# Knowledge organiser: GCSE Themes: Theme C

## Sub topics

- Human Dignity & UN Declaration on Human Rights
- Catholic teaching on human rights & their importance for human dignity
- Catholic teaching on religious freedom, rights & responsibilities
- Wealth : Catholic teaching on wealth creation, responsibilities of wealth, stewardship & different attitudes in contemporary society
- Attitudes to wealth: greed & materialism, exploitation of the poor, human trafficking.
- Wealth of the Catholic Church
- Poverty: Catholic duty & the Preferential Option for the Poor
- CAFOD & Christian Aid
- Poverty: Contrasting views on fighting poverty. Who should have responsibility for the poor?
- Racial Equality & Justice: Christian teaching on racial prejudice & discrimination, issues in Britain today
- Catholic teaching on gender, and gender equality in
- Ministry

## Key words

***Dignity:*** being worthy of honour and respect
***Human rights***: the basic rights and freedoms to which all human beings should be entitled
***Exploitation:*** misuse of power or money to get others to do things for little or unfair reward
***Human trafficking:*** the illegal movement of people, typically for the purposes of forced labour or commercial sexual exploitation
***Materialism:*** the belief that physical objects matter far more than other things
***Poverty***: being without money, food or other basic needs of life
***Discrimination:*** actions or behaviour that result from prejudice
***Prejudice***: unfairly judging someone before the facts are known; holding biased opinions about an individual/group

## Assessed H/WK tasks

**1. Mid-module H/WK assessment**
**2.End of module test**

***Self/Peer assessed H/WK tasks***

1.Write an article for a Catholic Magazine examining the role that women have played in the Catholic Church over time. You could include references to Mary the Mother of Jesus, Julian of Norwich, St Catherine of Siena, and St Theresa of Avila among many other women.

2.12-mark essay question: 'Applying Christian teachings on stewardship is the only way to remove world poverty.' Evaluate this statement

Students may be set additional assessed tasks by their class teacher which will help the class teacher to assess their progress and inform their planning.

## Opportunities for independent learning/Stretch and challenge

- Read more about the Kingdom of God and Beatitudes (see pages 50 51 of the Catholic Christianity text book ) How does this link to your learning in this unit?
- Compare the UN Declaration of Human Rights with Gaudium et Spes 26. In what ways are the two documents similar and in what ways different?
- Research one of CAFOD's latest campaigns examining the problems the agency addressed and the actions it took. https://cafod.org.uk/
- Research the life of St Bakhita then look at how the Bakhita Institute is working against human trafficking. https://thebakhitafoundation.com/
- Re-read pages in textrbook chapter 13, pages 316 339

### *Human right and human dignity*

- Human rights are the basic rights and freedoms to which all human beings should be entitled, the Catholic Church promotes the rights of the individual regardless of status, race or religion because they believe all humans are created in the image of God (Gen 1: 27).
- •The 'Church' believes that all human beings are worthy of dignity because God loves and values everyone, this is shown in his willingness to become man in Jesus and to die to save all human beings.
- •The Catholic Church believes that everyone should have the right to Religious Freedom to believe what they wish, the second Vatican Council declared 'No one is to be forced to act in a manner contrary to his own beliefs' (Dignitatis Humanae2)

### *Wealth, greed and materialism*

Catholics believe that wealth is a gift from God and accepts that wealth creation is necessary for people's survival and prosperity but warns against the evils of materialism.
•The Catholic Church is helping to correct the imbalance of wealth in the world and this is referred to as 'Stewardship of Wealth'.
•The Church says that wealth creation should not be done at the expense of human rights and actively campaigns and works with international agencies against exploitation and human trafficking.
•Some Christians, believe the Bible teaches them to reject money and be poor because Jesus teaches, 'take nothing for their journey only a staff…' (Mk 6:8-9)

### *Poverty*

Poverty is being without the basic necessities to live; the Church teaches that the poor deserve preferential treatment because they have suffered the most.
•Catholic Social Teaching (CST) teaches that Catholics have a duty to help the poor because poverty degrades human dignity, the Parable of the Sheep & Goats (Matt 25:31-46) teaches the consequences of neglecting this duty.
•Scripture teaches that we are all part of the Body of Christ (1 Cor 21-27) and we are expected to 'love your neighbour' (Mk 12:31) and so agencies like CAFOD and SVP care for and actively campaign to help those in Poverty.

### *Prejudice and discrimination (Racial and Gender)*

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that God is present in each person regardless of gender, nationality, colour, faith, disability and sexual orientation Prejudice and discrimination and Racial discrimination is unacceptable to the Catholic Church.
•Catholics are warned in Evangelium Vitae 34 that those who practise racial prejudice and discrimination are also harmed because this damages the dignity of the those created in God's image.
•The Catholic Church teaches that men and women have ***equal dignity with equal rights*** but this does not mean 'uniformity'; Catholics believe that men and women may have different roles but they complement each other and are of equal value.
•The Catholic Church believes that homosexuals should have their rights and dignity as human beings but are called to live chaste lives because the purpose of homosexual sex is not open to the creation of life(CCC 2358)