

# Edexcel specification A and CAFOD resources

All of these resources are available on CAFOD's website.

Specification	CAFOD resources
<p><b>AREA OF STUDY 1: Study of Religion - Catholic Christianity</b></p> <p><b>SECTION 1: Beliefs and teachings</b></p> <p><b>1.1 The Trinity:</b> the nature and significance of the Trinity as expressed in the Nicene Creed; the nature and significance of the oneness of God; the nature and significance of each of the Persons individually: God as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; how this is reflected in worship and belief in the life of a Catholic today.</p> <p><b>1.2 Biblical understandings of God as a Trinity of Persons:</b> the nature and significance of God as a Trinity of Persons, including reference to the baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:13–17) and historical development of the doctrine of the Trinity, including reference to the First Council of Nicaea and the First Council of Constantinople.</p> <p><b>1.3 Creation:</b> the nature and significance of the biblical account of Creation, including Genesis 1–3; and how it may be understood in divergent ways in Christianity, including reference to literal and metaphorical interpretations; the significance of the Creation account for Catholics in understanding the nature and characteristics of God, especially as Creator, benevolent, omnipotent and eternal.</p> <p><b>1.4 The significance of the Creation account</b> in understanding the nature of humanity: the nature and significance of the nature of humanity being created in the image of God, including reference to Genesis 1–3 and divergent understandings of humanity's relationship with Creation (dominion and stewardship); the implications of these beliefs for Catholics today.</p> <p><b>1.5 The Incarnation:</b> Jesus as incarnate Son, the divine Word, including John 1, both fully God and fully human; the scriptural origins of this belief, including John 1:1–18 and its importance for Catholics today.</p> <p><b>1.6 The events in the Paschal Mystery:</b> Catholic teachings about the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus, including reference to Luke 24; the redemptive efficacy of these events and their significance for Catholics today.</p> <p><b>1.7 The significance of the life, death, resurrection and ascension</b> of Jesus for Catholic beliefs about salvation and grace, including John 3:10–21 and Acts 4:8–12; the implications and significance of these events for Catholic practice today.</p> <p><b>1.8 Catholic beliefs about eschatology:</b> life after death; the nature of resurrection, judgment, heaven, hell and purgatory, including reference to John 11:17–27 and 2 Corinthians 5:1–10; divergent Christian beliefs about life after death, with reference to purgatory and the nature of resurrection; why belief in life after death is important for Catholics today.</p>	<p>Human Dignity animation Human Dignity animation worksheet Climate change photopack Laudato Si' animation and session CST principles videowall</p> <p>Easter Emmaus Story ppt</p>
<p><b>SECTION 2: Practices</b></p> <p><b>2.1 The sacramental nature of reality:</b> Catholic teachings about how the whole of creation manifests the presence of God; the meaning and effects of each of the seven sacraments, including Catechism of the Catholic Church 1210–1211; the practice and symbolism of each sacrament; how sacraments communicate the grace of God; divergent Christian attitudes to sacraments, including reference to Orthodox and Protestant Christianity.</p>	<p>Canticle of the Creatures ppt</p>

<p><b>2.2 Liturgical worship within Catholic Christianity:</b> the nature and significance of the Mass for Catholics, including its structure and the Eucharist as the 'source and summit of Christian life', with reference to <i>Lumen Gentium</i> paragraph 7; divergent Christian attitudes towards the practice and meaning of liturgical worship, including its significance for Catholics and the less structured worship in evangelical Christian denominations.</p> <p><b>2.3 The funeral rite as a liturgical celebration of the Church:</b> practices associated with the funeral rite in the home, the church and the cemetery, including reference to 'Preparing my funeral' by Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster; the aims of the funeral rite, including communion with the deceased; the communion of the community and the proclamation of eternal life to the community and its significance for Catholics.</p> <p><b>2.4 Prayer as the 'raising of hearts and minds to God':</b> the nature and significance of different types of prayer; the Lord's Prayer, including Matthew 6:5-14, set (formulaic) prayers and informal (extempore) prayer; when each type might be used and why; the importance of prayer and the importance for Catholics of having different types of worship.</p> <p><b>2.5 The role and importance of forms of popular piety:</b> the nature and significance of the Rosary, Eucharistic adoration and Stations of the Cross; how each of these might be used and why; the importance of having different types of worship for Catholics including reference to Catechism of the Catholic Church 1674-1676; divergent Christian attitudes to these forms of piety.</p> <p><b>2.6 Pilgrimage:</b> the nature, history and purpose of Catholic pilgrimage; the significance of the places people go on pilgrimage; divergent Christian understandings about whether pilgrimage is important for Christians today, with specific reference to Jerusalem, Lourdes, Rome, Walsingham and the Catechism of the Catholic Church 2691-2696.</p> <p><b>2.7 Catholic Social Teaching:</b> How Catholic Social Teaching reflects the teaching to show love of neighbour; Catholic teaching on justice, peace and reconciliation, <i>Evangelii Gaudium</i> paragraphs 182-237 - The inclusion of the poor in society; How these teachings might be reflected in the lives of individual Catholics including reference to Matt 25: 31-46 (sheep and goats); the work of CAFOD, what it does and why.</p> <p><b>2.8 Catholic mission and evangelism:</b> the history and significance of mission and evangelism for Catholics; divergent ways this is put into practice by the Church and individual Catholics locally, nationally and globally, and how this fulfils the commission of Jesus and teachings of the Church, including <i>Evangelii Gaudium</i> Chapter 5.</p>	<p>Eucharistic banner activity</p> <p>Grace before meals activity Our Father film</p> <p>Stations of the Cross</p> <p>Starter: Who is my neighbour? Starter: Why should I love my neighbour? CST in 3 minutes animation CST in 3 minutes animation script CST cards Peace and conflict resource CST principles video wall CST cards digital game Option for the Poor movie Matthew 25 illustrations/Sheep and Goats ppt History and work of CAFOD ppt Emergency!: What happens at CAFOD - film and flowchart</p>
<p><b>SECTION 3: Sources of wisdom and authority</b></p> <p><b>3.1 The Bible:</b> the development and structure of the Bible as the revealed Word of God: the origins, structure and different literary forms of the Bible: Old Testament: law, history, prophets, writings; and New Testament: gospels, letters; including divergent Christian understandings about which books should be within the Bible with reference to the Council of Trent.</p> <p><b>3.2 Interpretation of the Bible:</b> Catholic interpretation of the Bible and understanding of the meaning of inspiration; divergent interpretations of the authority of the Bible within Christianity: the literal Word of God, the revealed Word of God and as source of guidance and teaching, including 2 Timothy 3:16 and Catechism of the Catholic Church 105-108; the implications of this for Catholics today.</p> <p><b>3.3 The magisterium of the Church:</b> the meaning, function and importance of the magisterium both conciliar and pontifical with reference to Catechism of the Catholic Church 100; the</p>	<p>CST in 3 mins animation CST in 3 minutes animation script</p>

<p>magisterium as the living teaching office of the Church and authentic interpreter of the affirmations of Scripture and Tradition, and why they are important for Catholics today.</p> <p><b>3.4 The Second Vatican Council:</b> the nature, history and importance of the council; the nature and significance of the four key documents for the Church and for Catholic living: Dei Verbum, Lumen Gentium, Sacrosanctum Concilium and Gaudium et Spes</p> <p><b>3.5 The Church as the Body of Christ and the People of God:</b> the nature and significance of the Church as the Body of Christ and the People of God, including Romans 12:4–6 and 1 Corinthians 12; why the Church as the Body of Christ and the People of God is important for Catholics today; divergent Christian attitudes towards these.</p> <p><b>3.6 The meaning of the four marks of the Church:</b> the nature of the Church as one, holy, catholic and apostolic including reference to the Nicene Creed and the First Council of Constantinople; how the marks may be understood in divergent ways within Christianity; why they are important for Catholics today</p> <p><b>3.7 Mary as a model of the Church:</b> the significance of Mary as a model of the Church – joined with Christ in the work of salvation, as a model of discipleship and as a model of faith and charity, including Luke 1:26–39 and Catechism of the Catholic Church 963–975; the implications of this teaching for Catholic life today.</p> <p><b>3.8 Sources of personal and ethical decision making:</b> the example and teaching of Jesus as the authoritative source for moral teaching; Jesus as fulfilment of the Law, including Matthew 5:17–24; divergent understandings of the place and authority of natural law; virtue and the primacy of conscience; the divergent implications of these sources of authority for Christians today.</p>	<p>CST cards</p> <p>Church as body of Christ case studies</p> <p>Sheep and Goats ppt</p>
<p><b>SECTION 4: Forms of expression and ways of life</b></p> <p><b>4.1 The common and divergent forms of architecture,</b> design and decoration of Catholic churches: how they reflect belief, are used in, and contribute to, worship, including reference to the Catechism of the Catholic Church 1179–1181.</p> <p><b>4.2 The different internal features of a Catholic church</b> including reference to Catechism of the Catholic Church 1182–1186: the meaning and significance of the lectern, altar, crucifix and tabernacle and how they express the importance of redemption and facilitate Catholic worship.</p> <p><b>4.3 The meaning and significance of sacred objects,</b> including sacred vessels, sarcophagi, and hunger cloths within Catholicism: the way these are used to express belief, including Catechism of the Catholic Church 1161, and the divergent ways in which they may be used in church and other settings.</p> <p><b>4.4 The meaning and significance of paintings,</b> fresco and drawings within Catholicism with reference to two specific pieces and Catechism of the Catholic Church 2502–2503: the divergent ways these are used to express belief by the artist and those who observe the art, and the divergent ways in which paintings, frescos and drawings may be used in church and other settings.</p> <p><b>4.5 The meaning and significance of sculpture and statues</b> with reference to Catechism of the Catholic Church 2501: the way these are used to express belief by the artist and those who observe the art, the way these are used to express belief, and the divergent ways in which how sculptures and statues may be used in church and other settings.</p> <p><b>4.6 The purpose and use of symbolism</b> and imagery in religious art: the cross, crucifix, fish, ChiRho, dove, including Catechism of the Catholic Church 701, Eagle, Alpha and Omega, symbols of the four evangelists; the way this symbolism is used to express belief, and the divergent ways in which they may be used in church and other settings.</p> <p><b>4.7 The meaning and significance of drama:</b> mystery plays, passion plays; the way drama is used to express belief with</p>	<p>Hunger cloth film Hunger cloth worksheet</p> <p>Feeding of the 5000 icon ppt</p> <p>Southwark Romero Cross film</p>

<p>reference to Catechism of the Catholic Church 2567, and the divergent ways in which drama may be used in church and other settings.</p> <p><b>4.8 The nature and use of traditional and contemporary styles of music in worship:</b> hymns, plainchant, psalms and worship songs including reference to Catechism of the Catholic Church 2641; the way different music is used to express belief and the divergent ways in which it may be used in church (including the Mass) and other settings.</p>	
<p><b>[AREA OF STUDY 2: Study of a second religion...]</b></p>	
<p><b>AREA OF STUDY 3: Philosophy and Ethics - Catholic Christianity</b></p> <p><b>SECTION 1: Arguments for the existence of God</b></p> <p><b>1.1 Revelation as proof of the existence of God:</b> the significance of Jesus Christ as the culmination of God’s revelation; what the revelation of Jesus Christ shows about the nature of God for Catholics, including reference to Hebrews 1:1–4.</p> <p><b>1.2 Visions as proof of the existence of God:</b> the nature and importance of visions for Catholics; biblical and non-biblical examples of visions, including Joan of Arc and Genesis 15 and Matthew 17:1–13; reasons why they might lead to belief in God and Catholic responses to non-religious arguments (including atheist and Humanist) which maintain that visions are hallucinations and provide no proof that God exists.</p> <p><b>1.3 Miracles as proof of the existence of God:</b> the nature and importance of miracles for Catholics; biblical and non-biblical examples of miracles, including those at Lourdes and John 4:43–54; reasons why they might lead to belief in God and Catholic responses to non-religious arguments (including atheist and Humanist) which maintain that miracles can be scientifically explained and provide no proof that God exists.</p> <p><b>1.4 Catholic attitudes towards religious experiences and its use as a philosophical argument for the existence of God:</b> the nature of religious experience and why not all religious experiences are approved by the Church, including reference to Catechism of the Catholic Church 66–67; Catholic responses to non-religious (including atheist and Humanist) arguments that religious experiences do not provide proof that God exists.</p> <p><b>1.5 Design argument:</b> the classical design argument for the existence of God and its use by Catholics as a philosophical argument for the existence of God; understandings of what the design argument shows about the nature of God for Catholics including Romans 1:18–24; Catholic responses to non-religious (including atheist and Humanist) arguments against the design argument as evidence for the existence of God.</p> <p><b>1.6 Cosmological argument:</b> the cosmological argument for the existence of God and its use by Catholics as a philosophical argument for the existence of God, including reference to Thomas Aquinas' First Three Ways of showing God's existence; understandings of the nature and importance of what the cosmological argument shows about the nature of God for Catholics; Catholic responses to non-religious (including atheist and Humanist) arguments against the cosmological argument as evidence for the existence of God.</p> <p><b>1.7 Issues raised by the existence of suffering and God as all-loving:</b> the issues it raises for Catholics about the nature of God, including Isaiah 45; how the problem and its basis as a philosophical argument may lead some to examine and others to reject their belief in God.</p> <p><b>1.8 The solutions offered to the problem of suffering and a loving and righteous God within Catholicism:</b> biblical, theoretical and practical responses – Psalms, including reference to Psalm 119, Job, free will (St Augustine), as a way for humans to develop</p>	<p>Film: Emergency – What happens at CAFOD?</p>

(St Irenaeus), prayer, and charity; divergent understandings within Christianity of their success in solving the problem.

## **SECTION 2: Religious Teachings on Relationships and Families in the 21st Century**

### **2.1 The importance and purpose of marriage for Catholics:**

the significance of marriage in Catholic life; Catholic teachings about marriage, including *Not Just Good, But Beautiful* by Pope Francis; divergent Christian, non-religious (including atheist and Humanist) attitudes to the importance of marriage in society, including the sanctity of marriage, a lack of importance, cohabitation and the Catholic responses to these attitudes.

**2.2 Catholic teaching about the importance of sexual relationships:** Catholic teaching about sexual relationships as marital, unitive and procreative, including Catechism of the Catholic Church 2360–2365; Catholic teaching on sexual relationships outside of marriage and homosexuality; divergent Christian, non-religious (including atheist and Humanist) attitudes to sexual relationships, including the acceptance of sexual relationships outside marriage and homosexuality and Catholic responses to them.

**2.3 Catholic teaching about the purpose and importance of the family:** Catholic teaching about the purpose and importance of families including: procreation; security and education of children; Catholic responses to the different types of family within 21st-century society (nuclear, single parent, same-sex parents, extended and blended families), including *Familiaris Consortio*, 36–85.

**2.4 Support for the family in the local Catholic parish:** how and why the local parish tries to support families, including through family worship, the sacraments, classes for parents, groups for children and counselling, with reference to the Family Group Movement and Catechism of the Catholic Church 2226; the importance of the support of the local parish for Catholic families today.

**2.5 Catholic teaching on family planning and the regulation of births:** Catholic teaching about artificial contraception and natural family planning, including reference to *Humanae Vitae*; divergent Christian, non-religious (including atheist and Humanist) attitudes to family planning, including acceptance of artificial methods of contraception by some Protestant Churches and the application of ethical theories, such as situation ethics, and Catholic responses to them.

**2.6 Catholic teaching about divorce, annulment and remarriage:** Catholic teaching on divorce, annulment and remarriage, including Catechism of the Catholic Church 2382–2386; divergent Christian, non-religious (including atheist and Humanist) attitudes to divorce, annulment and remarriage, including the application of ethical theories, such as situation ethics, and Catholic responses to them.

**2.7 Catholic teaching about the equality of men and women in the family:** Catholic teaching about the role of men and women in the family with reference to Catechism of the Catholic Church 2207, including the dignity of work within the home; divergent Christian teachings and attitudes about the equality and roles of men and women in the family and Catholic responses to them.

**2.8 Catholic teachings about gender prejudice and discrimination:** Catholic opposition to gender prejudice and discrimination, including theology of the body; examples of Catholic opposition to gender prejudice and discrimination, including Catechism of the Catholic Church 1938; divergent Christian attitudes to gender differences, including the role of women in the Church, prejudice and discrimination and Catholic responses to them.

## **AREA OF STUDY 4: Textual Studies - Mark's Gospel**

## SECTION 1: Who is Jesus?

**1.1 The Messiah and the Son of Man:** the expectations of the Messiah at the time of Jesus based on the Old Testament; (Isaiah 53) what the use of these titles shows about Jesus; the title 'Son of Man'; the meaning of the title including reference to Daniel 7:13, its use in Mark's Gospel and what it shows about Jesus; the significance of Jesus as Messiah and Son of Man for different Christians today.

**1.2 The baptism of Jesus** (Mark 1:2–11): the events of the baptism; divergent understandings of its significance, including marking the beginning of the ministry of Jesus, what it shows about him, and its significance for Christians today.

**1.3 Nature miracles in Mark's Gospel:** what they show about Jesus, including the calming of the storm (Mark 4:35–41); the feeding of the five thousand (Mark 6:32–44) and the walking on the water (Mark 6:45–52) and divergent understandings of their significance for different Christians today; Christian responses to non-religious arguments (including atheist and Humanist) which maintain that miracles can be scientifically explained and provide no proof of Jesus as divine.

**1.4 The healing miracles in Mark's Gospel:** what they show about Jesus, including the healing of Legion (Mark 5:1–20); the raising of Jairus' daughter (Mark 5:21–43) and divergent understandings of their significance for Christians today.

**1.5 Peter's confession at Caesarea Philippi** (Mark 8:27–33): what this shows about Jesus and his purpose; ideas about the Messianic secret in Mark's Gospel.

**1.6 The transfiguration** (Mark 9:1–10): what this event shows about Jesus; the reasons and importance of the appearance of Moses and Elias in relation to Moses' role as lawgiver and the Old Testament prophecy of Elias; divergent understandings of its significance for Christians today; Christian responses to nonreligious arguments (including atheist and Humanist) which maintain that visions, such as the transfiguration, provide no proof that Jesus is the Messiah.

**1.7 The conflicts of Jesus in Mark's Gospel:** the healing of the paralysed man (Mark 2:1–12); disagreements about the Sabbath (Mark 2:23 – 3:6) and their link with Old Testament understandings of the Sabbath; and the cleansing of the Temple (Mark 11:15–18), what these show about Jesus and why they might be important in the narrative of Mark's Gospel.

**1.8 The last days of Jesus' life:** reasons for his arrest; the Last Supper (Mark 14:12–31); the prayers in Gethsemane (Mark 14:32–42); the betrayal and arrest (Mark 14:43–52); the trial before the High Priest (Mark 14:53–65); the trial before Pilate (Mark 15:1–15); the Passion (Mark 15:21–39; 16:1–8), what these events show about the purpose of Jesus' life, and how they may differ from other Gospel accounts, what these events show about Jesus; divergent understandings of the significance of these events for different Christians today.

Feeding of 5000 icon ppt

## SECTION 2: The nature of discipleship

**2.1 The call of the first disciples** (Mark 1:14–20, 2:13–17): how this shows the nature of discipleship in showing the willingness to immediately follow Jesus regardless of consequence and how this might affect a Christian today; the sending out of the Twelve (Mark 6:7–13), how this shows the nature of discipleship including the command to take nothing for the journey and the responsibility to preach and serve; divergent ways in which it affects ideas about Christian living today.

**2.2 Parables:** the Parable of the Tenants (Mark 12:1–12): how this story shows the potential cost of discipleship in and its relationship to Christians today; the Parable of the Sower (Mark

4:1–20), how each group shows different types of Christians; the nature of discipleship as shown in each group and in the role of the sower; its significance for Christians today; the importance of these parables with reference to the Kingdom of God and divergent ways in which that is variously understood as realised and in the future.

**2.3 The story of the rich man** (Mark 10:17–31): how this shows the nature of discipleship in the command to sell all things and how it will affect Christian discipleship today in different ways; its significance for Christians today with reference to the Kingdom of God and divergent ways in which that is variously understood as realised and in the future.

**2.4 The spirit cast out of the boy** (Mark 9:14–29): the problems of discipleship as shown in the efforts to cure the boy, and its significance for Christians today.

**2.5 Jesus teachings on service** (Mark 10:41–45): the purpose of discipleship as shown in the command to serve; its implications and significance for Christians today.

**2.6 Peter's denial** (Mark 14:66–72): the challenges that the denial brings and what it teaches about the problems of discipleship, and its significance for Christians today as an example and warning; Christian responses to non-religious arguments (including atheist and Humanist) which suggest that religious observance, such as discipleship, can be seen to be unnecessary.

**2.7 Women in the ministry of Jesus** as shown in Mark's Gospel: the discipleship and importance of women including the Greek woman (Mark 7:25–30); the anointing at Bethany (Mark 14:3–9); the crucifixion, burial and resurrection (Mark 15:40–47, 16:1–11); divergent understandings of its significance for Christians today.

**2.8 Discipleship in the 21st century:** divergent understandings of how discipleship is shown in the lives of individual Christians today; specific examples should show how a person's life reflects on the demands of discipleship outlined in Mark's Gospel, including Mark 8:34 and the examples of either Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Oscar Romero or Mother Teresa.

How do people discern their vocation?  
film  
Romero film  
Romero poster  
Romero timeline