

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At this time, we are living through an unparalleled global crisis. When faced with national emergencies in the past, the people of our country have overcome adversity by relying on their families and local communities for comfort, strength, and indeed, personal contact. However, because of the contagious nature of the COVID19 Coronavirus, many of us will have to face this challenge in isolation.

Over the last few weeks the leaders, teachers, support staff and governors of our Catholic schools have carried out their responsibilities outstandingly in the face of increasingly difficult circumstances, preparing for the long-term closure of their schools and developing home schooling resources for pupils and parents. For this, we owe them our sincere thanks.

Our prayers are particularly needed for those parents who are now taking up their role as teachers while their children are at home. As parents they are the first educators of their children. Those who are members of the Catholic Church exercise this duty principally by choosing to send their children to Catholic schools wherever and whenever it is possible. However, in these difficult times, the role of all parents of school-aged children as their primary educators will become even more important.

We will certainly be praying for all Catholic schools, and for the teachers and support staff in them, which will remain open for the children of key workers. While our nation's health services are on the front line battling the threat of this pandemic, our schools can play a crucial function in allowing doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals to exercise their vital role treating the sick.

Over the coming weeks and months, the resolve of our country is going to be tested. Each of us will have to play our part, whether by supporting relatives and friends, assisting those in our communities who are vulnerable and in need, by social distancing or by self-isolating if we become ill.

What we must do is pray. Together we must pray for schools, their leaders, teachers, parents and pupils. With this field of prayer, let us support one another and place all our faith and hope in the Lord Jesus Christ and in the power of his love to save us.

With the assurance of my prayers and every blessing, I remain
yours in the Lord

Marcus

Bishop of Leeds and Chairman of the Catholic Education Service

Free RSE Training for Catholic Schools

The Catholic Education Service, in partnership with Ten Ten Resources and the Department for Education, is providing training for teachers in Catholic primary and secondary schools on the new statutory RSHE (Relationship, Sex and

Health Education) curriculum. The training is FREE.

The training will cover 6 modules:

RSHE Statutory Guidance
The Role of Parents
RSHE Policy and Guidance
Teaching RSHE in a Catholic Context
Breaking down the CES Model Curriculum
Resources and External Visitors

3: The training days are limited to one member of staff per school.

There are two ways to receive the training, either online or by attending a one day course at one of the four regional hubs. The online training can be used by SLT members, governors and class teachers, and will be available in the Summer Term 2020

For More information [click here](#) or visit the CES website

Home Learning Resources

The Association of Teachers of Catholic Religious Education (ATCRE) have helpfully collated a selection of home learning resources which can be accessed for free or at a discount price. These can be seen below.

ATCRE are going to try and share some resources each week - please email any suggestions to communications.atcre@gmail.com, there is also discussion on two Facebook groups [Catholic RE](#) (for secondary) and [Primary Catholic RE](#), and please tag [@atcre_ew](#) on Twitter so they can retweet.

NATRE Free Resources

- **FREE resources for you and your pupils - Keep learning from wherever you are!** To help you during this difficult time, RE Today is supporting NATRE by providing ALL teachers with resources which they can use and share with parents to support with home learning. We will be adding FREE resources to this page on an ongoing basis so please keep checking the site. If you wish to sign up for our updates to inform you of new resources, then please sign up to our mailing list in the pod below.
 - [Access here](#)

CAFOD

- To support teachers we have set up a page with links to resources for children and young people to work through with their families - including worksheets, prayers, films and activities. For any queries, please contact schools@cafod.org.uk for further information
 - [Access here](#)
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- They have also put together prayers, learning resources and extended project activities to support children, young people and families at this time. Every week there will be a weekly theme, with prayers, learning resources, extended creative project work or a weekly community challenge.
- Resources for primary school children can be found here: <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/For-home-learning>

Resources for secondary school teachers and young people can be found here: <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-and-youth-resources/Home-learning-for-young-people>

You can view or register for the weekly live Children's Liturgy (Sundays at 10am) here: <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>

Resources for Independent RE Work

- Created by ATCRE conference speaker, [Dawn Cox](#)
 - [Access here](#)

Online RE CPD

- Created by ATCRE conference speaker, [Dawn Cox](#)
 - [Access here](#)

Redemptorist

- This Lent Redemptorist Publications is proud to share with ATCRE members FREE resources to inspire your students.
- Renowned priest, lecturer and author Fr Denis McBride C.Ss.R, in collaboration with the Diocese of Clifton, guides us through the uniqueness of John's Gospel in his own private chapel.
 - [These four special videos can be found here](#)
- "Stations of the Cross Then and Now" -10% discount for ATCRE
 - A truly engaging book that reflects on each stage of Jesus' passion yet also considers similar heart-rending suffering in the modern world. Students will be gripped as you share moving meditations in the fourteen stations whilst discussing savagery in our own modern day. References to graffiti artist Banksy, the fall of the twin towers and the shooting of Pope John Paul II make this a relevant and engaging tool for use in the classroom.
 - This offer can only be redeemed over the telephone via our Customer Care team. To make a purchase please call: 01420 88222, quoting ref ATCRE.
 - [DVD](#)
 - [Book](#)
 - [Audiobook](#)

The Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary

- 30 min documentary - featuring Rt Rev Mgr John Armitage
 - [Watch here](#)

Peneca

- All Catholic GCSE specifications are now all covered.
 - [Distance learning resources here](#)

Cambridge University Press

- Textbooks online for free - perhaps more for A Level or teacher CPD?
 - [Access here](#)

Stained Glass Window Colouring

- Lovingly created by hand, by a LSA in Shrewsbury Diocese
 - [Download](#)

Respect for the Earth Extended Project

- Shared by Exec member Julia Cunningham
 - [Download here](#)

Church Plan Task

- Shared by Exec member Julia Cunningham
 - [Download Part 1](#)
 - [Download Part 2](#)

Online CPD (General)

- The Agnus Dei TSA have shared resources for online CPD while at home
 - [View here](#)
- Resources on Catholic leadership and education might be of particular value:
 - [Access here](#)

Other Links

- [CAFOD Children's Liturgy](#)
- [Shrewsbury Youth Ministry Team Resources](#)
- [Missio Resources](#)
- [CES Lent Resources](#)
- ["When I Can't Get to Church" Resource](#)
- **Primary specific resources**
 - [CAFOD](#)
 - [Mission Together](#)
 - [Aid to the Church in Need](#)
 - [TERE 1](#)
 - [TERE 2](#)
 - [Testament - The Bible in Animation](#)
 - [Bible for Children](#)