Crime, Sin and Forgiveness.

Recap phase:

Keyword	Definition
A	The belief that there are certain actions that are always right or always wrong.
E	Literally means spreading the "good news" which we translate as Gospel.
F	The act of pardoning someone for the offences they have caused you.
S	The belief that through Jesus' death and resurrection humanity has achieved the possibility of life forever with God.
S	Acting against the will or laws of God

Preparation: Put the actions in the correct column. Add more of your own to the table.

Murder Adultery Lying Breaking speed limits Blasphemy stealing Being jealous

Crime	Sin	Both	It depends

Knowledge phase: Key Terms

Sin - Is an action which goes against the will of God. Some sins are crimes for example murder some sins like adultery are not against the law.

Crime -can be defined as an action which breaks the law. Laws give guidance and tell people how to behave laws are set by individual laws of a country so they can be different in different parts of the world.

Absolute morality – **(absolutism)** This rule never changes. For example, if a person believes stealing is wrong then they will always have this view regardless of the situation or circumstance. So even if a person was starving and homeless, it would never be acceptable to steal some bread. Another example would be do not kill, this would then apply to war, euthanasia and self-defence.

Relative Morality – (**Relativism)** This is the idea that a moral principle can be adapted and adjusted in certain situations. So, stealing is wrong but in a case of extreme hunger and poverty it may be the only option to survive. Killing is usually always wrong but in some situations, it may be the only option. Eg. Self-defence.

Consolidation phase: In your books, write a 1 sentence definition for Sin, Crime, Absolutism and Relativism.

Knowledge phase: Aims of punishment

Deterrence: This means to discourage or to put someone off committing a crime. A severe punishment may also put someone off doing that action again. It also makes an example of the criminal and might even deter someone else from doing the same thing. This is often one of the main arguments for the death penalty. Punishments may sometimes be harsher than what the criminal deserves to deter others. Deterrence does not always work; in American states that use the death penalty their murder rates are no lower than states that do not use it.

Rehabilitation/reform: Punishment should help the offender to see what they have done wrong and to change their behaviour, so they do not repeat the offence. It is the idea that prisoners can change and have the skills to return to society, this can be done with education and counselling. Reform and rehabilitation is the theory of punishment which is the most compatible with Christian teachings on forgiveness. It can be really expensive to reform criminals and many criminals simply do not want to change. It must be a long-term commitment to want to help the criminal even after they have been released from prison. Some believe it is a soft way to treat criminals and offers no punishment at all.

Retribution This is the idea that punishment should make criminals pay for what they have done wrong. To put is simply taking revenge. It makes the victim of a crime feel a sense of justice that the offender gets what they deserve. Reflects the Old Testament ideas of "Eye for an eye". Sometimes victims feel that criminals do not get severe enough punishments for their crimes. It does not reflect Jesus' teaching that we should turn the other cheek and not seek revenge. For Christians, punishment should be connected to justice and not revenge.

Consolidation phase: Summarise the information in the table.

Aim of punishment	Benefits	Problems	Links to religious teaching
Deterrence			
Reform/ Rehabilitation			
Retribution/Revenge			

Knowledge Phase: Forgiveness

Example …	What we learn about forgiveness
Jesus' answer to Peter	Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?' Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times'.
The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant	Matthew 6: 14-15 'For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins'.
The Lord's Prayer	Christians ask God to 'forgive their sins, as they forgive those who have sinned against them'. This means Christians can only expect to receive forgiveness from God if they are forgiving towards others.
Jesus' Life	Jesus forgave the woman caught in adultery (John 8:1-11) telling her to "go and sin no more."
The Parable of the Prodigal Son	This is one of Jesus' best known stories where the father forgives his son and welcomes him back even though he had done wrong.
Passion of Christ (Crucifixion)	Jesus showed forgiveness in the last moments of his life as he was being put to death. While he was on the cross he says, "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing."

Practice Phase:

In your book, Complete at least one of the B or C questions, alternatively make a detailed plan for a D question.

QUESTION TIME!

B) Describe the difference between crime and sin. (5)

B) Describe the difference between absolute and relative morality. (5)

C) Explain different Christian teachings about types of punishment. (8)

C) Explain what the Bible teaches about forgiveness. (8)

D) 'Murder is always wrong'. Discuss. (15)

D) 'All countries should offer the same punishments for the same crimes'. Discuss. (15)

Capital punishment, Redemption, Grace and Salvation

Recap phase:

Keyword	Definition
Absolutism	
Relativism	
Sin	
Forgiveness	
Punishment	

Preparation: watch the video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YK8fFmKAiaA

Knowledge phase: Arguments for and against capital punishment

For	Against
• Jesus never taught the death penalty was wrong • "He who sheds a person's blood shall have his blood shed, for in the image of God humans were made" Genesis 9:6 • "life for life, eye for eye" Exodus • St Paul teaches that Christians should accept and obey the laws of the government; this may include the death penalty. • The Catholic Church has not cancelled its statements that capital punishment can be used by the state. • Some crimes can be seen as so dreadful that the most extreme form of punishment is justified. • In some cases, The death penalty can bring comfort to the families of victims • Some criminals are too dangerous to ever be released into society	• Jesus came to save and reform sinners, but you cannot reform somebody who is dead • Jesus said revenge was wrong "You have heard that it was said 'eye for an eye, and tooth for a tooth.' But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also" Matthew 5: 38 • Christianity teaches that all life is sacred and that humans are made in God's image. If abortion and euthanasia are wrong then so is capital punishment. Only God has the right to take life. • There will always be a risk that the person may be innocent • The overall message of Christianity is of love and forgiveness, so capital punishment goes against this • Christians would agree with humanists that we should value the lives of all, human rights are important, and that governments should defend all their people. Killing as a punishment is wrong.

Consolidation phase: Use 2 different colours to indicate which of the above arguments are religious and which are non-religious.

Knowledge phase: Redemption, Grace and Salvation

Christians believe that humans had rejected God by their sins. Humans are so important to God that **God took on human nature in God the Son (Jesus) to free humans from the effects of sinfulness.**

In Christianity, 'salvation' means being freed from sin and its consequences. Christianity teaches that Christians can only achieve this by **repenting of their sins, asking God for forgiveness, and accepting Jesus Christ as the Son of God and saviour of humankind.**

Christians believe that their **relationship with God depends on Jesus' death and resurrection**.

Christian tradition uses a range of images to describe how Jesus' death reconciled God and humans. The most common is the image of sacrifice. For example, John the Baptist describes Jesus as ***'the lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world'*** (John 1:29).

The New Testament uses the Old Testament image of the ***Suffering Servant*** (Isaiah 53:5) and applies it to Jesus.

In the biblical tradition, animal sacrifice was a common practice. In making an offering to God, the person making the sacrifice hopes to make or mend a relationship with God. The animal was seen as taking the blame

for something it did not do (a 'scape-goat) and the sacrifice was believed to free human beings from the sins they had committed.

Christians believe that Jesus' total obedience to God, resulting in his suffering and death, was so powerful that it made amends for the sins of human beings in a way that other sacrifices could not. **This restored God's original relationship with humankind**. Human beings could not do this for themselves, as they were sinners. **Only the death of Jesus, who was divine, perfect and without sin, could offer redemption.** Jesus achieved this by sacrificing his life, which meant he 'paid the price' for human sin. He earned salvation by suffering this punishment on behalf of all human beings. His death was the sacrifice needed to bring salvation to the world, so Jesus is the saviour of the world.

Grace

For Christians, **grace is the love and mercy shown by God** because God wants them to have it, not because they have done anything to deserve or earn it. It is a **free, generous and undeserved gift from God.** If Christians repent of their sins, they are truly sorry for them. Catholics believe that this makes them children of God and gives them the desire to change and do good. Grace comes about in a special way in the **sacraments**, which Catholics believe are an encounter with God.

The importance of grace and salvation for Catholics

Salvation from sin is important because without it, a person's sin will stop them from having a relationship with God and ultimately might mean hell or purgatory after death. The salvation of humankind was the purpose of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. Jesus is the saviour of the world for Christians. Christians believe they do not deserve this but are given it freely by God. They must accept this freely in faith. Salvation is important for Catholics because it explains why the sacraments of baptism, reconciliation, confirmation, healing and the Eucharist are at the heart of Catholic life.

Consolidation phase:

1. What do Christians believe is the cause of the separation between humans and God?
2. How does Christianity describe the role of Jesus in restoring the relationship between humans and God?
3. What is the significance of the image of sacrifice in understanding Jesus' death according to Christian tradition?
4. How do Christians define 'grace', and why is it important in the process of salvation?
5. Why are sacraments considered important in Catholic belief regarding grace and salvation?

Practice phase: In your books, complete at least one of the following B or C questions, alternatively make a detailed plan for a D question.

QUESTION TIME!

B) Describe catholic teachings about God's Grace. (5)

B) Describe what the Bible teaches Christians about salvation. (5)

C) Explain what Catholics learn about redemption from the Paschal Mystery. (8)

C) Explain different Christian attitudes to Capital Punishment. (8)

D) 'An omnibenevolent God cannot exist if Hell exists too'. Discuss. (15)

D) 'God would not approve of Capital Punishment'. Discuss. (15)

The Paschal Mystery, Hell, and Salvation outside the Church

Recap phase:

Keyword	Definition
Salvation	
Eucharist	
Punishment	
Sin	
Evangelisation	

Preparation: Watch the video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U_rzCrR4JJo

Knowledge phase: Paschal Mystery

The Paschal Mystery is one of the central concepts of the Christian faith. It relates to the last few days of Jesus' life, his death and the events following his death. Through these events is how Jesus offers salvation to all.

	Significance for Catholics today
The last supper – final meal Jesus had with his disciples. 	Today the symbols of bread and wine are an important part of Mass for Catholics, this is known as the Eucharist
Good Friday, Jesus' arrest, trial and crucifixion. 	Catholics commemorate Jesus death on good Friday and treat it as a day of mourning for his death. Catholics believe Jesus' death ultimately had good consequences for humankind. Jesus' suffering and death were part of God's plan, which we can only understand in context with his resurrection after death.
The resurrection – the Gospels all record Jesus' death on the cross and how he rose three days later. 	Jesus' power to overcome death proved he had a powerful divine nature. Catholics believe the resurrection demonstrates that Jesus is the saviour he has the power to help anyone who believes in him to overcome death. By forgiving sins Jesus can grant them the gift of eternal life with God.
The ascension and promise of the holy spirit – Jesus ascended into heaven 40 days after his resurrection 	This marks the end of Jesus' time on earth, his mission was successful and he had done all he had to achieve. Catholics also believe the ascension opened the way for an outpouring of the holy spirit to energise and encourage Christians everywhere

Consolidation phase: In your book, Reduce this information to one paragraph describing the importance of the Paschal Mystery for Christians today.

Knowledge phase: Hell

Some people might ask the question **'surely a loving God would want to save *everyone*. He would not want to condemn anyone to hell'.** God does not send anyone to hell.

Humans have free will and must choose how to spend their life. If a person chooses to do evil then they will be far from God no matter how much God wants them to come to him. God's love is unconditional but he cannot force it upon us, we have to accept it.

Hell is not a punishment, but a consequence of choosing to go against God. We choose our eternal destination by our choices through life. The concept of **free will** means that God can only offer salvation; it is up to the individual to accept that offer.

No Salvation Outside the Church?

The phrase **"outside the Church there is no salvation"** is a very old one and comes from the writings of early Christian thinkers; this phrase has expressed the belief that **only Catholics will go to heaven.** This is the most straightforward meaning which can still be found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church today (CCC 845). But does the Church teach that anyone who is not a Catholic is going to Hell? The Church does not teach this; but what it does teach needs to be looked at carefully.

Firstly, the Church teaches that **everyone is saved through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection** – whether they know it or not. And the surest way to receive this gift of Christ's salvation is to be a baptised and practising member of the Catholic Church. Jesus *'explicitly asserted the necessity of faith and Baptism…'.* However, they also teach that the **Church of Christ is wider than the Catholic Church**. The Catholic Church is where the Church of Christ exists in all its fullness but there are elements of **"sanctification and truth"** (Lumen Gentium 8) outside of the Catholic Church.

Secondly, they also teach that those **people who have not heard the Gospel of Jesus but have lived good lives can be saved because it is not their fault that they are not Christians**. They are sometimes referred to as **"anonymous Christians"**. This is because Catholics believe that if anyone is saved, it is through the death and resurrection of Jesus. So these people are living good lives because of Jesus, even though they do not know this is the reason. *'Those who, through no fault of their own, do not know the Gospel of Christ or his Church, but who nevertheless seek God with a sincere heart, and, moved by grace, try in their actions to do his will as they know it through the dictates of their conscience - those too may achieve eternal salvation.'* (*LG* 16 cited in *CCC* 847)

The Catholic Church still believes that the surest route to salvation is to be a baptised and practising member of the Catholic Church, but it does believe that other good people outside of the Church can be saved.

Consolidation phase:

1. Why does God not force people to accept His love, according to Christian belief?
2. How does the Catholic Church understand the phrase "outside the Church there is no salvation"?
3. What is meant by the term "anonymous Christians" in Catholic teaching?
4. According to Catholic belief, what role does free will play in a person's eternal destiny?
5. Can people who are not baptized Catholics still be saved, according to Church teaching? Explain briefly.

Practice phase: In your books, complete at least one of the following B or B questions alternatively make a detailed plan for a D question.

QUESTION TIME!

B) Describe The Paschal Mystery. (5)

B) Describe how the sacraments help Catholics to gain salvation. (5)

C) Explain why Jesus' crucifixion is important to Catholics. (8)

C) Explain how Jesus as the saviour teaches Catholics about the Holy Trinity. (8)

D) 'A loving God would not allow so much suffering to come to His Son'. Discuss. (15)

D) 'Humans cannot be forgiven without Jesus'. Discuss. (15)

Big question: The Church, The Body of Christ, and Mary

Recap phase:

Keyword	Definition
Paschal Mystery	
Salvation	
Hell	
Capital Punishment	
Deterrence	

Preparation: Watch the video. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A47SeeFCxmM

Knowledge phase: The 4 marks of the Church

At the Councils of Nicaea and Constantinople in the 4th century CE, Church leaders agreed upon a single statement of faith called the Nicene Creed. It identifies four marks, or distinguishing qualities, of the Church. The 'four marks' of the Church are that it is **one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.**

The Church is one. Catholics are united in their beliefs, one pope, seven sacraments and other keys teachings. The Church is one because Jesus come to reconcile and unite all humankind through his death on the cross. The Holy spirit lives in the souls of all Catholics and unites them into **one** group of believers.	**The Church is Holy.** Catholics believe the Jesus is the source of all holiness, Jesus makes the Church holy through its teaching, prayer, worship and good works. Holy doesn't mean that there are no sinners in the church; it recognises that we are not perfect but we are taught to repent and seek God's forgiveness
The Church is Catholic. Catholic means universal. The Church is Catholic in that Christ is universally present in the Church and also because he has given people the Church the task of evangelising, telling the whole world the message of Jesus.	**The Church is Apostolic.** Catholics believe that Jesus Christ gave his authority to his apostles. He entrusted a special authority to St Peter who became the 1st pope. The faith that Catholics have has been handed down from the 1st apostles, through the pope and bishops right up to the present day.

Consolidation phase:

1. What is the name of the statement of faith agreed upon at the Councils of Nicaea and Constantinople?
2. What are the four marks of the Church identified in the Nicene Creed?
3. Why is the Church considered 'one' according to Catholic teaching?
4. What does it mean when Catholics say the Church is 'holy'?
5. How is the Church 'apostolic' in its leadership and teachings?

Knowledge phase: Mary as model of the Church

Mary is a model of the Church; this means that during her life she modelled what it means to be Catholic.
Charity: Mary is also a model of Charity. She gave her whole life to God and showed kindness and compassion.
Discipleship: Catholics believe Mary was the greatest example of discipleship. She spent her whole life dedicated to Jesus. When Mary was told she would be the Mother of Christ she accepted willingly and joyfully. This makes her a role model and a guide to the way Christians should serve God.
Faith: Mary had total faith in God and her son. She never once questioned God and his choices for her. At the end she did not desert her son as she followed him right up to the foot of the cross. **Why Mary is special to Catholics today**: Catholics hold Mary in great honour. She was chosen to be the human mother of Jesus Christ; she is often referred to as Mary Mother of God. Without Mary there would be no Jesus, no incarnation and therefore no salvation. All Catholic Churches have a statue of Mary showing her great importance. Mary was present at Jesus' first miracle and at the foot of his cross. The title Our Lady refers to the great importance of Mary. As Mary has such a special relationship with God, Catholics believe she acts as a mediator between them and God. Catholics pray to Mary but they believe she will pray to God on their behalf. The Hail Mary is a significant prayer for Catholics.

Consolidation phase:

1. In what ways did Mary model charity during her life?
2. Why is Mary considered the greatest example of discipleship in the Catholic faith?

3. How did Mary demonstrate faith in God throughout her life?
4. Why is Mary referred to as the 'Mother of God' and why is this significant for Catholics?
5. What role does Mary play in Catholic prayer and devotion today?

Knowledge phase: Body of Christ and People of God

In Greek, 'ecclesia' is the word for Church. It means assembly, or gathering together, the Assembly of God's People. The Church *is* the People of God gathered together. The word *church* with a small c is used to refer to the building where Christians come to pray. When it is written with a capital C, Catholics mean everyone who is a member of the Church, all believers together. The Church is an important idea to Catholics.

The Church is described as the Body of Christ in both the New Testament and the Catechism.

Jesus gave his life as a sacrifice so that all could have a closer relationship with God. Through His physical body, Jesus demonstrated the love of God by his teaching (e.g. Love Thy Neighbour) and his actions (e.g. Healing the sick) and especially through His sacrificial death on the cross (Romans 5:8). After he rose from the dead, Christians believe that he ascended (went up) into heaven, bodily. This is known as the Ascension.

The teaching that *the Church is the body of Christ* means that Catholics believe that **the work of Christ on earth did not end with the Ascension**. According to this teaching, **Jesus lives on through his followers, and in the Church, which is his 'body' on Earth.**

The Church made up of all those who are redeemed, now demonstrates the love of God through the work of its people. In this way, the Church functions as "the Body of Christ." Christian people are now the physical body of Jesus as he is no longer physically present in the world. Through Baptism, Catholics believe that the individual is united with other Christians and with Christ and become part of this 'body'.

Why the Church as the Body of Christ is important for Catholics

- The Church remains a unity because its entire people are working together as the body of Christ.
- At the Eucharist, Catholics believe that they receive and share in the Body of Christ.
- Coming together to share the Eucharist reaffirms their unity.
- Roman Catholics believe that Christ is fully present in the Eucharist. This is known as the Real Presence. At Mass the bread and wine, while keeping the appearance of bread and wine, actually become the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ – this is transubstantiation.

Practice phase:

QUESTION TIME!

B) Describe the Four Marks of the Church.

B) Describe what the Catholic Church means by 'The People of God'. (5)

C) Explain the importance of Mary in Catholic Christianity. (8)

C) Explain the role of the Church for Christians. (8)

D) 'The Eucharist is the most important part of the Mass'. Discuss. (15)

D) 'Mary is the best pathway to forgiveness'. Discuss. (15)

Big question: Church exteriors, interiors and sacraments

Recap phase: 54321

Keyword	Answer
Five events of Paschal Mystery	
Four marks of the Church	
Three Aims of punishment	
Two Reasons Mary is Model of the Church	
One definition of sin	

Preparation: Place the keywords in the tables

Knowledge phase: Church exterior design and interior objects

Where?	What is it?	Description
EXTERIOR		These features help the church to stand out from other buildings. Towers and steeples represent prayer and worship rising up to heaven, a physical representation of what takes place inside the building. Many towers have bells that are rung to call people to worship.
		This means that they are in the shape of a cross to signify the importance of the crucifixion.
		Modern church buildings tend to be simpler than those that were built a long time ago. As a result of Vatican II. For example, some churches are circular in design with the altar in the middle. This signifies the oneness of the worshippers and the eternity of God.
		For the first Christians, it was customary to pray facing toward the Holy Land, where Jesus was born, lived, died and rose again. Also the sun rises is the east and is a reminder of the resurrection of Jesus bringing new life.
		This creates a space which is pointing up showing a connection with God/heaven.
		They usually display stories from the Bible or lives of the saints and are a beautiful feature of a church.

Where?	What is it?	Description
INTERIOR		Sanctuary means 'holy place'. This is where the altar, lectern and tabernacle are. The sanctuary is where the public worship is centred.
		A table structure, usually made out of stone. The main action of the Mass, the liturgy of the Eucharist, takes place at the altar. The priest consecrates (blesses) bread and wine here. The altar reminds Christians of the sacrifice and death of Jesus and it is also a reminder that they are sharing in a fellowship meal, as they recall the meal of the Last Supper.
		This is a big stone basin filled with holy water where baptism is performed.
		Near the altar is the lectern used for the Liturgy of the Word. This is a book stand where the priest, deacon or reader stands to read to the congregation. The Word of God is proclaimed from here.
		A tabernacle is a safe-like place in which the consecrated (blessed) hosts (body and blood) are kept. It is also a focus for private prayer and devotion.
		In Catholic churches there is always a crucifix, a cross with an image of the crucified Christ on it. It serves as a reminder of the suffering and death of Jesus.
		This is a small room or box like structure in which the Sacrament of Reconciliation takes place.

Altar	**Towers and Steeples**	**Sanctuary**	**Cruciform Shape**	**Lectern**	**Crucifix**	**Stained Glass**
Modern Changes e.g. Circular	**Font**	**Tabernacle**	**East Facing**	**Confessional**	**Domes and Vaulted Ceilings**	

Knowledge phase:

What is a sacrament?

According to the Catholic Church, a sacrament is **'an outward sign of inward grace, ordained by God, by which grace is given to the soul'**. Catholics believe that while Jesus was on earth, everything he said and did was a visible sign of God's love. People could see him, hear him and touch him. When Jesus returned to heaven, Christians believe that he left the Church to be his body, and the way to 'see', 'hear' and 'touch' him is through the sacraments.

The sacramental nature of reality

Catholics believe that the whole of creation shows the presence of God. This means that God's presence and love are not distant things but realities all around us every day (Good is **omnipresent**). Through the sacraments, Catholics experience God's nourishing, forgiving, healing, strengthening power in a special way. This helps them to build their relationship with God and become like Jesus.

The importance of the sacraments to Catholics

Catholics believe that God's grace is at work in the sacraments. Central to every sacrament is the idea of a 'sign' which becomes something through which God acts. Catholics believe that God gives grace to people through ordinary things, like bread and wine in the eucharist, or water in baptism. This is what is meant by 'outward signs' of 'inward grace'.

To Catholics, the sacraments are a meeting point with God. Each one builds up an individual's relationship with God in a different way.

There are seven sacraments in the Catholic Church: Baptism, confirmation, Eucharist, penance, anointing of the sick, holy orders and matrimony. These sacraments originated in the life, work and teachings of Jesus.

The importance of the Eucharist for Catholics: For Catholics the most regularly celebrated sacrament is the Eucharist. Catholics gather together to remember the last supper, when Jesus took the bread and wine and asked his disciples to remember him when they did the same. The Eucharist is said to be "**the source and summit of the Christian life" (CCC)** because being unified with God is the most important thing to Catholics. It is at the heart of spiritual life and they become closer to God because they receive the body and blood of Christ in communion. Mass re-enacts the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, so it is the highest form of prayer that a believer can make. The Eucharist allows individual Catholics to unite and be part of the **body of Christ.** Catholics believe that Christ is present in the mass because Christ works through the priest to transform the bread and wine into his body and blood this is known as **transubstantiation,** the consecrated bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ. Christs body and blood spiritually sustain the believer.

Consolidation phase:

1. What is a sacrament according to the Catholic Church?
2. How do Catholics believe they can experience God's presence through the sacraments?
3. Why are the sacraments important to Catholics?
4. What is meant by 'outward signs of inward grace'? Give an example.
5. Why is the Eucharist considered the most important sacrament in the Catholic Church?

Practice phase: D question practice. In your book complete either..

D 'The altar is the most important feature of a Catholic church' (15)

or

D 'You can't be a Christian if you don't receive the sacraments' (15)

Mission, Evangelisation and Religious diversity in the UK

Recap phase: 54321

Keyword	**Definition**
5 interior features of a Church	
4 Exterior features of a church	
3 sacraments of initiation	
2 marks of the church	
1 definition of Eucharist	

Preparation: Watch the video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbu99FHrz98

Knowledge phase:

'Go out and make disciples of all nations....' (Matt 28:19)

At the end of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus gives his apostles their mission. Mission means the calling to go out into the world and spread the faith. This mission is also the mission of the Church. The mission of the Church is to go out into the world:

- to go out to the ends of the earth
- to baptise people into the Church
- to teach the teachings of Christ

Going out to preach the gospel is known as **evangelisation**.

Evangelii Gaudium

In 2013, Pope Francis wrote a letter to the world, called *Evangelii Gaudium*, which, in Latin, means **'The joy of the gospel'**. Its theme is the Church's mission of evangelisation in the modern world.

Pope Francis says that the heart of the Christian message is **love for one another**, which must motivate Christians to share the gospel, help the poor and work for social justice. Catholics must care for *'the homeless, the addicted, refugees, indigenous peoples, the elderly who are increasingly isolated and abandoned, and many others.'* Pope Francis says that God, in Jesus, made himself lowly and poor. For this reason, ***the pope wants 'a Church which is poor and for the poor'*** (*EG* 198). He wants the Church to have a special love and care for '*above all the poor and the sick, those who are usually despised and overlooked*' (*EG* 48).

Why? Jesus brought salvation through his death and resurrection. He atoned the sins of humankind. However, to be 'saved', individuals have to have faith in Jesus. The Catholic Church believes it has a duty and an obligation to spread this faith as Jesus told his Disciples to do.

How?

- **Locally**: This basic message of God's love is passed on by the Church, most importantly, through the whole life of the parish (celebration of the Mass, sacraments, Bible study, charitable work, social events, parish retreats, outreach events, etc.) and also across other faiths, communities and beliefs.
- **Nationally**: On a national level, the Bishops' Conference of a country shares the gospel.
- **Globally:** The Catholic Church is a global presence, it has a worldwide platform and in *the Congregation of the Evangelization of Peoples* it has a specific department in the Vatican which looks after it. The global reach of Church proclaims the gospel to the whole world through, for example, the global figure of the Pope (e.g. World Youth Days) and through its own Vatican Radio and TV station.

The Church also lives out the Gospel in the work of international charities and organisations like CAFOD and Missio.

Consolidation phase:

1. What did Jesus instruct his apostles to do at the end of Matthew's Gospel?
2. What is evangelisation and how is it related to the mission of the Church?

3. What is the main message of Pope Francis' *Evangelii Gaudium*?
4. Why does the Catholic Church believe it has a duty to evangelise?
5. Give one example each of how the Church spreads the gospel locally, nationally, and globally.

Knowledge Phase:

Religious Diversity in Britain: Benefits and Challenges

The Catholic Church teaches that people of other faiths should be respected and Catholics should be sensitive to those who have no religious beliefs yet still seek to do good.

Benefits	Challenges
• Greater tolerance and understanding of others • Varied and rich cultural life • Better understanding of different viewpoints • New ways of living and enjoying life	• It is not always easy to be open and understanding towards the views of others • There is religious persecution and hatred • Tensions can exist • Beliefs and values are sometimes ignored

Issues

• **Conversion** –there can be issues where one group of religious believers try to convert another to their faith, which could cause conflict

• **Interfaith marriages**- when two members of different religions get married. This could cause conflict between families with different beliefs and values.

• **Raising Children** – within interfaith marriages both parents might want their children raised within their own faith. This could lead to confusion and arguments.

Religious Leaders are often involved in interfaith dialogue. This is led by the following principles:

• Recognise the common features between faiths
• Respect differences
• Listen to each other
• Learn to live and work in unity
• Share common values such as respect, tolerance, charity and non-violence

Consolidation Phase

1. What does the Catholic Church teach about people of other faiths and those with no religious beliefs?
2. Give two benefits of religious diversity in Britain.
3. What is one challenge that can arise from religious diversity?
4. Why might interfaith marriages present challenges for families?
5. What are two key principles of interfaith dialogue?

Practice Phase:

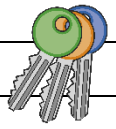
BIG QUESTION TIME!

B) Describe the sacraments of initiation. (5)
B) Describe the sacraments of healing. (5)
B) Describe the sacraments of service. (5)
B) Describe the key features of a Catholic Church. (5)

C) Explain the importance of the sacraments on Catholic Christianity. (8)
C) Explain what it means to say that 'outside of the Church, there is no salvation'. (8)
C) Explain the features and symbolism found within a Christian Church. (8)
C) Explain two different ways in which Catholics should fulfil the mission of the Church. (8)

D) 'Outside the Church, there is no salvation'. Discuss. (15)
D) 'Baptism is the most important sacrament in Catholic Christianity'. Discuss. (15)
D) 'Catholics don't need to evangelise as God forgives us all anyway'. (15)
D) 'All Catholics must go to Church'. (15)

Key Word	Definition
Sin	Acting against the will or laws of God.
Absolutism	The belief that there are certain actions that are always right or always wrong. The belief that moral laws exist eternally and are not just human inventions.
Relativism	The belief that there is no moral law and that rules that govern what is right and wrong are human inventions and change from place to place and from age to age.
Forgiveness	The act of pardoning someone for the offences they have caused you. Overlooking a person's faults.
Punishment	The consequences of a wrong decision and a penalty imposed by a person in authority on the person who has committed wrongdoing.
Salvation	The belief that through Jesus' death and resurrection humanity has achieved the possibility of life forever with God.
Eucharist	The central act of worship in the Catholic Church. Also the term used for the bread and wine as Jesus' body and blood after they are consecrated by the Priest.
Evangelisation	To proclaim to others and live out/embody the gospel, the good news brought to the world by Jesus.



Additional Key Words	Definition
Crime	An act committed which breaks the law.
Justice	Giving to others what is due/owed to them.
Object vs. Intention	Object: The act or action that we do. Intention: The motive for doing so.
Retribution	The idea that punishment should make criminals pay for what they have done wrong
Deterrence	To discourage, or put off, someone from committing a crime.
Rehabilitation	Correcting, helping and healing a criminal.
Capital Punishment	The death penalty used as a punishment for crimes.
Redemption	In religious terms this means 'to rescue from sin'.
Original Sin	The inherited human inclination towards sin. Originated from Adam and Eve's misuse of freewill.
Free Will	Having the ability as humans to make our own decisions.
Hell	Eternal separation from God in the afterlife.
Magnificat	The song of Mary from Luke 1:46-55
Consecrate	To bless or set aside for sacred (holy) purposes.
Liturgy	The Church's public prayer and worship of God, especially in the Mass.
Sacrament	A religious rite (ceremony) which is an outward sign of an inward grace.