

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ RE TEACHER \_\_\_\_\_

# AQA RELIGIOUS STUDIES

## CATHOLIC CHRISTIANITY

### UNIT: Triune God

This script is to help you to prepare for lessons and to help with revision. You can take it home ahead of exams but must store it the rest of the time in your assessment folder. When highlighting, try and establish a process of highlighting key aspects such as key words, religious references and key facts. It may help to use different colours for each.

#### TRIUNE GOD

##### BELIEFS, TEACHINGS AND SOURCES OF AUTHORITY

###### Triune God in the Bible

1. Deuteronomy 6:4- this is the Shema. Jews believe there is one God, like Christians but reject the belief of the trinity, this emphasises the oneness of God.
2. Matthew 3: 16-17- this is an example of where the trinity is revealed to us; all three parts of the trinity are described. The **Spirit** is shown as a dove- stays with Jesus. The **Father** calls Jesus his son- he has always existed and became man at this time. **Father** is unseen but his presence is felt.
3. Galatians 4: 6- When baptized we become a child of God and receive the same Holy Spirit that unites the trinity.



###### **Links to Catholic Teaching and Scripture**

- Youcat 35- Know that there is a triune God from Jesus; he speaks about his Father in heaven and he sent the Holy Spirit.

###### Trinity in the Nicene Creed

4. God the Father- creator of all things.
5. God the Son- shares in the nature of the father and has existed eternally. No distinction between father and son. He took on limitations of human nature. He suffered, died, and rose from the dead.
6. God the Holy Spirit- spirit/breath of God that gives life to all things, comes from both the father and son and unites them in love. Inspires people to let them know the will of God.

###### **Links to Catholic Teaching and Scripture**

- Genesis 1: 1-13- Shows God as creator and the nature of the trinity. 'God' refers to the **Father**. 'Ru'ach' can also be translated as **spirit**; present in creation. God "said", this refers to the word of God, "**Jesus**".



### Influence on Christians Today

7. Love is meaningless if not shared; we all receive grace.
8. Mission- Means to 'send out'. There are many organisations that work to help the poor develop better lives. They are living out the belief that they should love others as God loves them.
9. Evangelism- means to preach the gospel by words. They want to share the knowledge they have of God's love; many think these preachers are influenced by the Holy Spirit.

### **Links to Catholic Teaching and Scripture**

- Pope Benedict XVI- The Holy Spirit transforms the hearts of our religious community. The activity of the church is an expression of love; it seeks to find new followers through both actions and words.
- 1 John 4: 20-21- those who love God must also express this love to those around them.
- Matthew 28: 18-20- Jesus' last instructions to the disciples were to spread his message; baptising people in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

### Trinity in the Bible

10. The words 'Triune God' and 'Trinity' never appear in the Bible but the beliefs can be found in the Bible.
11. Mark 1: 9-11- Spirit descends down onto Jesus like a dove and remains with him. In this story all parts of the trinity are present.
12. Galatians 4: 6-7- Paul constantly makes reference to the Triune God; showed how this relationship applies to all believers. Use of term 'father' shows close relationship with God. It is the Spirit that gives believers strength. Jesus took on human nature so we might be closer to God.

### **Links to Catholic Teaching and Scripture**

- Dei Verbum 21- All the teachings of the Church must come from and be nourished by the Bible.
- Youcat 122- Triune God is 'social'; it brings love to us.

### Trinity and God's Love

13. Augustine de Hippo- starts from belief 'God is love'. For there to be love there must
14. be three things; a lover, the person they love and the love that unites them but they are all three part of one nature. The love of God pours out in to believers as the Holy Spirit; love is sharing, self-giving and creative.
15. Catherine LaCugna- Everything we know about God is through self-revelation; this is only possible through his actions in people's lives, **we can see God in our lives: Father in the Creation, Son in his teachings (Gospels) and Holy Spirit in the love and kindness that people share on Earth.** Relational: the Son comes from the Father. The Holy Spirit unites the Father and Son.

### Magisterium and the Trinity

16. Gains its authority through the concept of apostolic succession. The Holy Spirit guides the Church to the truth that is expressed through its teachings.
17. Seeks to clarify any heresies that are being passed around.
18. Council of Nicea- Wanted to reject heresy that only the Father was eternal. Asserted that the Son is eternal and the Father and the Son have always existed equally.

19. Council of Constantinople- Wanted to reject heresy that Jesus was not fully human. Asserted that the Holy Spirit is the giver of life, he is with the father and the son and spoke through the prophets.

### **Links to Catholic Teaching and Scripture**

- Lumen Gentium 20- Since the apostles appointed the first bishops there has been a succession that allowed tradition to be maintained.
- Lumen Gentium 21-The first apostles were enriched by Christ and they have passed down this spiritual gift.

## **EXPRESSION IN MUSIC**

### Music and Worship

20. The Catholic Church regularly uses music to praise God. It is said to help people to become a part of worship.
21. St. Augustine de Hippo: "For he who sings praise, does not only praise, but also praises joyfully."
22. Psalms are a book of poetry in the Old Testament. These are part of the Church's Divine Office. They are also sang in mass between the first and second reading.
23. Psalms focus on the praising of God but focus on all aspects of life e.g. sickness, praying for harvest, seeking forgiveness etc.

### **Links to Catholic Teaching and Scripture**

- Sacrosanctum Concilium 112 – Sacred music is closely linked to the liturgy. It adds delight, brings people's minds together and adds seriousness to the worship.
  - Sacrosanctum Concilium 112- It forms an important and necessary part of the liturgy.
24. Plainchant- ancient form of music that is usually unaccompanied and uses a limited range of notes. Used in monasteries to sing the Divine Office in Latin.
25. Traditional Hymns- hymns that have been used by believers for many years. These hymns have been able to help believers over many periods of time.
26. Contemporary Worship Songs- After the Second Vatican Council, Mass was allowed to be said in that country's language (before this, it was said in Latin). This led to the creation of modern hymns that allowed the congregation to be more involved in the worship.
27. Mass Settings- Some part of the mass must be sung rather than read. Over the years, there have been many compositions created for this, designed to be sung by a choir. Since the 1960's they have been composed to allow the whole congregation to join in.

### **Links to Catholic Teaching and Scripture**

- Sacrosanctum Concilium 116- the Gregorian Chant is suited to the Roman Liturgy (spoken in Latin) and should be given a 'pride of place'.
- Youcat 183- Where we do not have the words to praise God we should use music instead. It makes prayer more beautiful and move the hearts of those involved in the Mass.

### Acclamations used in the Mass

28. **Gloria**- based on the hymn of angels; used to show thankfulness to God for all his care and love. Not said during Advent and Lent
29. **Alleluia**- Hebrew for 'praise God'. At Easter Vigils it is sung three times to announce the resurrection. Not sung during Easter and Lent. Used to introduce the gospel.
30. **Sanctus**- Latin for 'holy'. Based on the vision of Isaiah in the Temple (Isaiah 6: 1-3). Repeated three times to show that God is **truly** holy. Can be sung in both a reflective and celebratory manner.
31. **Mystery of Faith**- sung directly after the consecration. Accept that the consecration has made present the event of Jesus' death and resurrection; God showed the depth of his love.

### **Links to Catholic Teaching and Scripture**

- Luke 2:14- 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' (Link to Gloria)

### **IMPACT ON LIFE**

#### Baptism

32. **Origins**- Matthew 28: 19 "Go make disciples of all nations, teach and baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" and Mark 1:9 – the Baptism of Jesus.
33. **Symbolism**- joining in with Jesus' death and resurrection. In the early Christian Church the total submersion was called 'waters of the tomb'; joining Jesus in the tomb. Symbolises giving up their will and life to God. Today, water is sprinkled on the baby's head. Symbol of the Holy Spirit filling a person.
34. **Importance**- *Sign of Initiation; given strength of the Holy Spirit to resist evil. Choosing the child's name shows the parent's power and responsibility and giving their child identity and individuality. Grace enters their life. Get rid of Original Sin.*

### ***Links to Catholic Teaching and Scripture***

- *Romans 6: 3-4- Buried with Christ in our Baptism so that we might also walk in the 'newness of life'.*
- *Youcat 194- Way out of the Kingdom of Death and the way into a lasting relationship with God.*

#### Traditional and Spontaneous Prayer

35. *Christians are never praying on their own. There is always mass somewhere in the world and all these prayers are being offered up together.*
36. *Traditional Prayer- have been passed down through the generations e.g. Our Father, Hail Mary.*
37. *Spontaneous Prayer- done suddenly or without any format. Believe that the Holy Spirit guides them in what to say.*
38. *Christians use a variety of postures when they pray: kneeling, standing, hands outspread, hands together, prostration.*

### ***Links to Catholic Teaching and Scripture***

- *Youcat 496- Prayer is turning the heart to God and entering into a living relationship with Him.*
- *Romans 8:26- When we do not know how to pray the Spirit will intervene and guide us.*