



General Certificate of Secondary Education  
2024

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\*

**FRIDAY 31 MAY, 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.



## Section A

Answer **all** questions.

### 1 Church government

(a) (i) What name is given to the leader of the Catholic Church?

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

(ii) What is the role of an archbishop?

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

(iii) Who carries out the ordination of a priest?

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

(iv) Name **two** symbols used during the ceremony of ordination.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

2. \_\_\_\_\_ [1]





## 2 Church architecture and furniture

(a) What are the following used for in a Catholic church?

(i) An altar

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

A tabernacle

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

An ambo

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

(ii) Name **two** styles of church architecture.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

2. \_\_\_\_\_ [1]















## Section B

Answer **two** questions from this section.

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

### 5 Sacraments in the Catholic Church

(a) Describe the ceremony of baptism in the Catholic Church. [5]

(b) Choose **two** symbols used in baptism and explain why they are important. [5]

(c) "Sacraments have become social occasions, rather than important religious events."

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

### 6 The role of the church in contemporary society

(a) Outline some of the changing social trends that challenge Christians today. [5]

(b) Explain how the Church contributes to community cohesion. [5]

(c) "Religious teaching on moral issues is no longer relevant in people's lives."

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

### 7 The role of the Saints

(a) Describe how St Patrick brought Christianity to Ireland. [5]

(b) Explain the meaning and purpose of Saints' days. [5]

(c) "Religious figures from the past can still guide Catholics today."

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

[Turn over



























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**THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER**

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**DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE**

For Examiner's use only	
Question Number	Marks
<b>Section A</b>	
1	
2	
3	
4	
<b>Section B</b>	
5	
6	
7	
<b>Total Marks</b>	

Examiner Number

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