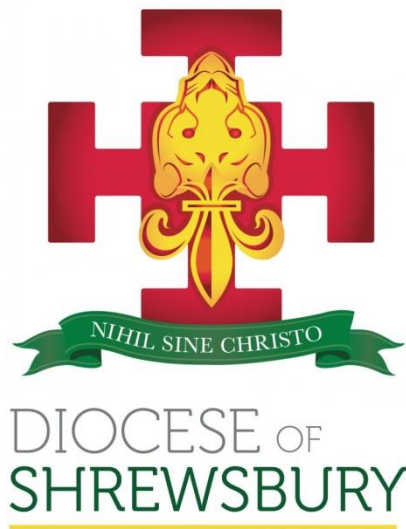


Diocese of Shrewsbury

Department of Education



RE and CATHOLIC LIFE

NEWSLETTER

Spring Term 2024 No.1

Dear Colleague

1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome back after the Christmas holidays - hopefully you are rested and rejuvenated for the new year ahead.

Of course, though we begin a new year according to the Gregorian calendar, we began our new liturgical year at the start of Advent on 3rd December. This new liturgical year (2023-24) is an opportunity to prepare for the Year of Jubilee that will begin at the start of Advent this year on 1st December 2024. It has the theme, Pilgrims of Hope.



Pope Francis has called us to prepare for this important Year of Jubilee with a Year of Prayer. He said, *'I would greatly desire that we devote 2024, the year preceding the Jubilee event, to a great "symphony" of prayer. Prayer, above all else, to renew our desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and to adore him.'* In a year dedicated to prayer, Pope Francis calls us to contemplate afresh on the Our Father, the words Jesus himself gave us when he was asked by his apostles how to pray. The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW) has resources already on their website: the Our Father in different languages, the Pilgrims of Prayer booklet, Pray as you Go and a five week Lenten course.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/previous-events/the-year-of-jubilee-2025/the-year-of-prayer/>

CAFOD have a dedicated page for this year of prayer <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/year-of-prayer> and MISSIO have a wealth of prayer resources including a poster of the Our Father [Prayer Resources – Mission Together](#)

Further resources on the Our Father can be found here:

[Catholic Kids Media - The Our Father \(explained for young children\)](#)

[A beautiful exploration, line by line, of the Our Father from The Jesuit Post](#)

[About the Lord's Prayer from Loyola Press](#)

It would be lovely to hear how your school is celebrating the Year of Prayer so do please share your 'Good News' with Maggie Malgorzata.Kowalska@dioceseofshrewsbury.org so it can be uploaded to our website, and don't forget to tag us on X (formerly known as Twitter) @EducationShrew.

2. PILGRIMS OF HOPE – THE YEAR OF JUBILEE

The CBCEW (Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales) states, "In 2025, the Church is celebrating a year of jubilee, something which happens every 25 years. The theme is "Pilgrims of Hope", and it will be a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and a climate crisis..."

The CBCEW website already hosts resources to celebrate the Jubilee and the year of prayer that precedes it. You can find the resources here [The Year of Jubilee 2025 - Catholic Bishops' Conference \(cbcew.org.uk\)](#) which include a clip entitled 'Towards the Jubilee 2025' that could be shared with staff and pupils.

In addition, the Vatican has launched a website specifically for the Jubilee Year <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/it.html> containing a wealth of information including the official Jubilee 2025 hymn and prayer.

Following the extraordinary 2015 Holy Year of Mercy instigated by Pope Francis, the forthcoming Jubilee will take place in line with the norm of leaving a 25-year gap between each one. The most recent ordinary jubilee took place in the year 2000, as the world and the Catholic Church prepared to enter the new millennium.

The Jubilee Year is a special year of grace, in which the Church offers the faithful the possibility of obtaining a [plenary indulgence](#). Traditionally, it begins just before Christmas and ends on the Epiphany of the following year.

The Pope inaugurates the Holy Year with the rite of the opening of the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica. After that, the Holy Doors of the other papal basilicas – St John Lateran, St Paul Outside the Walls, and St Mary Major – are opened and remain so until the end of the Jubilee Year.

To find out more about the origin and tradition of the Year of Jubilee, click [here](#) to access the Vatican website, which contains some interesting information, including:

In the Roman Catholic tradition, a Holy Year, or Jubilee is a great religious event. It is a year of forgiveness of sins and also the punishment due to sin, it is a year of reconciliation between adversaries, of conversion and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and consequently of solidarity, hope, justice, commitment to serve God with joy and in peace with our brothers and sisters. A Jubilee year is above all the year of Christ, who brings life and grace to humanity.

The Vatican website goes on to say, *The origin of the Christian Jubilee goes back to Bible times. The Law of Moses prescribed a special year for the Jewish people: "You shall hallow the fiftieth year and proclaim the liberty throughout the land, to all its inhabitants; it shall be a jubilee for you when each of you shall return to his property and each of you shall return to his family. This fiftieth year is to be a jubilee year for you: you will not sow, you will not harvest the un-gathered corn, you will not gather the untrimmed vine. The jubilee is to be a holy thing to you, you will eat what comes from the fields."*(The Book of Leviticus 25, 10-14) *The trumpet with which this particular year was announced was a goat's horn called Yobel in Hebrew, and the origin of the word jubilee. The celebration of this year also included the restitution of land to the original owners, the remission of debts, the liberation of slaves and the land was left fallow. In the New Testament, Jesus presents himself as the One who brings the old Jubilee to completion, because he has come to "preach the year of the Lord's favour" (Isaiah 61: 1-2).*

3. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTORY (RED) – Primary compliance date

At the Bishops' Plenary meeting in November, it was agreed that for primary schools the date for compliance would be pushed back a year to 2026-27. This offers schools a further year to strengthen their provision of religious education using the new scheme The Vine and the Branches. Further information will be shared at the **Briefing for Primary RE Coordinators on Wednesday 7th Feb 3.30-4.45pm.**

Please sign up to the briefing using this [link](#)

4. EXPLORING THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTORY (RED) – A DAY FOR GOVERNORS, HEADTEACHERS AND CLERGY

At the Governor Conference in November governors who attended the session on the RED (Religious Education Directory) noted the limited time available to explore such a significant curriculum document and requested the opportunity to revisit this in depth at a later stage.

In response to this request, we have organised a day for governors, and any headteachers who would like to know more about the RED and its impact on Catholic education. The day, *Exploring the Religious Education Directory*, will be held on **Friday 1st March: 9.30-3.30 at The Park Royal.** To book on this day click [here](#)

5. CSI (CATHOLIC SCHOOLS INSPECTORATE)

A reminder that support sessions on the new national framework for inspections are offered to all schools, particularly those in the inspection window. These are held at Our Lady, Star of the Sea

Parish Centre, Ellesmere Port on Friday January 26th, and Friday 26th April at 9.30am. Please book onto these sessions via the website [here](#). School leaders, including RE leads, chaplains and governors are welcome to attend.

The Inspection Handbook and CSED (Catholic Self-evaluation Document) template can be found on the [website](#). Also available are the parental and staff questionnaires. Feedback from pupils on the three areas of inspection can be given using the school's own pupil voice processes and procedures.

Please note, use of the CSED template is not mandatory, however self-evaluation is. The framework expects leaders *and governors* to undertake regular (annual) monitoring and evaluation of Catholic life and mission, religious education, and prayer and liturgy.

Compliance is a limiting judgement in the new CSI framework. To check you are compliant with the expectations of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, and with the directives of Bishop Mark, please click on this [link](#).

6. GOD WHO SPEAKS, BIBLE SOCIETY

Fleur Dorrell, Catholic Scripture Engagement Manager for the Catholic Bishops' Conference & Bible Society offers more posters for schools and for families. This new series of posters focuses on scripture and citizenship through the themes, *Created, Related, Seekers* and *Keepers*.

You can download the posters here [Created](#), [Related](#), [Seekers](#), [Keepers](#) and print them out for use in your own setting.

Fleur also reminds us that this year we celebrate **Sunday of the Word of God** on **21st January**. The Vatican's theme this year is from John 8:31 – '*Remain in my Word*'.

7. CAFOD PRAYER RESOURCE

In view of the ongoing conflict in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory, CAFOD are highlighting their relevant updated resources to share with schools.

These presentations for Key Stage 2 and for young people in Secondary schools give an age-appropriate overview of the current situation and of how CAFOD is supporting local partners in the region at this time. It includes a moment of prayer so that we can stand in solidarity as a Catholic community.

<https://cafod.org.uk/education/education-resources/emergency-resources-schools/israeli-palestinian-crisis-school-resources>

8. CAFOD BIG LENT WALK

CAFOD say, '*We are incredibly excited about this year's challenge, and would love for you to join us as we walk, run, roll or stroll 200km in the 40 days of Lent.*

Whether you take part as an individual, school or parish community group, you are very welcome and the money you raise will enable people around the world to fight poverty.'

There will be more information on the 2024 challenge in the coming months.

[The Big Lent Walk \(cafod.org.uk\)](#)

9. ATCRE TEACH MEET, CONFERENCE & SURVEY

ATCRE, the Association of teachers of Catholic RE, are holding an online Teach Meet on **16th January at 4.00pm** hosting a number of speakers including:

Jennifer Knight Using Padlet to empower progress
Julie Toner Embedding Catholic Social Teaching in primary schools
Alex Savage Free weekly theme resources for form time prayer and assemblies
You can access the Teachmeet [here](#)

ATCRE's next annual conference is scheduled for Saturday 2nd March at Maria Fidelis Catholic School close to Euston Station. The theme of the conference is *Rethinking Catholic Social Teaching*, which this year hosts keynote speakers, Susan Elderfield and Raymond Friel, and a range of workshops to suit primary and secondary practitioners.

These conferences are always excellent CPDF opportunities for all teachers of Catholic RE.

To book for the national conference, click [here](#)

In addition, ATCRE are conducting a survey to explore recruitment and retention in Catholic schools. They say, '*Please complete the survey to help us gather information recruitment and retention of RE teachers in Catholic schools.*' You can access the survey by clicking [here](#).

10. DURHAM UNIVERSITY DISTANCE LEARNING AND BURSARIES

Durham University offers various learning opportunities to support RE and the Catholic life of the school. The Centre for Catholic Studies at the University of Durham offers a range of degrees and there are bursaries people can apply for to support further study. To find out more information click [here](#) and [here](#)

11. FARMINGTON SCHOLARSHIPS

Farmington scholarships for headteachers and teachers of Religious Education and associated subjects are open to all headteachers, secondary and primary school teachers, and teachers of RE to children with Special Educational Needs.

Perhaps you wish to apply for a scholarship as a group to support a specific area of the new RE curriculum? Or perhaps there is a school wide opportunity to explore Gospel values in the curriculum, for example. Joy White, personal tutor for the Northwest is happy to give advice on such applications and talk about the organisational details. Do get in touch with me early in the new year if you want some more information.

The closing date for applications for the academic year 2024 – 2025 is **Sunday 28th January 2024**. <https://farmington.ac.uk/re-teachers/>

12. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

In just three weeks communities across the country will come together to mark Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD), on **27 January**. If you have planned your activity for HMD please let The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust know your plans by adding them to their [activity map](#).

If you are still to plan your HMD activity, then there is still time as HMD activities can take place up until the end of February.

In 2024, it will be the 30th anniversary of the genocide in [Rwanda](#) which occurred in 1994. During this genocide, approximately 1 million Tutsis and moderate Hutus were murdered. On HMD we remember those individuals and those who survived, such as [Antoinette Mutabazi](#), who spent 90 days hiding from the killers who murdered many of her relatives during the genocide.

'Some emotions are simply beyond the reach of words, and the day I realised that the killing was finally over brought conflicting feelings of relief and deep sadness ... As a genocide survivor, I

feel compelled to share what happened, no matter how painful or traumatic.’ ~ Antoinette Mutabazi

The Holocaust Memorial Trust is here to help and support you with resources, ideas, and guidance for your HMD activity:

- Free to use resources including films, educational materials, social media assets and more can be [found on our website](#).
- See [updated guidance](#) for how to mark HMD in 2024.
- Our national moment, Light the Darkness, is at **8pm** on **27 January** and can be joined in [person](#) and [digitally](#).

To order booklets, badges or candles for this [link](#) and for more information on how to support our work, please click [here](#).

If you have any questions or if you would like more information, please email education@hmd.org.uk.

PRIMARY

13. DR MARGARET CARSWELL: UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE COURSE

Following on from the success of the RE Conference led by Dr Margaret Carswell for RE leads and headteachers in November, we are fortunate to have a second opportunity to welcome her to the diocese to share her wisdom in understanding scripture and how to teach scripture to children.

This is an excellent opportunity for RE leads who were unable to attend in November to hear the message first hand, but it is also a day open to *all* primary practitioners to support them in their teaching of scripture in RE lessons. As a study of scripture is a fundamental element of the new RED, this is an excellent opportunity for all schools.

The day will be held at **Holy Angels**, Hale Barns, on **Friday 28th June, 9.30-3.30**. There will be a small charge of **£40** per delegate to cover costs.

To book, click [here](#)

14. SUBJECT LEADER KNOWLEDGE AUDIT

Thank you to those of you who have completed the online subject leader knowledge audit. Please could I ask that RE Coordinators who have not yet completed it do so at the earliest opportunity as the results of the audit will be helpful in identifying knowledge gaps. These knowledge gaps can be addressed at future RE Coordinator meetings.

To complete the audit, click [here](#).

15. MISSION TOGETHER

Mission Together have a number of resources to support teachers over the next few weeks and months:

Feast of Saint Paul the Apostle: January 25 marks the feast of the conversion of Saint Paul. Saint Paul the Apostle is a key figure in the Church and one of its earliest missionaries. His letters, found in the New Testament, continue to guide and inspire Christians across the world. Our Five Fact Saint Paul assembly helps pupils discover more about this important saint, and our celebration of the word provides a fitting prayer focus. [Both can be downloaded here.](#)

NEW Saint David Five Fact Assemblies: March hosts many significant saints' days, beginning with Saint David (1 March). Honour this feast in school with our new Five Fact Assembly. There are also assemblies for Saint Patrick (17 March), Saint Joseph (19 March) and Saint Oscar

Romero (24 March) Our Five Fact assemblies include reflection points and calls to action. [All can be downloaded here.](#)

Together in India (CST inspired assembly): Mission Together's latest project assembly - Together in India - aims to illustrate the difference mission and Catholic Social Teaching make in the lives of children around the world. The assembly, based on a slum resettlement project run by Religious Sisters in Chennai, is punctuated with reflective questions, and calls to action, encouraging pupils in England and Wales to consider how they can live out Catholic Social Teaching too. A set of prayers and short films accompany the assembly. [Click here to access.](#)

Lent 2024: Mission Together provide several resources to help schools journey through the season of Lent, including catechetical films, workbooks, activities, Stations of the Cross, and celebrations of the word. Access all here [Lent – Mission Together](#)

16. IMAGINATIVE PRAYER WITH ARCO IRIS LEARNING

Arco Iris Learning specialises in facilitating sessions of imaginative prayer for children and offers CPDF for staff in facilitating imaginative prayer for themselves.

Maria at Arco Iris Learning is now taking bookings for Lent: '*Transformations*' is available from Monday 19th February to Tuesday 26th March 2024.

Maria is also working on new content for use in the Marian months of May and October 2024, '*Announcing*'. This content will be based on the Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary.

There are also a variety of imaginative experiences to choose from all year round, from The Lost Sheep, God's Love, and Catching Fish to name a few.

You can find out more by visiting www.arcoirislearning.co.uk/imaginative_experiences

17. MARY'S MEALS

A huge thank you to the schools that took part in World Porridge Day in October!

We hope you have all been able to access our [new schools' resources](#) – do get in touch if you have any questions about these

Double the Love:

We are excited to announce that this winter all donations to Mary's Meals will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1 million. This means that just £19.15 will feed, not one, but two children a life-changing daily school meal for a whole school year! Our [Double The Love](#) campaign runs to **22 January 2024**.

Make for Meals:

You can raise money for Mary's Meals by getting creative and making some lovely arts and crafts. Maybe you're already a nifty knitter or a master maker, or maybe this will be your first foray into the world of crafting. Either way, you can turn your creativity into life-changing meals for children in some of the world's poorest countries.

Whether you want to raise money for Mary's Meals by selling your crafts to family and friends, or set up a making marathon fundraiser, we'd love for you to [Make For Meals](#) and help us reach the next hungry child.

Finally, please do remember if you would like class talks or assemblies at any time during the school year, about the work we do, you can contact me to book this in. There is no charge for this!
Anna Houghton, Supporter Engagement Officer, Mary's Meals
07934296559 anna.houghton@marysmeals.org

18. RISE THEATRE

RISE Theatre are embarking on their seventh tour of their interactive primary school day 'God's Planet'. **They still have dates available from January - March 2024!**

They have **discounts available for group and academy bookings.**

Click on the flyers for more information [here](#). You can also view a testimonial page full of quotes from schools who have also enjoyed this day so you can see what you can expect of a RISE Theatre day [GP testimonials](#).

SECONDARY

19. UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER OPEN ACCESS RESOURCE FOR A LEVEL RE

UofM say: 'We are pleased to announce that we are finally able to share news about launching a new open access resource for A level students. This is the outcome of a collaboration between our [Department of Religions and Theology](#), the BBC and the A level exam boards. Our academics have worked with the BBC's [Beyond Belief](#) Radio 4 programme team to develop new online resources that will enable A level students to use the archive of programmes for their studies and that will enable you to make use of them in your teaching.

We would love to invite you and your KS5 students to our launch event at the University of Manchester on Wednesday 31 January, 1pm – 3pm.

The launch event will feature a demonstration of the new resource with a taster activity, followed by the BBC's Beyond Belief Production Team sharing their insights into working in the media.

- 13:00 arrival
- 13:15 – 15:00: Welcome, introduction and taster activity using the new resources (University of Manchester academics) , working in the media (BBC Beyond Belief team)
- 15:00-15:30 refreshments

How to book:

If you would like to attend the event, please send an email to sonja.bernhard@manchester.ac.uk with the following details:

- Your school/college:
- Number of students you wish to bring:
- Their year group(s) (12/13):
- What A level course they follow (title & exam board):

We hope this is of interest and hope to be able to welcome you there'.

20. CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP FORMATION PROGRAMME – REDUCED COST!

The Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst, which runs the **Christian Leadership Formation** programme has an important update regarding their 2024 programme: **we have secured funding to reduce the advertised cost of the program from £1500 to £800 per student. Further bursaries are available to reduce the cost even more!**

*The 2024 CLF programme uniquely offers a combination of stimulating and high-quality intellectual content, spiritual nourishment, personal development, inter-personal skills, team building and socials in a tightly-knit community experience, with expert academics and professionals. Open to any student in **Lower Sixth/Year 12/S5** who is motivated by their faith and their studies, with bursaries available as needed. More information and applications via our new website www.christianleadershipformation.com, and please encourage your parishioners and contacts to follow us on Instagram ([@christianleadershipformation](https://www.instagram.com/christianleadershipformation)) for all the latest updates!*

21. OUTREACH, FACULTY OF DIVINITY, UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Outreach have a number of opportunities online and in person for both teachers and students:

[Theology Subject Masterclass](#) - 29th January 2024

An online theology-specific event offering high-achieving students in Year 12 (S5 for Scotland, Year 13 for NI, or equivalent) the chance to experience typical undergraduate teaching at the University of Cambridge. Follow the link to sign up to be notified when bookings open.

[RE:View Film Competition](#) - **deadline 1st Mar 2024**

Extend your students super-curricular interests and encourage them to take part in our annual competition based around the *Cambridge in your Classroom* videos. **Open to students in Year 9-13**. The film competition provides an ideal platform for students to extend their learning and several previous winners have gone on to become theology students with us.

[A Level Study Day](#) - **22nd March 2024**

An in-person event, open to students studying A Level Religious Studies. Guest speaker and A Level Examiner Libby Ahluwalia will be joining us for this event. This event is particularly suitable for students aiming for the highest grades in Religious Studies. Bookings will open shortly.

[Philosothon](#) - **23rd March 2024**

Teachers are invited to form a team to take part in this inter-school competition for students in Years 9-13. The event will take place during The Cambridge Festival. Follow the link for more details and to register your group.

[Theology, Religion and Philosophy of Religion Open Day](#) - **23rd April 2024**

A day of lectures, talks and tours for prospective applicants and their supporters.

[Looking further ahead ...](#)

We have a number of Open Days, Study Days and Masterclasses planned for late spring and summer. Keep an eye [on this page](#), which is regularly updated.

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

[Career options for theology graduates](#)

We are building our repository of videos and articles detailing the varied careers that our theology graduates go on to, which hopefully will be of use when guiding your pupils as to their university choices. Our Theology, Religion, and Philosophy of Religion (TRPR) undergraduate course has once again secured its position amongst the world's top academic programs in the most recent 2023/24 ratings, with the outstanding career prospects of our graduates recognised in multiple rankings. You can see more detail [here](#).

[MASSOLIT lectures](#)

Support your GCSE, A Level and IB students, with detailed lectures series by Faculty of Divinity academic on topics as Christian Moral Action, Theology and Gender and Biblical Criticism.

Please note some content requires a subscription

[What does good RE look like?](#)

If you missed this lecture with Chief Inspector Dr Richard Kueh, the recording is still available to view.

RSHE

22. DfE NON-STATUTORY GUIDANCE ON GENDER QUESTIONING CHILDREN

On 19th December the DfE published guidance for schools and colleges to support them when making decisions in relation to gender questioning children and young people. This is currently in draft format with schools and colleges being encouraged to share their views on the guidance as to *'whether it will help to support schools and colleges, teachers and leaders to make considered*

and lawful decisions in relation to children who are questioning their gender and the wider school and college community.'

You can read the guidance and complete the survey [here](#). The survey closes on 12th March 2024.

NB: if you are completing the survey as RSHE Lead, please ensure you have permission from your line manager to do so.

CPDF

To attend any of our CPDF sessions, please follow this link: <https://educationshrewsbury.org/formation-development/ed-cpdf-opportunities/book-a-cpdf-course/>

Upcoming CPDF:

- 17/01 Early Career Teacher Primary – Year 1 Religious Education (Virtual)
- 25/01 EYFS and the New Model Curriculum in the RED S1 at Holy Angels Parish, Altrincham
- 25/01 COAST Meeting at St Anselm's College, Birkenhead
- 26/01 Support for CSI at Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, Ellesmere Port
- 29/01 Christ at the Centre S3 at Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, Ellesmere Port
- 31/01 Induction for New RE Coordinators at St John Henry Newman Parish, Warrington
- 07/03 RE Coordinator Twilight Briefing (Virtual)
- 09/02 Primary Deputy Headteachers & Assistant Headteachers Forum (Virtual) morning session
- 09/02 Primary Deputy Headteachers & Assistant Headteachers Forum (Virtual) afternoon session
- 26/02 Understanding Scripture with Lat Blaylock KS1 Teachers at Our Lady Star of the Sea
- 28/02 Early Career Teacher Primary – Year 2 The Mass (Virtual)
- 04/03 Primary Curriculum Working Party at St John Henry Newman Parish, Warrington
- 06/03 Secondary RSE Leads at Cardinal Newman High School
- 11/03 COAST Hub Meeting (Stockport, Tameside, Trafford & Manchester) at St Paul's
- 12/03 SHORE at St Paul's Catholic High School, Wythenshawe
- 12/03 COAST Hub Meeting (Warrington, Halton & Wirral) at St Anselm's College
- 14/03 Understanding Scripture with Lat Blaylock LKS2 Teachers at Our Lady Star of the Sea
- 14/03 COAST Hub Meeting (Cheshire, Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin) at The Catholic High School
- 15/03 Understanding Scripture with Lat Blaylock UKS2 Teachers at Our Lady Star of the Sea
- 18/03 Secondary DADAH Catholic Life and Mission Session at Blessed Thomas Holford
- 21/03 Christ at the Centre S4 at Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, Ellesmere Port

23. NB: CHANGES TO CPDF FOR THE SUMMER TERM

Please note, as some of our primary schools are still on their half term holiday at the start of June, the third session for primary **2nd Year ECTs** has been moved to **Thursday 20th June, 3.30-5.00pm**. This online session will explore **Catholic Social Teaching (CST)** and will be led by CAFOD.

Although the session is aimed at 2nd Year ECTs, any primary colleagues wishing to attend are most welcome. Please sign up in the usual way.

And finally,

Peace Sunday 2024 is this Sunday, **14th January**. The theme chosen by Pope Francis is 'Artificial Intelligence and Peace'. Pax Christi have produced a series of resources to mark the day which can be found on the CBCEW website here <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/peace-sunday-2024/>
The website also has a prayer for the safe, just, and proper use of AI:

*God our creator and sustainer,
We thank you for the gifts of creativity you have given us,
for the ability to explore science and understand your creation.
We ask your forgiveness for the times we have used science for evil and not for good,
for war and not for peace.
Make us vigilant as we develop technology,
that violence and discrimination may not take root,
that injustice and inequality will not be fuelled,
that the poor and vulnerable will not pay the cost.
May all that we create contribute to peace and justice.
Amen*

God bless

Julia