



*Rewarding Learning*

**ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)  
General Certificate of Education  
2011**

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## **Religious Studies**

### **Assessment Unit AS 4**

*assessing*

**The Christian Church in the  
Roman Empire: Beginnings, Expansion  
and External Pressure**

**[AR141]**



AR141

**WEDNESDAY 15 JUNE, MORNING**

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#### **TIME**

1 hour 20 minutes.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.  
Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

#### **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The total mark for this paper is 100.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

#### **ADVICE TO CANDIDATES**

You are advised to take account of the marks for each question or part question.

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## Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

- 1 (a) With reference to Justin, Polycarp and Blandina, explain the impact of martyrdom on the Christian Church in the first two centuries. [35]
- (b) To what extent did Christians deserve to be regarded with suspicion by Roman society? Justify your answer. [15]
- 2 (a) Give an account of the persecution which took place during the reign of the Emperor Decius. [35]
- (b) Comment on the view that the problem of the lapsed was a complicated issue for the Church. Justify your answer. [15]

## Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

- 3 (a) Describe the factors which led to the rise in the power of the Bishop during the first three centuries. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the view that strong leadership is essential for the survival of any religious group. Justify your answer. [15]
- 4 (a) Give an account of the main characteristics of the writings of **either** Clement of Rome **or** Justin Martyr. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the value of such writings for religious believers. Justify your answer. [15]

