrimage.</i></p> <p>Key point in Hebrews 10:24-25 about assembling together so that each person may be 'encouraging one another' in 'love and good deed'.</p> <p>Key point in Matthew 18:20 about Jesus being in the midst 'where two or three have gathered' in his name encourages Liturgical Worship not just individual worship.</p> <p>Visit to Catholic church/school chapel useful here. Simple diagram with most features can be found here: <a href="http://www.waupun.k12.wi.us/Policy/other/dickhut/religions/27%20Catholic%20Church.html">http://www.waupun.k12.wi.us/Policy/other/dickhut/religions/27%20Catholic%20Church.html</a></p> <p>Four short episodes useful here entitled: What's inside a Catholic Church. Episode one: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DUJuepuBMXs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DUJuepuBMXs</a> Episode two: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L88sTFFdm2k">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L88sTFFdm2k</a> Episode three: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yUQG5XUMJ_Q">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yUQG5XUMJ_Q</a> Episode four: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1iJfyglw3k">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1iJfyglw3k</a></p> <p>N.B. Worth noting that in some Catholic churches, confessionals have been renamed 'reconciliation rooms'.</p>
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8	Practices	Practices: Special Places: purpose of pilgrimage in Wales and elsewhere; places, activities, experiences e.g. Holy Land, Lourdes, National Marian Shrine of Wales in Cardigan, Holywell in North Wales.	Pilgrimage	<p>Worth noting Catechism of Catholic Church: <b>1198</b> <i>In its earthly state the Church needs places where the community can gather together. Our visible churches, holy places, are images of the holy city, the heavenly Jerusalem, toward which we are making our way on pilgrimage.</i> i.e. the belief that pilgrimages to special places are a reminder of the Christian pilgrimage through life to be with God in heaven after death.</p> <p>Lourdes/National Marian Shrine of Wales in Cardigan both looked at under topic Veneration of Mary.</p> <p>Useful background about different religious approaches to Pilgrimage here: <a href="http://www.seetheholyland.net/going-on-a-pilgrimage/">http://www.seetheholyland.net/going-on-a-pilgrimage/</a></p> <p>Key part of Holy Land pilgrimage for Catholics would be the Via Dolorosa – links well with Stations of the Cross as key feature of a Catholic Church. Good description here: <a href="http://www.edenhotel.co.il/via-dolorosa-the-extended-version/">http://www.edenhotel.co.il/via-dolorosa-the-extended-version/</a></p> <p>All the information needed re. St Winefride's Well shrine in Holywell can be found here: <a href="http://www.saintwinefrideswell.com/">http://www.saintwinefrideswell.com/</a></p>
9	Practices	Practices: Religious Life; the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience, the challenges and benefits of vows (including silence)	A Religious; Religious Vows	<p>N.B. relevant section in the Catechism of the Catholic Church can be found here – technical term used is the Consecrated Life 914-927: <a href="http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p123a9p4.htm">http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p123a9p4.htm</a></p> <p>Key idea that all are called to '<i>the perfection of charity</i>' but others '<i>freely follow the call to consecrated life</i>'.</p> <p>Clear account of the evangelical counsels here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x0nVICITvhl">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x0nVICITvhl</a></p> <p>Long film but gives a good insight into Carthusian life where vow of silence is also taken can be found here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ww38sDBIxTo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ww38sDBIxTo</a></p> <p>Very detailed background with biblical texts and full explanation can be found here: <a href="http://www.catholicpreaching.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/EvangCounsels.pdf">http://www.catholicpreaching.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/EvangCounsels.pdf</a></p>



10	Practices	Practices: Religious Life; the work of religious orders: contemplative or apostolic; different religious orders. Monastic orders such as: Benedictine, Cistercian, Trappist; Mendicant orders such as Franciscan, Dominican, Carmelites.		<p>Plenty of material for researching religious orders can be found on the internet. Worth clarifying the difference first of all between apostolic and contemplative religious orders – clear summary here: <a href="http://pallottinesisters.org/religiouslife/Apostolic%20vs.%20Contemplative.pdf">http://pallottinesisters.org/religiouslife/Apostolic%20vs.%20Contemplative.pdf</a></p> <p>Good response here to the question of why so many different types of religious orders in the Church: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GljQGwixM6Q">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GljQGwixM6Q</a></p> <p>Very accessible material via Brother Casey – a Franciscan – here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDcdVPVsJRxAVKq4vY0NYeg">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDcdVPVsJRxAVKq4vY0NYeg</a></p>
11	Practices	Practices: the work of Catholic retreats and monastic communities.		<p>Good accessible BBC documentary series on Worth Abbey (Benedictine) in three parts:  Part One <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ch0SY2pHkDg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ch0SY2pHkDg</a>  Part Two <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3ydxA5DdA4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3ydxA5DdA4</a>  Part Three <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jas9TZoFCmo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jas9TZoFCmo</a></p> <p>This includes material on Catholic retreats and monastic communities</p> <p>Catholic retreat at St Beuno's in North Wales is explained well here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-7j9DC4jL5w">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-7j9DC4jL5w</a></p> <p>Grande Chartreuse in France and the drink that is still made there can be found here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OXmjRgELkYs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OXmjRgELkYs</a></p> <p>Old short clip which gives another view of the work of a monastic community in Farnborough Hampshire in England: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zcqUuRf3Ws">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zcqUuRf3Ws</a></p>

12	Practices	Practices: Catholic forms of religious expression: meaning and significance; Ichthus, Alpha and Omega, Chi-Rho, Crucifix.		<p>Plenty of material re. the three symbols – good starting points here:</p> <p>Ichthus: <a href="https://catholicsaints.info/fish/">https://catholicsaints.info/fish/</a></p> <p>Alpha and Omega: <a href="http://www.themichigancatholic.org/2016/05/who-is-the-alpha-and-the-omega/">http://www.themichigancatholic.org/2016/05/who-is-the-alpha-and-the-omega/</a></p> <p>Chi-Rho: <a href="https://aleteia.org/2017/07/28/the-miraculous-story-behind-the-chi-rho-symbol/">https://aleteia.org/2017/07/28/the-miraculous-story-behind-the-chi-rho-symbol/</a></p> <p>Interesting article about the crucifix here: <a href="http://catholicherald.co.uk/commentandblogs/2011/04/21/why-catholics-care-about-the-cross/">http://catholicherald.co.uk/commentandblogs/2011/04/21/why-catholics-care-about-the-cross/</a></p>
13-14	Practices	Practices: Catholic forms of religious expression: meaning and significance; Catholic beliefs depicted through art e.g. Creation of Adam (Sistine Chapel); statuary; the meaning and significance of sculpture and statuary to Catholic tradition and worship e.g. Michelangelo's <i>Pieta</i> .		<p>Good GCSE material can be found here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B0k88LSDly0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B0k88LSDly0</a></p> <p>Important to put Catholic sacred art in context i.e. generally rejected by Calvinist Protestantism and at the Reformation via the destruction of images. Useful background here in the Catechism of the Catholic Church set in the context of the 8<sup>th</sup> commandment and the need for spiritual truth: <a href="http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s2c2a8.htm">http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s2c2a8.htm</a> Relevant section 2500-2503 on Truth, Beauty and Sacred Art.</p> <p>Good TED talk on the Sistine Chapel here: <a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/elizabeth_lev_the_unheard_story_of_the_sistine_chapel">https://www.ted.com/talks/elizabeth_lev_the_unheard_story_of_the_sistine_chapel</a></p> <p>Audio explanation of the Creation of Adam here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-V5vP1rMnq8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-V5vP1rMnq8</a></p> <p>Plenty of material on the <i>Pieta</i> but – although long – this illustrated lecture by Lord Harries gives the full background to the common image of the <i>Pieta</i>: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1lovNPECv_0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1lovNPECv_0</a></p> <p>Useful to link this with Veneration of Mary.</p>



15	Practices	Practices: Catholic forms of religious expression: meaning and significance; Rosary Beads; as reflection on the Incarnation, Trinity and Veneration of Mary.	<p>Relevant section of the Catechism of the Catholic Church here: <a href="http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p123a9p6.htm">http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p123a9p6.htm</a></p> <p>Key point regarding Rosary Beads is in 971 which describes the Rosary as an '<i>epitome of the whole Gospel</i>'.</p> <p>Using Rosary Beads in the classroom would make sense in terms of explaining their meaning and significance.</p> <p>Good pdf guide to the Rosary here: <a href="https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/cis/cis319.pdf">https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/cis/cis319.pdf</a></p> <p>Clear straightforward explanation of how to say the rosary can be found here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-w62N4nc8E">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-w62N4nc8E</a></p> <p>The power of the symbol of the Catholic rosary can be seen here being used in Poland: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iVNJpip3t4w">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iVNJpip3t4w</a></p> <p>Concise explanation given by Pope Francis on the use of Rosary Beads which links in with Veneration of Mary: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hBA21SZmQw8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hBA21SZmQw8</a></p>
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