

GCSE



WJEC GCSE in
RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Scheme of learning Unit 3
Catholic Christianity
Issues of Relationships



Lesson	Area of Study	Specific Content	Concepts	Resources and possible learning activities
1	Relationships	Jesus' teaching on marriage (Mark 10:1-12)		<p>Good GCSE revision material here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_pxzT8YO60</p> <p>Biblical background is useful here: God created Adam, and Eve was created to be his companion i.e. male/female. First parents of first family. In 1 Corinthians 7:3-5, St. Paul describes husband and wife as belonging to each other. In Ephesians 5:25, St. Paul states husbands should love their wives as Christ loves the Church.</p> <p>The key point re. teaching of Jesus was to rule out the process of easy divorce by a husband of his wife at that time. Hence teaching that two become one through God and because it is through God no subsequent separation can take place.</p> <p>Useful discussion here on different approaches to the Bible already covered i.e. literal, conservative, symbolic.</p>

2-3	Relationships	<p>The nature and purpose of marriage as expressed through the Catholic marriage ceremony and teachings. (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2360-2363), including the Rite of Marriage in Catholic churches.</p>	<p>Throughout this theme, a very accessible and useful source of authority is the document '<i>Cherishing Life</i>' (2004) produced by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales which can be found here: http://www.catholicfamily.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/cherishing-life-2004.pdf. Key quotations and further discussion could be based on the section 'Loving Tenderly' (p 45-64).</p> <p>Catechism of Catholic Church relevant passage here: http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s2c2a6.htm</p> <p>Useful summary of nature and purpose of marriage + marriage ceremony here:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Leaving own family to start another family Shown by bride's father placing her hand in hand of groom. 2. Live together in committed love with Christ entering the marriage Shown by Bible readings/prayers/exchange of vows/'what God has joined together let no man put asunder'. 3. Have children and create a Christian family Shown by Bible readings/prayers that couple may have children and grow in love as a family and by promises about having children during marriage preparation and as found in prayers during the Rite of Marriage. The key question before the Consent is: <i>Are you prepared to accept children lovingly from God and to bring them up according to law of Christ and his Church?</i> 4. Experience lifelong companionship with each other Shown by exchange of rings and vows to be faithful 'till death do us part'. 5. Have lawful sex in the eyes of God Shown by Bible readings/prayers that the couple may become one and be united in love. 6. Be a symbol of God's relationship with the Church Shown by Bible readings/prayers using St. Paul's words: Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. Also shown in prayers during the Rite of Marriage which talk about the sacrament of marriage. <p>Important to link nature/purpose with ceremony to avoid too much simple descriptive work. Plenty of YouTube material on Rite of Marriage in Catholic churches but key resource produced by the United State Bishops' Conference on the Rite of Marriage can be found here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3uAHwtBRg5c</p>
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4	Relationships	The Catholic Church's attitude to adultery, divorce, annulment and remarriage, including interpretations of Matthew 5:32 and Mark 10:11-12; the work of Marriage Care in Wales.	Adultery; divorce; commitment	<p>Good GCSE revision material here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7G8iu2KLi-0</p> <p>Recap previous lesson but go through the marriage vows. This may differ depending on which country the marriage takes place in but the key phrase is:</p> <p><i>'I,, take you,..... to be my husband/wife, To have and to hold from this day forward: for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part.'</i></p> <p>Recap teaching in Mark 10:1-12 that two become one through God and because it is through God no subsequent separation can take place. Links with Exodus 20:14 forbidding adultery.</p> <p>Logically therefore the commitment shown through the marriage vows means that there can be no divorce even in the case of adultery.</p> <p>Relevant passage from the Catechism of the Catholic Church can be found here where divorce is discussed in the context of adultery: http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_P87.HTM</p> <p>Matthew 5:32 is the Matthean Exception and is interpreted in different ways but the Magisterium of the Church says that it needs to be interpreted in the light of the tradition of the Church and what the Church has always taught i.e. there is in fact no exception with regard to divorce. Useful discussion can be found here: https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/resources/life-and-family/marriage/on-divorce-and-remarriage</p> <p>Confusion always occurs regarding annulment so worth stressing that this has <u>nothing</u> to do with divorce: it is a declaration by the proper authorities of the Church that the marriage never took place in the first instance. Clear and brief summary here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ez9Mu9UiqJU</p> <p>The work of Marriage Care in Wales can be found here: https://www.marriagecare.org.uk/</p>
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5-6	Relationships	Catholic beliefs, attitudes and teachings about the nature and purpose of relationships in the twenty first century. Families, roles of women and men, marriage outside the religious tradition and cohabitation.	<p data-bbox="705 209 860 236">Cohabitation</p> <p data-bbox="920 209 2024 392">Again, throughout this theme, a very accessible and useful source of authority is the document ‘<i>Cherishing Life</i>’ (2004) produced by the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales which can be found here: http://www.catholicfamily.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/cherishing-life-2004.pdf. Key quotations and further discussion could be based on the section ‘Loving Tenderly’ (p 45-64). The foundation Biblical text used is Matthew 22:36-40, the Greatest Commandment: ‘<i>love your neighbour</i>’.</p> <p data-bbox="920 424 2024 451">Useful sociological summary of the family unit in the UK in the 21st century can be found here:</p> <ul data-bbox="972 456 2024 986" style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuclear family with married parents Mother and father who are married and children living as a unit. • Nuclear family with cohabiting parents Mother and father who are not married and children living as a unit. • Extended family Children, parents, and grandparents/aunts/uncles living as a unit or in close proximity. • Re-constituted family Two sets of children (step-brothers and step-sisters) become one family when their divorced parents marry each other. • Single-parent family One parent living alone with their children as a result of divorce, separation, death, or because the parent is unmarried. • Same-sex family with married parents Two same-sex parents who are married and their children. • Same-sex family with unmarried parents Two same-sex parents who may be cohabiting or have a civil partnership and their children <p data-bbox="920 1023 2024 1114">Useful information about the increase in cohabitation here: http://www.familylaw.co.uk/news_and_comment/cohabitation-remains-fastest-growing-relationship-in-uk#.WeZqBmhSyCg</p> <p data-bbox="920 1145 2024 1204">Useful document outlining the Humanist approach to family life can be found here: http://www.humanismforschools.org.uk/pdfs/Family%20Matters.pdf</p>
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7	Sexual Relationships	The Catholic understanding of the nature of human love and the importance of sexual complementarity; the purpose of marriage and the unitive and procreative meanings of sexual expressions of love.	<p>Useful to revise the Biblical background already looked at: God created Adam, and Eve was created to be his companion i.e. male/female. First parents of first family. In 1 Corinthians 7:3-5, St. Paul describes husband and wife as belonging to each other. In Ephesians 5:25, St. Paul states husbands should love their wives as Christ loves the Church.</p> <p>Catechism of Catholic Church relevant passage here: http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s2c2a6.htm with the key statement regarding complementarity in 2333 with human love and sex being oriented towards '<i>the goods of marriage and the flourishing of family life</i>'. This links with the statement in 2360 that '<i>Sexuality is ordered to the conjugal love of man and woman</i>'.</p> <p>Clear account of the unitive and procreative meanings of marriage can be found in this document from the United States Catholic Bishops' Conference: http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/natural-family-planning/catholic-teaching/upload/Unitive-and-Proc-Nature-of-Interc.pdf</p>
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8	Sexual Relationships	Catholic teachings about responsible parenthood and the use of cycles of fertility to regulate births; Catholic teaching on the use of artificial contraception including varied interpretations of Thomas Aquinas' Second Precept (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2362-2363)		<p>Good GCSE revision material here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IV7t6Vr5xJo</p> <p>Useful to refer back to material already covered in theme on Core beliefs and teachings: Pontifical Magisterium of the Pope in Paul VI's 'Humanae Vitae' 1968 where he uses Conciliar Magisterium found in the Second Vatican Council's 'Gaudium et Spes' 1965 to support what he teaches http://w2.vatican.va/content/paul-vi/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_p-vi_enc_25071968_humanae-vitae.html</p> <p>Catechism of Catholic Church relevant passage here: http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s2c2a6.htm</p> <p>Regarding the use of cycles of fertility to regulate births, worth looking at the work of the NFP here: http://www.nfpta.org.uk/ which is supported by the Catholic Church in England and Wales.</p> <p>The reference to Aquinas concerns the second of his Five Primary Precepts which can be summarised as: continuation of the species through reproduction. Useful area for discussion on China's move from the one-child policy to the two-child policy can be found here: http://www.catholicerald.co.uk/issues/november-6th-2015/chinas-one-child-catastrophe/</p>
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9-10	Sexual Relationships	The Catholic Church's attitude to same sex relationships; other Christian attitudes towards same sex relationships, including varied interpretations of Leviticus 18:22, 20:13 and 1 Timothy 1:8-10		<p>Good GCSE revision material here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Mw_Zkijdfs</p> <p>Overview of diversity of Christian attitudes towards same-sex relationships with clear discussion of biblical texts can be found in the 90 minute documentary 'For the Bible Tells Me So' which uses as the background to discussion the consecration of the openly gay Bishop Gene Robinson of the Episcopal Church in 2003. Full film can be found here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQ6sHIOuk0w</p> <p>Good summary of the Catholic Church's attitude including discussion of relevant biblical texts can be found here: https://www.catholic.com/tract/homosexuality. The key points from the Catechism of the Catholic Church are that homosexual acts are '<i>intrinsically disordered</i>' because they can never be procreative. Other key points are that '<i>those who have such an orientation must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity. Every sign of unjust discrimination in their regard should be avoided.</i>'</p> <p>Simple summary of Christian approaches: Conservative Protestant: homosexual orientation and homosexual acts are sinful Catholic: homosexual orientation is not sinful but homosexual acts are sinful Liberal Protestant: homosexual orientation is not sinful and homosexual acts which are the result of agapeic love and which promote agapeic love are not sinful.</p>
11	Issues of equality: gender prejudice and discrimination	Catholic teachings on the equality of women and men with reference to the Catechism of the Catholic Church 369-373 and the wrongness of gender discrimination with reference to Catechism of the Catholic Church 1935	Gender equality; responsibilities; roles	<p>Good GCSE revision material here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T87DNKBvYIY</p> <p>Relevant section from the Catechism of the Catholic Church on equality of men and women can be found here: http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p1s2c1p6.htm useful for discussion since the heading for the paragraph is 'Man'.</p> <p>Wrongness of prejudice and discrimination can be found here: http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s1c2a3.htm with the key phrase that every form of discrimination '<i>must be curbed and eradicated as incompatible with God's design</i>'.</p> <p>Good summary document from CAFOD for discussion here which would also be useful for the Theme on Human Rights: https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/8096/66526/version/2/file/Promoting%20Gender%20Equality%20030912%20web%20statement.pdf</p>

12-13	Issues of equality: gender prejudice and discrimination	Catholic teachings on the roles of men and women in the Church in comparison with other Christian views; Catholic and other Christian interpretations of teachings: 1 Timothy 2:11-12, Galatians 3:27-29		<p>Very technical background on Catholic teachings on roles of men and women in the Church is Pope Saint John Paul II's <i>Mulieris Dignitatem</i> which can be found here: https://w2.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/apost_letters/1988/documents/hf_jp-ii_apl_19880815_mulieris-dignitatem.html This is complex but a useful summary can be found here: http://thechurchinmalta.org/files/2009/09/summary_of_muglieris_digniatem.pdf</p> <p>More accessible and much shorter is Pope Saint John Paul ruling out the ordination of women to the priesthood as explained here: https://w2.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/apost_letters/1994/documents/hf_jp-ii_apl_19940522_ordinatio-sacerdotalis.html Useful for discussion as brief with the key statement at the end: <i>I declare that the Church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women and that this judgment is to be definitively held by all the Church's faithful.</i></p> <p>Good material for discussion on the contrasting Pauline passages: 1 Timothy focussing on woman being submissive to man and being 'saved through childbirth' i.e. the emphasis on the role of wife/mother/home-maker. Galatians stating that all (including male and female) are one in Christ.</p> <p>Simple summary of other Christian attitudes: Conservative Protestant: women cannot have leadership roles in the Church because of 1 Timothy passage. US Southern Baptist 1984 resolution here: http://www.sbc.net/resolutions/1088/ Liberal Protestant: emphasis on the complete equality of male and female in all areas of life including positions in the Church as seen in the Church of Wales with Bishop Joanna Penberthy of St David's consecrated Bishop in 21/01/17 http://www.churchinwales.org.uk/news/2017/01/wales-first-woman-bishop-is-consecrated/</p>
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