



Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel GCSE

In Religious Studies B

Paper 3: Religion, Philosophy & Social Justice

3A Catholic Christianity

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General Marking Guidance

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

Paper 2: Religion, Philosophy and Social Justice 3A – Catholic Christianity
Mark Scheme

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
Q1 (a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholics believe God the Father is part of the Trinity (1) • Catholics believe God the Father is loving (1) • They believe God the Father should be prayed to (1) • They believe God the Father sent Jesus to Earth (1) • They believe that he was present at the Baptism of Jesus (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lists (maximum of one mark) 	3

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
1(b)	<p>AO1 4 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for providing a way. Award a second mark for development of the way. Up to a maximum of four marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation shows that God is omnipotent as he created the entire universe (1). He did this using only words (1) • Creation shows God is omnipotent as he ensured that it was designed perfectly (1). 'God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.' (Genesis 1:31) (1) • It shows power as it describes God's control over what happens (1). In Genesis 2 he was able to breathe life into Adam (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated way / development • Development that does not relate both to the way given and to the question. 	4

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
1(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each belief. Award further marks for each development of the belief up to a maximum of four marks. Award one further mark for any relevant source of wisdom or authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholics believe that the Paschal Mystery allows people to be redeemed (1), because it fulfils the scriptures (1) which say, 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' (Luke 24:7) • Catholics believe that Jesus had to die to bring about salvation (1), that he was sent to save sinners (1). 'Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved.' (Mark 16:16) (1) • Catholics believe that the Paschal Mystery allows people to be forgiven (1), and that this allows them to go to heaven (1). 'This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.' (Matthew 26:28) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated belief / development • Development that does not relate both to the belief given and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the belief given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
1(d)	<p>AO2 12 marks, SPaG 3 marks</p> <p>Candidates must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. Candidates will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors.</p> <p>AO2</p> <p>Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholics believe that the life of Jesus brings grace because faith in Jesus brings grace. John's Gospel explains '...grace and truth came through Jesus Christ' (John 1:17) • Some Catholics believe that the life of Jesus brings grace because his teachings show Catholics how to have a relationship with God and thus receive God's grace • Some Catholics believe that Jesus showed God's grace in his actions. For example, during the healings it can be said that it is because of God's grace the person is healed. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Catholics would argue that God gives his grace to all when they turn to him in prayer, when he shows them love by responding to their needs • Some Catholics would argue through the ultimate sacrifice of his Son, God gave grace to all. St Paul said '...all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.' (Romans 3:24) • Some Catholics argue that as grace is God's love it can be given to anyone when they do things in the name of God, for example, charitable work. <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	15

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable response.
Level 1	1–3	A superficial analysis of the statement that uses undeveloped arguments, underpinned by isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. Judgements are asserted without clear links to the analysis.
Level 2	4–6	A basic analysis of the statement that uses some developed arguments to discuss different points of view, underpinned by limited understanding of religion and belief. This leads to simple judgements which have some links to the analysis, leading to a conclusion with limited justification.
Level 3	7–9	A good analysis of the statement that uses logical chains of reasoning to discuss different points of view, underpinned by a sound understanding of religion and belief. This leads to reasoned judgements which are clearly linked to the analysis, leading to a partially justified conclusion.
Level 4	10–12	A sustained and coherent analysis of the statement that uses logical chains of reasoning to discuss different points of view, underpinned by thorough understanding of religion and belief. This leads to reasoned judgements supported by the appraisal of arguments, leading to a justified conclusion that is consistent with the analysis.

'Point(s) of view' **always** means arguments for and against the statement. **Where specified in the bullet points under the question**, it may also include one of the following:

- different views within the religion
- non-religious views
- philosophical arguments
- ethical arguments.

SPaG

Marks		Descriptors
0 marks	No marks awarded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The candidate writes nothing.• The candidate's response does not relate to the question.• The candidate's achievement in SPaG does not reach the threshold performance level, for example errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar severely hinder meaning.
1 mark	Threshold performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with reasonable accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with some control of meaning and any errors do not significantly hinder meaning overall.• Candidates use a limited range of specialist terms as appropriate.
2 marks	Intermediate performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with considerable accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with general control of meaning overall.• Candidates use a good range of specialist terms as appropriate.
3 marks	High performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with consistent accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with effective control of meaning overall.• Candidates use a wide range of specialist terms as appropriate.

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
2(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholics may suggest that they should regard suffering as a test of faith (1) • Catholics may say suffering can be solved by prayer (1) • Catholics may say it is the result of misuse of free will (1) • They may say it can be solved by charity work (1) • They may say that suffering is an absence of good (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lists (maximum of one mark) 	3

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
2(b)	<p>AO1 4 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for providing an example. Award a second mark for development of the example. Up to a maximum of four marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One biblical vision is Moses and the Burning Bush (1), where it is recorded that God spoke to Moses (1) • An example of a vision in the Bible is when Abraham talks to God (1), who tells him that he will have '...descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky' (Genesis 22:17) (1) • St Paul had a vision on his way to Damascus (1). This resulted in his conversion to Christianity (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated example / development • Development that does not relate both to the example given and to the question. 	4

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
2(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each reason. Award further marks for each development of the teaching up to a maximum of four marks. reason one further mark for any relevant source of wisdom or authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some Catholics believe religious experiences may reveal God to them (1), God may directly communicate with his creation (1). The Catechism explains 'Guided by the Magisterium of the Church, the sensus fidelium knows how to discern and welcome in these revelations whatever constitutes an authentic call of Christ' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 67) (1) Some Catholics believe that a religious experience may have a purpose in a person's life (1), possibly to strengthen faith (1), '...it remains for Christian faith gradually to grasp its full significance over the course of the centuries' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 66) (1) Some Catholics may believe a religious experience proves God exists, because they have had a personal experience (1) which provides evidence (1), Jesus explains 'Believe me...or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.' (John 14:11) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repeated reason/development Development that does not relate both to the reason given and to the question Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the reason given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
2d	<p data-bbox="363 260 558 287">AO2 12 marks</p> <p data-bbox="363 323 1307 485">Candidates must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. Candidates will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors.</p> <p data-bbox="363 520 428 548">AO2</p> <p data-bbox="363 552 808 579">Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 583 1299 905" style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Catholics argue that the cosmological argument shows that God exists as it gives evidence of his omnipotence. Only an all-powerful being could cause the world to come into existence • Some Catholics may argue that the cosmological argument shows that God exists in that it shows that God is the only possible First Cause • Some Catholics may feel that the cosmological argument is able to show that God exists as it posits a God who has all the characteristics of God mentioned in the Bible. <p data-bbox="363 940 878 968">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 972 1291 1356" style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Catholics may say that the Bible proves that God exists and describes more of what is God is like. It shows characteristics that the cosmological argument does not, such as being a lawgiver or a personal God • Some non-religious people might argue that the cosmological argument is flawed as it is based on a singular cause of the world, God, and there may be many elements that came together to cause the world • Some non-religious people might argue that the cosmological argument is not able to prove the existence of God because there is no such thing as God, as such the argument is irrelevant. <p data-bbox="363 1392 802 1419">Accept any other valid response.</p> <p data-bbox="363 1455 1242 1512">Candidates who do not consider non-religious points of view (as instructed in the question) cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</p>	12

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable response.
Level 1	1–3	A superficial analysis of the statement that uses undeveloped arguments, underpinned by isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. Judgements are asserted without clear links to the analysis.
Level 2	4–6	A basic analysis of the statement that uses some developed arguments to discuss different points of view, underpinned by limited understanding of religion and belief. This leads to simple judgements which have some links to the analysis, leading to a conclusion with limited justification.
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'Point(s) of view' **always** means arguments for and against the statement. **Where specified in the bullet points under the question**, it may also include one of the following:

- different views within the religion
- non-religious views
- philosophical arguments
- ethical arguments.

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
3(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One symbol used in the sacrament of Baptism is water (1) • A symbol used in the sacrament of Baptism is the Sign of the Cross (1) • Oil of Chrism is used as a symbol in the sacrament of Baptism (1) • White clothing is used as a symbol in Baptism (1) • A candle is used as a symbol in the sacrament of Baptism (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lists (maximum of one mark) 	3

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
3(b)	<p>AO1 4 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for providing a reason. Award a second mark for development of the reason. Up to a maximum of four marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholics may say the Rosary as a meditative prayer (1). The repetitive nature of the Rosary helps maintain focus (1) • They may say the Rosary to remember the events in the life of Jesus (1). Each decade is a Mystery (1) • Catholics may say the Rosary because it is a powerful prayer (1). Pope Francis has encouraged Catholics to say the Rosary for peace (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated reason/development • Development that does not relate both to the reason given and to the question. 	4

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
3(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each reason. Award further marks for each development of the reason up to a maximum of four marks. Award one further mark for any relevant source of wisdom or authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lord's Prayer may be used because it was taught by Jesus (1). He told his disciples what to say (1). 'This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven" (Matthew 6:9) (1) • The Lord's Prayer is an important part of worship (1). The parts of the prayer address many elements of faith (1). The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains 'The Lord's Prayer "is truly the summary of the whole gospel"' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2761) (1) • The Lord's Prayer is used because it is a prayer that is used by all Christian Churches (1), thus it is a prayer of unity (1). 'In all the liturgical traditions, the Lord's Prayer is an integral part of the major hours of the Divine Office. (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2768) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated reason/ development • Development that does not relate both to the reason given and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the reason given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
3(d)	<p data-bbox="362 331 768 363">AO2 12 marks, SPaG 3 marks</p> <p data-bbox="362 394 1274 552">Candidates must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. Candidates will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors.</p> <p data-bbox="362 590 430 617">AO2</p> <p data-bbox="362 621 818 651">Arguments for this statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 655 1284 940" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="412 655 1284 747">• Most Catholics agree that everyone should support the work of CAFOD as it works for the wellbeing of all people, but especially for those people who are treated unfairly <li data-bbox="412 751 1284 844">• Catholics may believe that everyone should support CAFOD as Catholic Social Teaching indicates that their work is essential to fight injustice <li data-bbox="412 848 1284 940">• Some Catholics believe everyone should support CAFOD as it is only when everyone supports their work that change will happen; equality is possible when everyone works for it. <p data-bbox="362 978 878 1008">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 1012 1274 1297" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="412 1012 1274 1104">• Some would argue that not every Catholic can support the work of CAFOD. Some have a different vocation and a different focus in life, for example raising a family <li data-bbox="412 1108 1274 1201">• Some Catholics might argue that not everyone should support CAFOD's work because they may be in need of support themselves <li data-bbox="412 1205 1274 1297">• Some Catholics might argue not all Catholics should support the work of CAFOD, that there are other charitable organisations that need their support not just CAFOD. <p data-bbox="362 1329 805 1358">Accept any other valid response.</p>	15

Level	Mark	Descriptor
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1 mark	Threshold performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with reasonable accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with some control of meaning and any errors do not significantly hinder meaning overall.• Candidates use a limited range of specialist terms as appropriate.
2 marks	Intermediate performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with considerable accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with general control of meaning overall.• Candidates use a good range of specialist terms as appropriate.
3 marks	High performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with consistent accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with effective control of meaning overall.• Candidates use a wide range of specialist terms as appropriate.

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
4(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Church teaches that wealth should be distributed fairly (1) • Pope Leo XIII taught that excess wealth should be given to the poor (1) • Catholic Social Teaching teaches that no one should suffer due to lack of money (1) • Inequality in distribution of wealth ignores human dignity (1) • It is the Church's role to ensure wealth is distributed equally (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lists (maximum of one mark) 	3

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
4(b)	<p>AO1 4 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for providing a belief. Award a second mark for development of the belief. Up to a maximum of four marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most Catholics teach that prejudice causes discrimination (1). People may ignore the needs of others (1) • Prejudice may mean that people are not treated with dignity (1). Conflict may occur as a result (1) • Catholics believe that prejudice may reduce the opportunities people might have (1), for example lack of employment (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated belief /development • Development that does not relate both to the belief given and to the question. 	4

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
4(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each response. Award further marks for each development of the response up to a maximum of four marks. Award one further mark for any relevant source of wisdom or authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholics respond by working to end racial discrimination (1). They acknowledge that they are all God's creations (1), because 'From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth' (Acts 17:26) (1) • Catholics respond by teaching that it is wrong (1). They strive to preserve the human dignity of everyone (1). The Catechism teaches 'The equality of men rests essentially on their dignity as persons and the rights that flow from it' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1935) (1) • Catholics respond by treating all equally (1), as Jesus did (1). 'So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you' (Matthew 7:12) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated response / development • Development that does not relate both to the response given and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the response given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
4(d)	<p data-bbox="365 262 560 289">AO2 12 marks</p> <p data-bbox="365 325 1307 485">Candidates must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. Candidates will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors.</p> <p data-bbox="365 520 430 548">AO2</p> <p data-bbox="365 552 812 579">Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="414 583 1307 905" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="414 583 1307 674">• Most Catholics believe that they must support human rights as they ensure that that every person is treated in the same way, and this would be compatible with Catholic Social Teaching <li data-bbox="414 678 1307 810">• Most Catholics would argue that they should support human rights as they recognise the dignity of the individual. Pope John XXIII described them as universal, inviolable and inalienable rights (Pacem in Terris) <li data-bbox="414 814 1307 905">• Most Catholics would argue that human rights should be supported because they reduce the suffering of others and Jesus tried to reduce the suffering of others. <p data-bbox="365 940 876 968">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="414 972 1307 1325" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="414 972 1307 1062">• A small number of Catholics would argue that some human rights could contradict Catholic teachings on family life, and these may not be supported <li data-bbox="414 1066 1307 1192">• A few Catholics will argue that freedom of religion means that evangelical work should not be allowed. However, they feel it is a duty to introduce others to Catholicism and try to convert them <li data-bbox="414 1197 1307 1325">• Some non-religious people might argue that not everyone deserves human rights. If they have ended another's life they do not deserve to have the human right to a life themselves, and so support the death penalty. <p data-bbox="365 1388 803 1415">Accept any other valid response.</p> <p data-bbox="365 1451 1242 1514">Candidates who do not consider non-religious points of view (as instructed in the question) cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</p>	12

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