



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)  
General Certificate of Education  
2025

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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# Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 5

*assessing*

The Celtic Church in Ireland  
in the 5th, 6th and 7th Centuries



[SRE51]

\*SRE51\*

**THURSDAY 29 MAY, MORNING**

### TIME

1 hour 20 minutes.

### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided at the top of this page.

**You must answer the questions in the spaces provided.**

**Do not write outside the boxed area on each page or on blank pages.**

Complete in black ink only. **Do not write with a gel pen.**

Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 100.

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.

### ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

You are advised to take account of the marks for each part question in allocating the available examination time.

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## Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

1 (a) How did the political and social background in Ireland before Patrick influence the development of Celtic Christianity? [25]

(b) Assess the claim that the evidence for Christianity in pre-Patrician Ireland is unreliable and therefore unconvincing.

Justify your answer. [25]

2 (a) In what ways is the portrait of Patrick in Muirchú's **Life of Patrick** different from that in the **Confessio**? [25]

(b) "Celtic hagiographical writings contain no historically accurate information, but have value for other reasons."

To what extent do you agree with this view? Justify your answer. [25]



**Section B**

Answer **one** question from Section B

- 3 (a)** “The change from episcopal to monastic organisation in the Celtic Church was a gradual process.”

Give an account of the evidence to support this statement. [25]

- (b)** “Self-denial and asceticism are essential for religion.”

With reference to other aspects of human experience, evaluate this view.

Justify your answer. [25]

- 4 (a)** How did the monasteries play a part in the development of penitential practice in the Celtic Church? [25]

- (b)** “The challenge to show mercy as seen in penitential practice continues to have relevance for everyone.”

With reference to other aspects of human experience, assess this claim.

Justify your answer. [25]

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\*36SRE5105\*



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\*36SRE5106\*







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\*36SRE5109\*

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\*36SRE5110\*









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\*36SRE5114\*













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\*36SRE5119\*

























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\*36SRE5133\*

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\*36SRE5134\*





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For Examiner's use only	
Question Number	Marks
1	
2	
3	
4	
<b>Total Marks</b>	

Examiner Number

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