



ADVANCED  
General Certificate of Education  
2013

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**Religious Studies**  
Assessment Unit A2 5

*assessing*

A study of the development and impact  
of the Celtic Church in the  
5th, 6th and 7th centuries

[AR251]

FRIDAY 24 MAY, AFTERNOON

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MV18

**TIME**

2 hours, plus your additional time allowance.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the answer booklet provided.

Answer **two** questions from Section A and answer the compulsory question in Section B.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The total mark for this paper is 150.

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

Figures in brackets printed at the end of each question 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 in allocating the available examination time.

## Section A

Answer **two** questions from this section

- 1 (a) Outline and examine the issues surrounding the authorship of **The First Synod of Patrick** and **The Three Sayings of Patrick (Dicta Patricii)**. [30]  
  
(b) Critically assess the view that these texts are not essential for a knowledge and understanding of Patrick. [20]
  
- 2 “The purpose of hagiographical writings was to inspire and deepen the spirituality of the reader.”  
  
(a) With particular reference to Cogitosus’ **Life of Brigit**, discuss this statement. [30]  
  
(b) Critically evaluate the view that hagiographical writings have historical value. [20]

- 3 (a)** Discuss the importance of Columbanus in relation to monastic rules, penance and his attitude to religious authority. [30]
- (b)** Critically assess the view that Columbanus is a perfect role model for missionaries. [20]
- 4 (a)** Outline and consider the evidence for the claims made by Armagh to archiepiscopal authority. [30]
- (b)** Critically evaluate the claim that the centralisation of religious authority always results in conflict. [20]

## Section B

### Synoptic Assessment

#### Theme: Holiness

You **must** answer this question

- 5 (a)** With reference to at least **two** different areas of study, outline and examine the major issues and questions arising from the concept of holiness. [30]
- (b)** Critically assess the view that holiness is regarded with suspicion by a secular world. You should refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [20]





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