

Welcome to the Spring 1 2025 edition of Flame. We have decided to move publication of Flame from bi-weekly cycle to half termly. If you would like to contribute to Flame or have suggestions to improve it, please contact Sharon at sharondocherty@rcaos.org.uk.

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

Official prayer from Pope Francis for the Jubilee year 2025, 'Pilgrims of Hope'

Flame Newsletter

Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

The Jubilee Year is now underway with the official launch for schools on Friday 24th January. The Education Service has a dedicated page on our website where all events and resources we receive will be available. <https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk/jubilee-2025/>

Jubilee Catholic Young Writer Award

The Catholic Union Charitable Trust is delighted to sponsor the 2025 [Catholic Young Writer Award](#) in this Jubilee Year with the theme '*Jesus Christ, Son of God*'.

Joanna Bogle of the Keys, the Catholic Writers Guild of England and Wales says: "Students have been asked to imagine that a friend has said to them that Jesus was a great man, and wonderful moral teacher, but that they did not accept that he was God. They are encouraged to write an essay in response drawing on the Scriptures and showing evidence of having studied the Catechism of the Catholic Church and some Papal teachings".

[The Catholic Young Writer Award](#) was launched by The Keys, the Catholic Writers Guild of England of England and Wales in the 1990s and has been flourishing ever since. It is now sponsored by the [Catholic Union Charitable Trust](#). The winners are invited to the Annual Meeting of the Catholic Union, held each Autumn in London, to receive their prizes from the President, Baroness Hollins.

[The Catholic Young Writer Award](#) is open to young Catholics (and pupils at Catholic schools) in England and Wales in secondary years 8-11 inclusive. There is a cash prize of £50.00 for the best essay, plus a number of runner-up book prizes. *The deadline for entry is 30 May 2025.*

Survey Invitation: How parents in Catholic schools in England and Wales support young people's learning, and how school staff and clergy can support parents and families

St. Mary's University and *Swansea University* are conducting a research study on how parents in Catholic schools in England and Wales support young people's learning, and how school staff and clergy can support parents and families.

We'd like to invite you to take part in our [online survey](#) of [parents](#), [school staff](#) and [clergy](#), in Catholic schools. We hope the findings will help us keep improving young people's learning, through schools, families, and the diocese working together.

ATCRE Conference 2025

This year's conference takes place on Saturday 1st March in Birmingham. Details can be found here: [ATCRE National RE Conference 2025 | ATCRE](#)

Notable Resources

Jewish Museum, London

The Jewish Museum are developing their online resource library and are offering virtual and in person workshops. The museum is currently closed but, they are offering in person or virtual workshops for children and young people. Click here for more details: [Enquire Now - The Jewish Museum London](#)

Flame Newsletter

Living and Learning the Liturgical Year

Learning about the Liturgical Year adds an extra rich dimension to the teaching of R.E and to the prayer life of the school. This section is meant to provide some ideas; people and events, which may be incorporated into the lessons and prayer times.

January 2025

Pope Francis’ prayer request for January is for the right to an education: Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

The month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus. The first 12 days of January fall during the liturgical season of Christmas and is represented by the colour white (or gold). The remainder of the month fall in Ordinary Time and is represented by the liturgical colour of green.

<p>January Saints & Notable Days 3rd Most Holy Name of Jesus 13th St Hilary, Doctor of the Church 19th St Wulstan 20th St Fabian and St Sebastian, Martyrs 21st St Agnes, Martyr (M) 22nd St Vincent, Martyr 27th St Angela Merici 28th St Thomas Aquinas, Doctor of the Church</p>	<p>Notable January (F)east, (S)olemnities & (M)emorials 1st Mary, the Holy Mother of God (S) 2nd Ss Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen (M) 5th Epiphany of the Lord (S) 12th The Baptism of the Lord (F) 17th St Anthony, Abbot (M) 24th St Francis de Sales, Doctor of the Church (M) 25th The Conversion of St Paul (F) 26th Ss Timothy and Titus (M) 31st St John Bosco (M)</p>
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February 2025

Pope Francis’ prayer request for February is for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ’s mission in the priesthood and religious life.

<p>Notable February (F)east, (S)olemnities & (M)emorials 2nd Presentation of the Lord (F) 5th St Agatha (M) 6th St Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs (M) 10th St Scolastica (M) 22nd Chair of St Peter, Apostle (F)</p>	<p>February Saints & Notable Days 3rd St Blaise, Martyr; St Ansgar, Bishop 8th St Josephine Bakhita; St Jerome Emiliani 11th Our Lady of Lourdes 14th Ss Cyril and Methodius 21st St Peter Damien, Doctor of the Church 27th St Gregory of Narek, Doctor of the Church</p>
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Flame Newsletter

The month of February is dedicated to the Holy Family. This year the entire month falls during the liturgical season of Ordinary Time which is represented by the colour green.

Resources for February

The Presentation of the Lord

Mission Together (Missio) have produced a resource for this feast day. It includes a Celebration of the Word for KS1/2 and a separate assembly for KS1. Each comes with details teaching notes. Missio also has resources for other notable days in February, including St Peter the Apostle and the Feast of our Lady of Lourdes. <https://missiontogether.org.uk/month/february/>

St Josephine Bakhita

Cafod have resources for KS3 on St Josephine Bakhita

March 2025

Pope Francis' prayer request for March is for families in crisis: Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences

The month of March is dedicated to St Joseph, husband of the Virgin Mary and foster father of Jesus. Until the 4th of March it is the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. From 5th March, Ash Wednesday, the Church is in the liturgical season of Lent is represented by the colour being purple.

Notable March (F)easts, (S)olemnities & (M)emorials
 1st St David, Bishop and Patron of Wales(F)
 5th Ash Wednesday
 7th SS Perpetua & Felicity Martyrs (M)
 19th St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary(S)
 25th The Annunciation of the Lord

March Notable Saints Days
 4th St Casimir
 8th St John of God
 9th St Frances of Rome
 17th St Patrick, Bishop, Patron of Ireland
 18th St Cyril of Jerusalem
 24th St Oscar Romero, Bishop & Martyr

Lent Resources

CAFOD, Mission Together, Aid to the Church in Need and the Catholic Children's Society will be updating their Lent resource pages in the coming weeks. You can currently register for the Lenten fundraising activities on the Cafod and Catholic Children's Society websites.

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Education Service Courses for Religious Education & Catholic Life

In the 2024 -2025 academic year, the Education Service is offering a hybrid mix of online and in person courses. To see the full offer and to register please visit the website at rcaoseducation.org.uk/et/ Delegates will be sent joining details in their booking confirmation email and course materials will also be sent to the delegate email address used on the booking form.

Please always check your junk and spam folders if you have registered for a course and not received confirmation. We have found that often the automatic responses are sent to these folders.

Training, courses and events

If you would like a bespoke course, virtually or in person, delivered in your school please contact a member of the R.E. Advisory Team. The cost will be per school; £100 for 1 session of up to 2hrs; £175 for 2 sessions up to 4hrs in total; £250 3 sessions up to 6hrs in total. You can choose to have the sessions over the course of one or several days. We can also provide any of our main offer R.E. and Catholic Life CPD courses in this manner.

Spring 2025

CSED Writing

Multiple dates & venues

[Book](#)

Tuesday 25th February 2025. 2pm-3pm.

Zoom

[Book](#)

Employee Procedures and Hearings; the role of the Governor

Monday 27th January 2025 5.30-7pm

Zoom

[Book](#)

Greater Depth in Religious Education

Tuesday 25th February 2025. 3.30-5pm

Zoom

[Book](#)

Diocesan Chaplains Day

Tuesday 4th February 2025. 9.30am-4pm.
£40. Amigo hall, Lambeth Road, SE1 6HR.

[Book](#)

Effective Support and Challenge for Governors

Tuesday 4th March 2025. 5.30pm-7pm

Zoom

[Book](#)

Handling Complaints for Governors

Wednesday 5th February 2025. 5.30-7pm.

Zoom

[Book](#)

Prayer and Liturgy – Part 2

Multiple dates & venues

[Book](#)

Religious Education Conference

Thursday 13th February 2025 & Friday 14th February 2025. The Kairos Centre, Mount Angelus Rd, Roehampton, SW15 4JA.

[Book](#)

Oscar Romero Award Trust Mass

Thursday 27th March 2025. 12.30pm

St George's Cathedral, Lambeth Road, SE1 6HR

[Book](#)

Buildings Termly Update