

Theme 4 – Sin and Forgiveness

Intent

In this module, we consider big questions of right and wrong, crime and punishment, as well as sin and forgiveness.

Since all these things involve human freedom and choice, they are crucial not just to understanding Catholic ideas about heaven, hell and salvation, but also to understanding the nature and purpose of the Church in its mission of service to humanity.

This module develops concepts already studied in previous modules, such as sin, free will, death and resurrection and provides a natural last theme of study that follows on logically from previous themes.



Process

1. The Difference between Crime and Sin

In this first topic, we focus on what sin is and what a crime is. We will also explore **absolute and relative morality**.



2. Aims of Punishment

This follows on from the first topic, by explaining the aims of punishment **e.g. deterrence, retribution and rehabilitation**. We will explore the Christian response to each one.



3. Catholic Teachings on Forgiveness

Based on what we have learnt in the last two topics, this topic focuses on and how forgiveness **Catholic teachings on forgiveness** and punishment can go together. Gospel passages will form the foundation of the sources of authority.



4. Catholic Teachings on Capital Punishment

Having learnt about Catholic teaching on punishment and forgiveness, we now focus on understanding Catholic teachings against Capital Punishment. We will explore **St Augustine's** view and the views of **Pope John Paul II** and **Pope Francis**.



5. Other Christian Teachings on Capital Punishment

This follows on from the last topic, by focusing on **other Christian teachings** on Capital Punishment. Arguments for and against will be explored using **Old and New Testament** sources of authority.



6. Salvation and the Role of Grace and Free Will

Having focused on sin and forgiveness, this topic explores how Jesus brought about **salvation** and explains what humans need to do to achieve salvation through their use of **grace and free will**.



Process

7. Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection

Following on from the last topic, this one examines how Jesus offers salvation to all through his **death, resurrection and ascension.**



8. The Church as One, Holy and Apostolic

Due to salvation being offered to all, this topic explores the fact that the Church sees itself as **One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic.** We will investigate what each of these means and symbolises.



9. Mary as the Model Disciple

Having been offered salvation, in this topic we focus on **Mary as being the model disciple** through her faith and charity. This provides a template on how to achieve salvation for Catholics.



10. The Church as the Body of Christ

Following on from learning about how Jesus offers salvation to all, this topic examines the view that the **Church** continues to do the work that Jesus started in making the world holy.



11. Sacred Objects and Architecture that represent Salvation

Having looked at the theory behind salvation, we now focus on **church architecture and sacred objects** that represent Catholic beliefs in salvation.



12. The Sacramental Nature of Reality

This topic looks at how the belief in salvation influences Catholic practice. Here, we will focus on how Catholics see the love of God through **Creation, Incarnation and the Sacraments.** We will understand the meaning and effects of the seven sacraments.



Process




13. The Importance of the Eucharist for Catholics

Following on from the practice in the last topic, this topic focuses on the importance of celebrating the Eucharist and why it is seen as **the source and summit of Christian life**, due to its role in salvation.

14. Mission and Evangelism

Based on what we have learnt in previous topics, we end the module aiming to understand why the Catholic Church is compelled to **evangelise**. We will research missionary work being done by Catholic organisations.



Impact

This process will enable the understanding of:

- The difference between crime and sin and the different aims of punishment.
- Christian teaching on forgiveness.
- Catholic teaching on Capital Punishment and further arguments for and against.
- The meaning and significance of Salvation and the role of grace and free will.
- The nature of the Church, the Church as Body of Christ and Mary as a model of the Church.
- How the architectural features of a Catholic church, the sacred objects within it and the Eucharist reflect Catholic beliefs on salvation.
- The benefits and challenges of mission and evangelisation.

Progress will be shown by:

- Formative assessment of past-exam question answers completed in class and at home, and improvements made from feedback.
- Formative assessment through the re-capping of previous modules and knowledge checks.
- Summative assessment through mid-module and end of module assessments based on past exams.