

St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic High School



GCSE Religious Education

Year 11 Revision Topics and Tips

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Paper One: Catholic Christianity

1. Creation

- Michelangelo's Creation of Adam, what it shows about humanity being created in the image of God, and then be able to contrast it with another work of art that depicts creation
- How to explain what Genesis 1 and 2 show about God as creator, transcendent, and omnipotent and understand the importance of these beliefs
- How to explain the significance of humans being made in the image of God, and what this shows about, free will, stewardship, human dignity and the sanctity of life.
- How to explain how the bible was written, and describe the types of writings that it contains.
- How to explain the significance of inspiration and the Bible as the revealed word of God, and how to explain different Christian interpretations of the Genesis creation story.
- How to explain how the idea of natural Law is based on the goodness of creation, and how natural law influences Catholic understanding of the sanctity of life.
- How to explain how Catholics believe science and religion can work together.
- How to explain Catholic teachings on creation links into the ideas of 'love of neighbour', stewardship and how Cafod's work on sustainability expresses beliefs about the goodness of creation.

2. Incarnation

- What the Bible teaches about Jesus as incarnate Son and divine Word, fully God and fully human, Son of God and Son of Man.
- Why Christians use the symbols ICHTHUS, Alpha and Omega and Chi-Rho.
- How the belief that God became man has influenced Catholic attitudes to religious art.
- What one sculpture or statue of Jesus teaches about Jesus and explain different Christian attitudes to religious sculptures, statues and images of Jesus.
- How Jesus fulfils the law, and how he shows people how to live through his actions, attitudes and teachings.
- What St. Irenaeus meant when he wrote, 'the glory of God is a human being, fully alive.'
- How the incarnation is talked about in *Dei Verbum* 4 and *Verbum Domini* 12.
- What the belief that Jesus is God incarnate teaches about grace and the sacramental nature of reality.
- How the seven sacraments help make life holy for Catholics.
- How the idea of human beings *imago dei* influences Catholic beliefs about the protection of the unborn.

3. The Triune God

- How different styles of music are used in Catholic worship.
- Why the acclamations used in the mass like the Gloria, Alleluia, Sanctus and the Mystery of Faith are important for Catholics.
- How the idea of the Triune God is shown in the Bible, and explain why the Nicene Creed is important for an understanding of the Trinity.
- How Catholics see the Trinity at work in Genesis 1:1-3.
- How mission and evangelism are examples of the Spirit at work in the Catholic Church.
- What St Augustine and Catherine LaCugna say about God's love.
- The importance of the Councils of Nicea and Constantinople for teachings about the Trinity.
- The importance of Baptism as a sign of joining and sharing in the life of the Trinity.
- How prayer, both traditional and spontaneous, helps Catholics to raise their hearts and minds to God.
- How prayer and posture work together in prayer.

4. Redemption

- How the various features in a Catholic church show what Catholics believe, and explain how they help Catholics in worship.
- The importance of the lectern, altar, crucifix and tabernacle in a Catholic church.
- How different types of architecture and objects within a Catholic church reflect different attitudes and beliefs.
- The importance of the death and resurrection of Jesus, especially in relation to redemption.
- How Christians see salvation as a past, present and future event and explain what the gift of grace means to Christians.
- How the liturgy has been influenced by the events of the Last Supper and the death and resurrection of Jesus.
- How the events described in Mark 15:21-39, John 20:1-18, Acts 1:6-11 and Acts 2:1-4 show the redeeming work of Jesus.
- How St Irenaeus and St Anselm use metaphors to write about salvation.
- The importance of conscience for Christians as the voice of God, and how this affects the way that Christians live.
- The importance of the Mass for Catholics and explain different Christian understandings of what the Eucharist means.
- The importance of the words of institution, the Agnus Dei, the Real Presence, and the Eucharistic adoration for Catholics.

5. The Church and the Kingdom of God

- How dramatised prayer, including the Stations of the Cross, reflects the idea of the pilgrim Church.
- The importance of pilgrimage for Catholics, including the importance of going on pilgrimage to Jerusalem, Rome, Walsingham and Lourdes.
- How mission and evangelism are expressed in drama.
- The meaning of the Kingdom of God, especially in the Lord's Prayer.
- Catholic teaching about justice, peace and reconciliation, as a reflection of beliefs about the Kingdom of God.
- How the Catholic Church operates, including how it consults in councils.
- The importance of the Second Vatican Council and the documents it produced.
- The importance of Mary as a disciple, and explain how the Magnificat is a controversial prayer.
- The importance of the four marks of the Catholic Church (one, holy, catholic, apostolic), and explain why apostolic succession is important for Catholics.
- What the Magisterium is, and its role in Catholic teaching.
- How two Catholic agencies follow the command to 'love your neighbour' in their work.
- How Kingdom values are lived out in the priesthood, family and religious life.
- How one important Catholic figure works for justice, peace and reconciliation.

6. Eschatology

- The features and meaning of the Paschal candle
- The meaning and religious ideas in Michelangelo's *The Last Judgement*.
- How memorials show Christian beliefs about life after death.
- Catholic beliefs about eschatology and life after death, including the importance of the resurrection of Jesus.
- The importance of the four last things (death, judgement, heaven and hell), and Catholic beliefs about purgatory and judgement.
- What the Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus teaches about life after death.
- What Julian of Norwich's *Revelations of Divine Love* 32 teaches about the idea of cosmic reconciliation.
- How the Second Vatican Council influenced teaching about eschatology.
- How the last rites are seen as signs of reconciliation, healing and hope.
- How the prayers and actions of the funeral rite reflect Catholic belief about life after death.
- How the idea of the sanctity of life affects Catholic views about the care of the dying and euthanasia.

Paper 2: Judaism

1. Jewish Beliefs and Teachings

- Jewish beliefs about the nature of God, especially the beliefs that God is One, the Creator, the lawgiver and judge, loving and merciful.
- The concept of the divine presence (Shekhinah).
- Jewish beliefs about life after death, including judgement and resurrection.
- Jewish beliefs in the nature and role of the Messiah, including views on the role and importance of the Messiah.
- The terms and significance of the covenant with Abraham, and explain Abrahams journey to the Promised Land.
- The covenant at Sinai and its importance to Jews, including the role of Moses and the Ten Commandments.
- Key moral principles in Judaism, including justice, healing the world, charity and kindness to others.
- The importance for Jews of the sanctity of human life, including the concept of 'saving a life' (pikuach nefesh).
- The importance of the mitzvot for Jews and how they relate to free will, including the different types of mitzvot: those between man and God, and those between man and man.

2. Jewish Practices

- The meaning and importance of the synagogue for Jews.
- The design and religious features of synagogues, including the reading platform (bimah), Ark (Aron Hakodesh), and ever-burning light (ner tamid)
- Religious practice associated with these features.
- Differences between Orthodox and Reform synagogues, including differences in how worship is carried out.
- The significance of prayer in public acts of worship, including the Amidah, the standing prayer.
- The celebration of Shabbat in the home and in the synagogue, and explain its significance.
- Describe and explain worship in the home and private prayer.
- Explain what is meant by the written law (Tenakh) and the oral law (Talmud) and why they are important for Jews.
- Describe and explain the meaning of ceremonies associated with birth, including Brit Milah.
- Describe and explain the meaning of Bar and Bat Mitzvah.
- Describe and explain the marriage ceremony and its importance.
- Describe and explain Jewish rituals associated with death and mourning and their importance.
- Explain Jewish dietary laws and their significance, including different Jewish views about their importance.
- Explain the origins and importance of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur and describe how they are celebrated in Britain.
- Explain the origins and importance of Pesach, and describe how it is celebrated in Britain today.

3. Religion, Relationships and Family

- How the Bible shows that people are sexual, male and female.
- Catholic teaching about love as being marital, unitive and procreative.
- The main ideas of John Paul II's 'Theology of the body'.
- Different views held in Britain, both Christian and non-religious about sex before marriage, adultery and homosexuality.
- The conditions for a valid marriage according to the Catholic Church.
- What the marriage and the marriage promises mean for Catholics.
- What the Catholic Church teaches about annulment, divorce and remarriage.
- Different views held in Britain, both Christian and non-religious, on cohabitation and same sex marriage.
- What the Catholic Church teaches about family planning.
- What the Catholic Church teaches about the family, including procreation, security and education of children, and the roles of men and women.
- What the Catholic Church teaches about work within the home.
- Different views held in Britain, both Christian and non-religious, on the use of artificial contraception, and the rights of same sex and single people to have children.
- What the Bible and the Catholic Church teach about the equality of men and women.
- Ways in which the Catholic Church opposes gender prejudice and discrimination.
- Different views held in Britain, both Christian and non-religious, on the view that treating men and women equally means treating them the same.

4. Religion, Peace and Conflict

- What the bible teaches about violence and human nature, including bullying.
- What Jesus taught about forgiveness and reconciliation.
- What is meant by justice, and what the Catholic Church teaches about justice and human dignity.
- Different views held in Britain, both Christian and non-religious, on righteous anger and violent protest as responses to injustice.
- The importance of the just war theory.
- What the Catholic Church teaches about nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction.
- Catholic views on civilian casualties, refugees and environmental damage in modern warfare.
- Different views held in Britain, both Christian and non-religious, on the use of weapons of mass destruction.
- Different views on how religion and war are linked, and explain the concept of holy war.
- What the Old Testament teaches about war.
- Different views held in Britain, both Christian and non-religious, on pacifism.
- How religions try to help the victims of war in conflicts of the twenty-first century.
- Different religious teachings and viewpoints about the use of terrorism.
- Catholic views on torture, radicalisation and martyrdom.
- How and why the Catholic Church tries to bring about conflict resolution.
- The work of two Christian organisations that are active in conflict resolution and peace-making.



GCSE RE Revision 'Dos' and 'Don'ts'

The best GCSE results don't go to the so-called cleverest students — they go to those who revise, plan and organise themselves the best – those who put in the best effort. If a student organises their time efficiently and plans their revision period well leading up to exams, hard-work will be paid off when your results come in. However, there are certain 'dos' and 'don'ts' to consider when revising, particularly when doing so intensively over school holidays...

Do!

- Do plan your revision materials ahead of time – Ensure you are revising from the correct syllabus and exam board.
- Make sure that any notes you have taken are complete and in full.
- Separate topics into clearly divided sections.
- Do take breaks – Take regular short breaks to stay energised.
- Drink plenty of water and eat well to ensure your brain can concentrate. A hearty breakfast will ensure you start the day right. Take a proper lunch time hour to rest in the middle of the day, ready to hit the ground running in the afternoon!
- Do test yourself – write and re-write your notes from memory to ensure facts are stored in your brain in the long-term.
- Do revise more than one topic a day – split your time between two or three topics every day.
- Do start early – It is scientifically proven that our brains are more energized and active in the mornings.
- Ensure a good night's sleep; awake feeling refreshed for the day ahead.

Don't!

- Don't panic –revision can be overwhelming but there is no need to become stressed. Keep the end goal in sight - achieving great exam results.
- Don't overwork yourself – pace your revision and work to a strict timetable.
- Don't procrastinate – don't give yourself reasons not to revise. Put away your mobile phone, iPad, laptop and anything else that is a distraction!
- Don't work in a noisy place – find a nice quiet room at home or in a local library where you can revise in peace and quiet.
- Don't feel defeated – you are not alone! All your peers are in the same situation. Share your revision techniques with your friends and stay positive. Remember that once you've sat your exams, you'll have plenty of time to relax!
- Lots of student's approach revision in different ways so they don't become overwhelmed – vary your approach.

Treat your revision period like an extension of your school timetable, be disciplined with your time and take ownership of your studies.

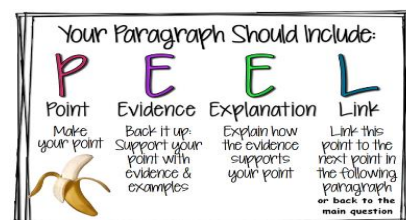
Tips and Tricks for GCSE RE

General:

- Start revising early – like, now! A ‘little often’ is better than cramming everything at the end.
- Get yourself organised; make sure you have everything that you need to revise from: old/full books, revision booklets, revision guides, Mr McMillan on YouTube, etc.
- Catch up on any missing work if you have been absent for any lessons. From now on in, your attendance at all lessons is even more vital.
- Attend after-school and lunchtime revision classes when they are offered.

Exam Papers:

- Write in black ballpoint pen – never use a black gel pen!
- Write legibly so that the examiner can understand what you are saying.
- Read the questions carefully; make little notes for yourself by each question if need be.
- Work on the idea of 1 mark = 1 minute.
- Some students prefer to answer Q5 first in each section; this is your choice but remember that it is worth the most marks – 50% in fact.
- Always use a new paragraph for every new point.
- Do not leave gaps/lines between paragraphs.
- On Q2, basic sentences are needed – 2 separate ones. Don’t write paragraphs – that is too much information.
- Use PEEL paragraphs for Q3 and Q5.
- For Q4 use PERPE: Point-Explain-Reference-Point-Explain, in 2 paragraphs.
- When using quotations and/or teachings, they must be either direct quotes, e.g. ‘Jesus said...’, a paraphrase of a quote, e.g. ‘Pope Francis said that...’ or a reference to Church or Biblical teaching, e.g. ‘The Catholic Church teaches that...’.
- With teachings, it is acceptable to say that ‘the Bible says that...’. Don’t forget, St Paul, Jesus and The Bible are great teachings to reference.
- As a general rule you have 25 minutes to answer each section; this means a minute a mark. For those with extra time you have around 6 minutes more for each section.
- You can answer the sections and questions in any order; some prefer to answer it in order while some prefer to focus on 12-mark answers first. This is personal preference.



Questions:

- On Q1, tick the answer which you think is correct – revise the Key Word Handbook on your pen drive. Read the question carefully. If you don't know the answer, guess!
- For Q2, stick to the question and use one sentence or even one word for each mark, depending on what has been asked.
- On Q3s, two full PEEL paragraphs are required and make sure that you actually explain your reasons, as the question demands.
- If you are asked for 2 contrasting views/ideas, then they must be different to each other.
- For Q4, use two paragraphs based on PERPE. This means you must include a teaching/reference which supports and links to what you have written.
- Q5 carries the most marks and is where you will be marked on SPAG (except for the Themes) – check over your answers when finished. Always use PEEL paragraphs. You must also use teachings, one to support each side if possible to get the higher grades.
- For each argument, say whether you believe it is a strong or weak argument saying 'why' you think this.
- In your conclusion, try to use a new argument, one that you have not used previously and explain your opinion with reasons/evidence.
- A general structure for Q5 is:
 - Paragraph 1 – Some people/Christians/Jews agree because... For example... This is a strong/weak argument because...
 - Paragraph 2 – However, other people/Christians/Jews disagree because... For example... This is a strong/weak argument because...
 - Paragraph 3 – Despite this, some people/Christians also agree because... For example... This is a strong/weak argument because...
 - Paragraph 4 – On the other hand, other people/Christians/Jews continue to disagree because... This is a strong/weak argument because...
 - Paragraph 5 – Reach a reasoned and justified conclusion using a new point. After considering both sides of the argument/In conclusion, I believe/think...because... For example... However...(criticism) but...(reply to criticism).
- There are other ways to answer Q5, for example:
 - P1 – Some people agree because...and also because...However...(criticism). I think...
 - P2 – Other people disagree because...and also because... However...(criticism). I think...
 - P3 – Some...Catholics/Christians/Jews believe...because...and also because...However...(criticism). I think...
 - P4 - Reach a reasoned and justified conclusion using a new point. After considering both sides of the argument/In conclusion, I believe/think...because... For example... However...(criticism) but...(reply to criticism).



Revision Videos on YouTube

There are a number of videos available on YouTube (and further ones being added regularly) which explore GCSE Religious Studies (AQA). I recommend the Mr McMillan video clips. Here are the videos that he has produced so far, all for Paper 1. Subscribe to his Channel to find out when any new videos are released for Paper 2.

Paper One: Catholic Christianity

Creation

Part 1: Creation in Genesis -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IM_Kpg_Xr60&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDbgl-bi6qMBMomXDI3DvsFE&index=2&t=0s

Part 2: The Bible - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zUIYcXuvdY8&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDbgl-bi6qMBMomXDI3DvsFE&index=2>

Part 3: Science and Natural law -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BbRjwRpwQT8&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDbgl-bi6qMBMomXDI3DvsFE&index=3>

Part 4: Stewardship - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tb_dTJ-nEcM&index=4&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDbgl-bi6qMBMomXDI3DvsFE

Part 5: Creation in Art - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tb_dTJ-nEcM&index=4&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDbgl-bi6qMBMomXDI3DvsFE

Incarnation

Part 1: Doctrine of the Incarnation -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8zs81Omhsc&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDYJFeeQEQ6FpOdicPjzWxN8>

Part 2: Incarnation in the Gospels -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mAMtW9jp0xU&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDYJFeeQEQ6FpOdicPjzWxN8&index=2>

Part 3: Art and the Incarnation –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B0k88LSDIy0&index=3&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDYJFeeQEQ6FpOdicPjzWxN8>

Part 4: Grace and the Incarnation –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ho3UPmDdYCI&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDYJFeeQEQ6FpOdicPjzWxN8&index=4>

Part 5: Morality and the incarnation -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YI7tyMwbWPQ&index=5&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDYJFeeQEQ6FpOdicPjzWxN8>

The Triune God

Part 1: Trinity in the Bible -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BKQgYYHHqxQ&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDZVnjoaFvFwQhXicVLpZpqt>

Part 2: Trinity in Church Teaching -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbPtKWUJSuE&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDZVnjoaFvFwQhXicVLpZpqt&index=2>

Part 3: Impact of the Trinity -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2a5LH3c6L0E&index=3&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDZVnjoaFvFwQhXicVLpZpqt>

Part 4: Music in Worship -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ih9iOf0gnE&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDZVnjoaFvFwQhXicVLpZpqt&index=4>

Part 5: Baptism and Prayer -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qn0wYggAk8Q&index=5&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDZVnjoaFvFwQhXicVLpZpqt>

Redemption

Part 1: Introduction to Redemption -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0Gn2jbNX44&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDadKpESLpkLPDM5wSgi3Ccd>

Part 2: Different views on Redemption – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQNI-Du4ayI&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDadKpESLpkLPDM5wSgi3Ccd&index=2>

Part 3: The Eucharist –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDblvpkc4yc&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDadKpESLpkLPDM5wSgi3Ccd&index=3>

Part 4: Church Architecture – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-2iUCBOnQY&index=4&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDadKpESLpkLPDM5wSgi3Ccd>

Part 5: Conscience -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lmx9b4aUlkw&index=5&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDadKpESLpkLPDM5wSgi3Ccd>

Church and the Kingdom of God

Part 1: The Church -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=klREzdrCrf8&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDak_XgXF9PqnPOeir8bjnyk

Part 2: The Kingdom of God -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=klREzdrCrf8&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDak_XgXF9PqnPOeir8bjnyk

Part 3: People and Kingdom Values -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rE6ASmIG5gl&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDak_XgXF9PqnPOeir8bjnyk&index=3

Part 4: Pilgrimage -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vB4qeDfZxYw&index=4&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDak_XgXF9PqnPOeir8bjnyk

Eschatology

Part 1: Eschatology and Symbols –

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gzuUw_wTGdM&index=1&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDY1Y3QKMisLJzXKjm4pCSCG

Part 2: What is Eschatology –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J9RXw5HduR4&index=2&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDY1Y3QKMisLJzXKjm4pCSCG>

Part 3: Euthanasia –

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8LKf_G6yr0&index=3&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDY1Y3QKMisLJzXKjm4pCSCG

Part 4: The End of Life –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NjoVakJhSk&index=4&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDY1Y3QKMisLJzXKjm4pCSCG>

Part 5: Life after Death -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qNK6bgQJCiY&index=5&list=PLO9sTSBHwEDY1Y3QKMisLJzXKjm4pCSCG>