



General Certificate of Secondary Education
2023

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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Religious Studies

Paper 2a

The Christian Church
with a Focus on the
Catholic Church



[GRE21]

GRE21

THURSDAY 1 JUNE, MORNING

TIME

1 hour 30 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 **all** the questions in **Section A** and **two** from **three** questions in **Section B** in the spaces provided in this booklet.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 100.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in **Section B** Questions **5(c)**, **6(c)** and **7(c)**, where **two** questions only are required to be completed.

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



2 Christian festivals

(a) (i) Name the period of time leading up to Christmas.

_____ [1]

(ii) What event is remembered at the Epiphany?

_____ [1]

(iii) How long does Lent last?

_____ [1]

(iv) What happened on Good Friday?

_____ [1]

(v) On what day do Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus?

_____ [1]



Section B

Answer **two** questions from this section.

Write on the pages provided at the end of the examination paper.

5 Worship in the Catholic Church

(a) Describe the main types of prayer used during worship. [5]

(b) Explain why some Catholics may find it difficult to pray. [5]

(c) "Churches should do more to make worship appealing to young people."

Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have considered different points of view. [10]

6 The birth of the Christian Church and Christianity in Ireland

(a) Outline the key teachings of the Apostles' Creed. [5]

(b) Explain why Pentecost was an important event in the Early Church. [5]

(c) "St Patrick is a good role model for Christians today."

Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have considered different points of view. [10]

7 Church buildings and furniture

(a) Describe the location and purpose of **three** key furnishings in the Catholic Church. [5]

(b) Explain the significance of the different types of church architecture. [5]

(c) "Churches could make better use of their buildings to serve the whole community."

Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have considered different points of view. [10]

[Turn over



THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER

DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE

| For Examiner's use only | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Question Number | Marks |
| Section A | |
| 1 | |
| 2 | |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| Section B | |
| 5 | |
| 6 | |
| 7 | |
| Total Marks | |

Examiner Number

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