

## Kingdom of God- Revision

### Questions:

1. What is the Kingdom of God?

### Pilgrimage

- This is a sacred journey that Christians will take throughout their lives.
- Stations of the Cross: recreate 14 images reminding us of Jesus' suffering and death. This is a form of dramatized prayer- they stop at each station thinking about Jesus' last journey and pray.
- Jerusalem: by making this trip they are able to follow in the literal footsteps of Jesus and it is common to do the Via Dolorosa (the journey Jesus took to Golgotha). It allows them to make direct contact with the founding events of their religion.
- Rome: this is the centre of the Catholic faith. It is where the apostles went to preach the Christian faith and where St. Peter, the first head of the Church was crucified and buried.
- Lourdes: this is where a young girl named Bernadette saw visions of a woman who

identified himself as the Immaculate Conception and gave her three instructions; to pray the rosary, to walk in procession and to build a Church. People now visit the spring she dug seeking healings.

- Walsingham: in 1061 a woman had a vision of the house in Nazareth where Mary lived and decided to rebuild it. It has since been destroyed but people still walk barefoot from the Slipper Chapel to the Abbey's ruins.

### Links to Scripture and Teachings

- Gaudium et Spes 57- "Christians, on pilgrimage toward the heavenly city, should seek and think of these things which are above."
- Youcat 276- Those who go on pilgrimage 'pray with their feet' and gain an understanding that his entire life is one journey to God.

### Questions:

1. Why do Christians go on pilgrimages?
2. What are the 14 stages of the cross?

### Mission and Evangelism in Drama (Les Mis)

- Focuses on the idea of love, forgiveness and the effects this can have on a person's life.
- Bishop shows Valjean forgiveness after he steals from him. Valjean is able to use the silver he gives him to become a better man and become a well-respected man in society.
- Valjean broke his parole and so is a wanted, his officer, Javert, is constantly chasing him never able to accept that he is a changed man.
- During the war in France Valjean get the chance to kill Javert; but lets him go. Javert cannot understand this and so kills himself; showing how hardheartedness can destroy a life.
- Past: While Jesus was on earth he said to the disciples 'the Kingdom is among you'.
- Present: the Kingdom was established by Jesus' resurrection and is present through the Church.
- Future: Kingdom will be completed at the end times.
- 'Our Father'- emphasises closeness to God that we should all aim for.
- 'Hallowed be thy name'- the Lord's name is holy and should be recognised by all.
- 'Thy Kingdom come'- that all are open to God's Kingdom.
- 'Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven'- people will do what God wants and the world will become his perfect Kingdom.
- 'Give us this day our daily bread'- bread is a requirement for survival, they are asking that God remove the need for luxuries to focus on God.
- 'And forgive us our trespasses'- The removal of sin removes the barrier between God and humans. We can only be forgiven to the extent that I forgive those who have sinned against me.

## Questions

1. What is mission?
2. What is evangelism?
3. How do you think drama can convert people to Christianity?

## Lord's Prayer

- Important to think about the Kingdom of God as a gradual process



- 'Deliver us from evil'- accepts that we have temptation but God will help us to resist it.

### Links to Scripture and Teachings

- Luke 17: 21- 'The Kingdom is among you.'
- Matthew 6: 9-13- the Lord's Prayer
- Youcat 520- When we pray the Our Father we are asking for Christ to come again and God's reign to be here on earth.

### Signs of the Kingdom

- Justice- Catholics have a duty to reject any movement that undermines the dignity of human beings.
- Peace- Total state of trust and from peace justice flows. In create peace all must learn to accept the rights of every human and support the weak.
- Reconciliation- Bringing back together people who have been broken apart. Based on an attitude that what has happened should never happen again.

### Links to Scripture and Teaching

- Psalms 72:1-2 - "Give the King your justice, O God... May he judge your people with righteousness"

- CCC- "goods created by God should in fact reach everyone"
- Pacem in Terris 167- Peace is meaningless unless founded on truth and built on justice.
- Pope Francis- "It is my duty to build bridges and to help all men and women, in any way possible, to do the same"

### Questions

1. Define peace.
2. How does peace link to the word 'Shalom'?
3. Give examples of how Pope Francis lives out these signs of the Kingdom.
4. Research Oscar Romero; how did he live by these signs?

### Hierarchy of the Catholic Church

- The Church has a hierarchy that ensures people's authority and responsibilities are recognised.
- The Pope is a direct successor from Peter who Jesus named to be 'Rock of the Church'.
- Second Vatican Council- an example where the Pope has wanted to consult those in his hierarchy.



- Dei Verbum- Importance of proper interpretation of scripture.
- Lumen Gentium- Deals with the Nature of the Church and the role of the of each its members.
- Sacrosanctum Concilium- the way liturgy and services need to be changed to allow people to be part of the service.
- Gaudium et Spes- Relates to issues of family, political and economic life.

### Links to Scripture and Teaching

- Matthew 16: 18-19 - 'You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church.'
- Lumen Gentium 18, 22- The bishops have no authority unless it is understood together with the Pope.

### Questions

1. Research direct teachings from each of these documents.
2. What are the roles of the cardinals, priests, deacons and lay people?

### Magnificat

- Mary is considered to be the perfect disciple.



- The magnificat is a prayer that Mary says to celebrate God and all he has done for her.
- The prayer details how God has fulfilled the promises made to Israel and Mary's trust and acceptance in God.
- It has been seen as a prayer of revolution as it emphasises God being on the side of the weak and helpless and supports those who are rebelling against governments.

### Links to Scripture and Teaching

- Luke 1: 26-55- Magnificat prayer.
- John 19: 25-27- Jesus entrusts John with his mother.
- Luke 1: 26-38- Mary is willing to accept what God wants at the moment of the incarnation.

### Questions

1. Identify quotes from the prayer that show its meaning.
2. Give examples of how Mary was a faithful disciple.

### Four Marks of the Church

- One- The Church is one and all the churches and dioceses are seen to be one Body of Christ.
- Holy- We are prone to sin but are made holy through baptism and guidance by the holy spirit.

- Catholic- Literally means 'related to the whole'; the teachings of the Church are held by Catholics around the world.
- Apostolic- The teachings today are founded on the message the 12 apostles preached after Jesus' ascension.

### Links to Scripture and Teaching

- Youcat 132- The Church is not holy because of its members but because God is at work in the Church.
- Luke 5: 32- "I have come to call not the righteous but sinners and repentance."
- John 17:21- At the Last Supper Jesus prayed that all his followers may all be one.

### Questions

1. What is apostolic succession?
2. How does this give authority to the current Pope?
3. How does it give authority to the Magisterium?

### Conciliar and Pontifical Nature of the Church

- Conciliar- These are teachings of the Magisterium that are created at meeting called Councils.



- The highest authority of the Church lies with Pope. It is believed that the Pope is a successor to St. Peter, and so his authority has been passed down. He is guided by the Holy Spirit in a unique way; he is the Vicar of Christ on earth. Due to this, his teachings should be taken with great seriousness.

### Links to Scripture and Teaching

- Gaudium et Spes 21- All men should work for the improvement of the world.
- Evangelii Gaudium 53-54- "Today we... have to say 'thou shalt not' to an economy of exclusion and inequality."

### Questions

1. Why might some consider the councils to be the highest authority of the Church?
2. Why might some consider the Pope to be the highest authority of the Church?
3. What are the similarities and differences between a conciliar and pontifical Church?
4. What social teachings has Pope Francis published?

### Church as the Body of Christ and Charity

- As Christians we have a duty to help others on a local, national and global level.
- Local- help given to those in the immediate area and can personally go to their aid.
- National- help offered on a countrywide basis. Fight for the change of policies and laws that cause problems.
- Global- help offered to other countries. Christians can support or volunteer for agencies that tackle issues in other countries.
- St. Vincent de Paul- this is an international society that works with local communities. Its first division is Membership activity where they will visit those in need in homes, hospitals and prisons. The second division is special works where bigger projects are organised such as running soup kitchens for the homeless and give advice for asylum seekers.
- CAFOD- official charity organisation for Wales and England. They provide emergency aid, long-term aid, challenge national policies and laws etc.

- Luke 10:29-37- Story of the Good Samaritan.
- Mark 12:31 Love your neighbour as you love yourself; this is the greatest commandment.
- 1 John 4:20- If you do not love your brother and sister who you have seen, then you cannot love God who you can see.

### Questions

1. Why are these actions examples of the Kingdom of God here on earth today?

### Kingdom Values in different Vocations



- Priesthood- a priest dedicates his life to God and the service of others. While he must show obedience to the Pope and Bishops, yet shows the Kingdom of God to be present through his work in the community.
- Family Life- commitment between a couple shows that love is strong; God is love. To work at a marriage show the Kingdom as does passing these values onto children.
- Religious Life- some monks and nuns will show their service to God through silent prayer. Alternatively, they work in

### Links to Scripture and Teaching

communities to help those in need taking on roles of teachers, nurses and care workers.

### Links to Scripture and Teaching

- Matthew: 20:26- "Whoever wishes to be greatest among you must be your servant."
- John 13: 1-15- Jesus washed the feet of others.

### Questions

1. Research a prominent priest, monk or nun that has the Kingdom Values.

### Exam Questions

1. Give two ways in which Kingdom values are seen in the life of a Catholic monk or nun. (2)
2. Give two reasons why people go on pilgrimage. (2)
3. Explain two ways in which dramatized prayer helps Catholics to understand the Church as being a people of God. (4)
4. Explain the importance of the Pope to Catholics. (4)
5. Explain two ways the apostolic succession influences the Magisterium. (4)

6. Explain the importance of two places of Pilgrimage to Christians. (4)
7. Explain two ways the Stations of the Cross can influence a Christian's faith. (4)
8. Explain two ways in which justice and peace are expressions of the Kingdom of God. (5)
9. Explain two teachings about the reign of God that are expressed in the Lord's prayer. (5)
10. Explain two ways Mary is important to Catholics. (5)
11. Explain two ways council documents influences society. (5)
12. 'Using drama is one of the best ways of converting people to Christianity.' Evaluate this statement.
13. 'Pilgrimage is the only way to become closer to God.' Evaluate this statement.
14. 'The Kingdom of God was established once Jesus resurrected.' Evaluate this statement.
15. 'Apostolic succession guarantees that the Church is always right in its teachings.' Evaluate this statement.

Create your own exam questions

- How does X influence Y? (4)
- Explain 2 ways in which.... Might influence...(4)
- Explain how ..... expresses beliefs about..... (5)

ACR 2

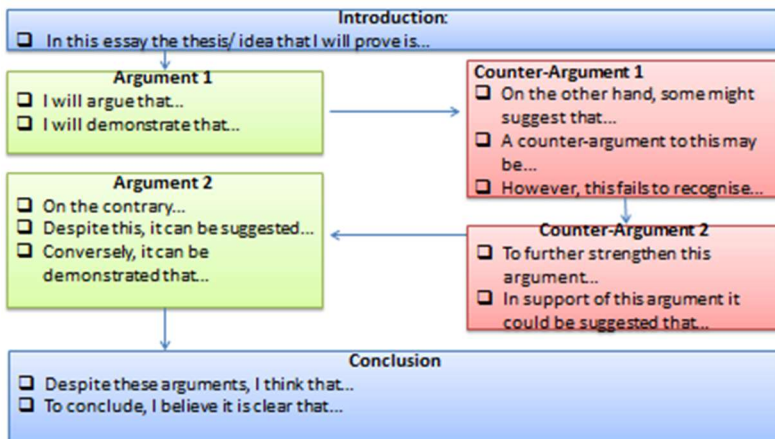
Furthermore, I would argue that...

Again, others would disagree because...

However, their arguments are not good arguments because...

Conclusion: Overall, I think that...

## Exam Skills



Intro: In this essay I am going to agree/disagree with the statement...

ACR 1

The first argument to support my thesis is...

Others would argue against this by saying...

I don't accept this counter-argument because...