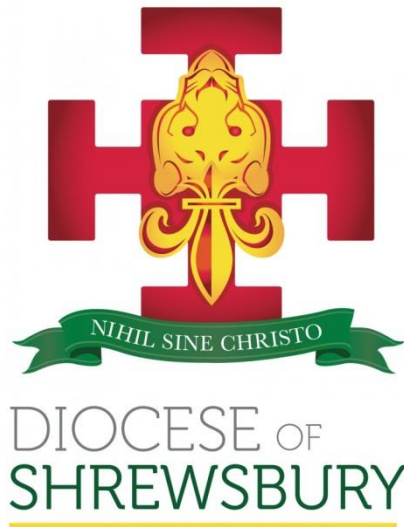


Diocese of Shrewsbury

Department of Education



RE and CATHOLIC LIFE NEWSLETTER

Summer Term 2023 No.2

Dear Colleague

1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome back for the final half term of this academic year. Hopefully the sunshine has allowed you plenty of rest and recuperation over the holiday, setting you up for the busyness of trips, awards evenings, sports days and the like.

June is of course the month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Fr James Martin SJ says that this month is a wonderful opportunity to meditate on the way that Jesus loved by asking ourselves, 'How did Jesus love?' and 'Whom did Jesus love?'. Spending time with these questions can encourage us then to meditate on the question, 'How can I love like Jesus?'.

Blessed Miguel Pro's Sacred Heart of Jesus Prayer:

Heart of Jesus, I give my heart to You; but so enclose it in You that it may never be separated from You.

Heart of Jesus, I am all Yours; but take care of my promise so that I may be able to put it in practice even unto the complete sacrifice of my life.

Amen.



(Sacred Heart of Jesus, Stephen B Whatley)

Having celebrated Trinity Sunday just recently, we are reminded that we are created in love for love and called to join the eternal communion of love that is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Throughout June and to the end of this half term, let us continue to share the Good News of God's love for us, and ask of ourselves and each other daily, 'How can I love like Jesus?'.

2. ENLARGE THE SPACE OF YOUR TENT: SYNOD 2021-2024

As you know, the Church is in the midst of a synodal journey, moving towards a more synodal Church. This Synod began in 2021 and is due to end next year.



In October, bishops will gather in the next phase of this synodal journey for the first of a two-part synod gathering, though for the first time, the Synod of Bishops has been expanded to include members of the laity, giving them the opportunity for full participation including the right to vote. New changes to the Church's primary consultative body allow for the participation of 70 non-bishop members at the upcoming October gathering, ten from each of the seven global regional bishops' conferences, with the request that young people be included and that 50% of those named be women. This is an historic time for the Church so let us continue to keep the Synod in our prayers and pray that we be ever listening to the Holy Spirit who is our guide and our strength.

3. GOD WHO SPEAKS RESOURCES

God Who Speaks have produced some printable posters on **social justice and Scripture** that may be excellent resources for display, but also opportunities to root CST and social justice in the word of God. You can download posters here: [Social Justice and Scripture](#), [Social Justice Quotes](#) and [Social Justice and Scripture Text](#).

The God Who Speaks focus for June is on Scripture & Science with our new series exploring our faith, the Bible and some **big scientific questions** - [The God Who Speaks](#)

Why are Zelophehad's 5 daughters important in the Bible? Our **Chat-echesis** section tells you why - [The God Who Speaks](#)

Spirituality & Scripture Day Events in London and Liverpool hosted by the CBCEW (Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales— click [here](#) for the flyer

Sinners called to Holiness: Prayer for a Pilgrim Church with David McLoughlin.

[Sinners Called to Holiness: Prayer for a Pilgrim Church Tickets, Thu 15 Jun 2023 at 11:00 | Eventbrite](#)

[Sinners Called to Holiness - Prayer for a Pilgrim Church Tickets, Wed 21 Jun 2023 at 11:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Sunday Reflections continue with David Jackson – <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/june-year-a/>

4. DICASTERY FOR COMMUNICATION: *Towards Full Presence - A Pastoral Reflection on Engagement with Social Media*

On the feast of Pentecost this year, the Dicastery for Communication in the Vatican released a pastoral reflection on technology and the growing presence of social media in our world. The opening sentence reads, *Great strides have been made in the digital age, but one of the pressing issues yet to be addressed is how we, as individuals and as an ecclesial community, are to live in the digital world as "loving neighbours" who are genuinely present and attentive to each other on our common journey along the "digital highways"*.

Drawing on the parable of the Good Samaritan and referencing Pope Francis' message for this year's World Communications Day to *listen with the ears of the heart*, this reflection provides an interesting starting point for discussions about how best to equip our children and young people to live life in all its fullness in this digital age and enable others to do the same.

The reflection closes with words from Pope Francis' message for the 48th World Communications Day in 2014: *'May the image of the Good Samaritan, who tended to the wounds of the injured man by pouring oil and wine over them, be our inspiration. Let our communication be a balm that relieves*

pain and a fine wine that gladdens hearts. May the light we bring to others not be the result of cosmetics or special effects, but rather of our being loving and merciful “neighbours” to those wounded and left on the side of the road.’

You can read the full reflection [here](#).

5. CAFOD CPD on CST (Catholic Social Teaching)

CAFOD have launched a new staff led CPD course, **Introduction to Catholic Social Teaching**. It will provide you with all the information and support to deliver a successful informative and interactive session with staff.

You can download resources for Primary and Secondary here: [CPD for Catholic schools \(cafod.org.uk\)](https://www.cafod.org.uk/cpd-for-catholic-schools)

CAFOD are also trialling a new way of sharing their news and **updates** with schools. They have recorded short (under 6 minutes) updates that cover their main resources this term, in particular linking to Catholic Social Teaching and the new school led CPD package.

Primary updates: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wSZrwi51raU>

Secondary updates: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BF1PBEvXM0Y>

6. LAUDATO SI CHAMPIONS PROJECT - ST MARY'S, TWICKENHAM

The **Laudato Si' Champions Project** is the workstream of the Guardians of Creation Project that focuses on integral ecology in Catholic schools, funded by the Assumption Legacy Fund.

The project offers guidance and resources in three main areas:

- teaching and learning for integral ecology in schools
- young people's experience of the ecological crisis
- policy-making for sustainability in Catholic schools.

The Laudato Si' Champions Project has produced resources addressing each area, ranging from a **ready-made six-lesson teaching toolkit** for educators looking to lead lessons on Laudato Si' and integral ecology to **long-form empirical reports** for people looking to develop a deep understanding of how environmental issues are interacting with Catholic schools, and the teaching and learning therein.

Click here to find out more and download the resources [Laudato Si' Champions \(stmarys.ac.uk\)](https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/laudato-si-champions)

7. ATCRE (Association of Teachers of Catholic RE) CPD

ATCRE have some online CPD opportunities for teachers of Catholic RE over the next few weeks and months that may be of interest:

CPD – 4.30pm -5.30pm Monday 12th June 2023 on Zoom

How Sycamore can help your staff, your pupils, and the wider school community?

In this session, Fr Stephen will give an overview of the Sycamore resources and explain how this can be a resource for the RE classroom. At the heart of the resource are short films that are the springboard for discussion and development. These can be used for teacher training (induction), to support GCSE, A level and can also be used as a structure for CORE RE. They can also be used in a chaplaincy setting for discussion group and faith formation (e.g., a lunchtime faith formation group in Lent)

More details at [Events | ATCRE](#)

CPD – 4.30pm -5.30pm Tuesday 4th July 2023 on Zoom

Find out about the RE Quality Mark

Do you and your school want to celebrate great RE? This session will explore the new version of the REQM award (published 2020). After a short presentation, Linda will lead a discussion on how the award might fit the contexts of schools represented at the meeting. REQM assessors operate in a highly experienced team from a range of professional backgrounds, and evidence from their feedback, and school evidence, will form part of the presentation.

More details at [Events | ATCRE](#)

ATCRE RE Teach Meet - 4pm - 5.30pm - Wednesday 27th September.

ATCRE have 10 slots for the Teach Meet in September and would like a mixture of primary and secondary teachers giving input.

If you are interested, please email: chair.atcre@gmail.com- with your name, school, phase, and a brief outline of the topic/resource you want to share.

PRIMARY

8. ONELIFE MUSIC

ONELIFE Music are very keen to share their online OPEN Series and the Livestreams. Both of these have proved to be a real blessing for schools. Their OPEN for the next academic year currently has an Early Bird Bundle Savings Offer:

OPEN is a short time of prayer for the classroom, with a series for Creation, Advent, Lent and Mary. In each series you will find pre-recorded daily prayer time for primary school, with music, scripture and prayer led for you by. Find out more [Bundle Saving Offer](#)

Further information about their *full* offer can be found [here](#)

9. PRIMARY PILOT

Schools signed up to pilot The Vine and the Branches with Y1 and Y3 next year met for their initial meeting on 26th May. For dates of future meetings this term, see below:

Meeting 2 Monday 3rd July 9.30am-3.30pm Venue: Holy Angels, Hale Barns

- Review V & B resources
- Plan lesson sequence for Autumn term
- Begin to create resources to support the delivery of V & B

Meeting 3 Thursday 13th July 3.30-5.00pm Venue: Virtual

- Share planning preparation so far for September.
- Identify meeting points for 2023-2024
- Identify opportunities for QA and evaluation of teaching, delivery, and resources.

10. JEWISH MUSEUM CPD: Primary

Teaching Judaism in Primary Schools

Primary Teachers: Wednesday 12 July 10am-3pm

Tickets: £25

Join us for our Teachers' Seminar to:

Learn how the Torah is made and why it is considered important.
Explore how to teach about festivals in a multi-sensory way that suits all abilities.
Discover the diversity of the Jewish community and practices within.
Meet other teachers, share best practice and brainstorm how best to answer tricky questions.

Book here: <https://jewishmuseum.org.uk/event/teaching-judaism-in-primary-schools/>

SECONDARY

11. KS3 TEXT BOOKS

Text books to support delivery of the RED model curriculum are now published, or in the printing stage ready for publishing, having received the CES seal of approval and the imprimatur. Click on the links below to find out more, including content for the first few chapters of the book and digital resources:

OUP: <https://global.oup.com/education/content/secondary/series/source-to-summit/?region=uk>

HODDER: <https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/spirit-and-life>

12. CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: FACULTY OF DIVINITY

The Faculty of Divinity at Cambridge University have several events for students this term and resources for teachers to access:

Events for students

[Theology & Literature Study Evening : Holy Women and Heretics](#) – 27th June 2023

An online study evening for GCSE and A level students with an interest in literature, gender, politics, theology, religion or philosophy of religion

[Islam Enrichment Day](#) – 5th July 2023

An in-person study day that includes a visit to Cambridge's Central Mosque (Europe's first eco-mosque) with Dr Tim Winter. Places are limited, so book soon.

[University-wide Open Days](#) – 6th & 7th July

Aimed at pupils in Year 11 and 12 considering studying at Cambridge University. Come and find out what we have to offer.

Resources for teachers

[Cambridge in your classroom](#) - Enrich your teaching with these classroom-ready videos and resources. Aimed at students aged 14-18

[50 Religious Treasures of Cambridge](#) - Encourage pupils to explore the world of art, history, science and literature through Religion.

[MASSOLIT lectures](#) - Support your GCSE and A Level students, with detailed lectures series by Faculty of Divinity academic on topics as Christian Moral Action, Theology and more. Please note some content requires a subscription.

13. MAGISTER RESOURCES

Magister Resources is a new website offering RE teachers resources and lesson plans that tie in specifically with the RED model curriculum. Many of the resources come at a cost, though there are some free resources available for download including schemes of work for Y7 Branch 1 and 2.

You can find out more here: <https://magisterresources.com/free-downloads>

14. JEWISH MUSEUM CPD: Secondary

Teaching Judaism for GCSE and A Level

Secondary Teachers: Thursday 13 July 10am-3pm

Tickets: £25

Join us for our Teachers' Seminar to:

Learn why the Torah is considered important and how it is interpreted and used within daily life.

Explore what it means to be Jewish across faith, culture and ethnicity.

Discover the diversity of the Jewish community and practices within..

Understand the concepts of Pikuach Nefesh and the afterlife within Judaism.

Discuss how to challenge stereotypes in your classroom.

Meet other teachers, share best practice and brainstorm how best to answer tricky questions.

Book here: <https://jewishmuseum.org.uk/event/teaching-judaism-for-gcse-and-a-level/>

RSE

15. TEN TEN: LIFE TO THE FULL

Ten Ten have released brochures online publicising their offer for next year's RSHE and RHE provision.

You can view the brochures here: [Secondary brochure](#) [Primary brochure](#)

In addition, Ten Ten launch *Life to the Full Plus* for Primary schools with full access to resources offered from August 2023. *Life to the Full Plus* is an add-on subscription to Life to the Full, which will fully integrate the PSHE / Health and Wellbeing curriculum within your existing Relationships and Health Education programme.

Content will cover areas such as Transitions to new class/school, Money and Careers, Diversity, Online Safety and more.

You can access a short video about this content here: [What is Ittf plus](#)

CPDF

16. CPDF for Summer 2

There are a number of sessions this half term bookable through the Diocesan website by following the link: [Book-a-cpdf-course](#)

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| 12 th June | Secondary DADAH Catholic Life & Mission, Day 3 – Ellesmere Port Catholic High School |
| 13 th June | Primary Curriculum Working Party - St John Henry Newman Parish Centre |
| 14 th June | COAST Hub 2 Cheshire – Ellesmere Port Catholic High School |
| 14 th June | Primary ECTs Year 2– Catholic Social Teaching - <i>virtual</i> |
| 19 th June | COAST Hub 1 Tameside and South Manchester - St Paul's Catholic High School |
| 20 th June | COAST Hub 3 Wirral and Warrington - Cardinal Newman Catholic High School |
| 27 th June | Secondary RSE Leads - St Ambrose College |

- 28th June RE Co-ordinator Meeting: For RE Coordinators and Headteachers – St Columba's Parish Hall
- 5th July SHORE – All Saints Catholic College

In addition, a gentle reminder of our forthcoming celebrations of Holy Mass:

30th June

Mass of Thanksgiving, and Mini-DASH with our secondary schools at Holy Angels RC Church, Hale Barns

(More information to be sent to schools in due course)

12th July at 4.30pm

Mass of Thanksgiving for this academic year at Holy Angels RC Church, Hale Barns.

Bishop Mark will be presiding, and **all are welcome.**

And finally...

As we prepare to celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi this Sunday (11th June), I leave you with this prayer inspired by Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16 from *Prayers for Schools* by Raymond Friel:

Lord our God.
 You led the people of Israel
 Into the wilderness for forty years
 To test them
 And help them to get to know
 Their inmost heart.
 Help us to remember that when we feel
 That we are in our own 'wilderness' –
 Not sure what's going on,
 Where we're going
 Or who we are.

In the wilderness
 You fed the people of Israel
 With manna from heaven.
 In John's Gospel
 Jesus told the crowd
 That he was the living bread come down from heaven –
 Food for the soul, for eternal life.
 May we never lose heart
 In our wilderness moments
 But remember
 That you will nourish us
 And keep us safe on our journey

God bless, Julia

