

ASSESSMENT and QUALIFICATIONS ALLIANCE

Mark scheme June 2003

GCSE

Religious Studies A 3061 (Full course) Paper 2B

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Methods of marking

Difficulties may arise through the use of different methods of marking. It is, therefore, essential that, in fairness to candidates, everyone uses the same methods of marking. The advice given here may seem very obvious, but it will be helpful if everyone follows it as exactly as possible.

- 1. Mark clearly in red biro. You will need to change all scripts marked prior to the Standardising Meetings and change your original marks from pencil to red pen.
- 2. No half marks or bonus marks are to be used under any circumstances.
- 3. Be prepared to award the full range of marks. Do not hesitate to give full marks when the answer merits full marks or to give no marks where there is nothing creditable in an answer.
- 4. Indicate, **by ticking**, where you have awarded a mark for questions where there are no levels. For **levels of response**, examiners must record, in the left-hand margin, the level that has been awarded, e.g. L3, and in the right-hand margin, the mark that has been awarded for the question.
- 5. The numerical mark awarded for **each** response should be indicated in the right-hand margin.
- 6. A **separate** mark is to be awarded for the quality of written communication. Refer to the criteria given in the chart on page 5).
- 7. Do **not** credit material that is irrelevant to the question or to the objective, however impressive that material might be.
- 8. If you are wavering as to whether or not to award a mark, the criterion should be, 'Is the candidate nearer those who have given a correct answer or those who have little idea?'
- 9. Apply the principle of **salvage**, so that credit is given for what is correct, even if the order is misplaced in the answer.
- 10. Refer constantly to the mark scheme throughout marking. It is extremely important that it is strictly adhered to.
- 11. All pages should bear some indication that they have been seen even those pages that are left blank. Examiners should, for example, place either their initials, a tick or the word 'seen' on each page.
- 12. Remember, the key to good and fair marking is **consistency**. Do **not** change your marking style once you have started sending scripts to AQA.
- 13. Only write comments on scripts that can be justified by the mark scheme. It should be remembered that scripts may be returned to centres and candidates.

Levels of Response marking

In GCSE Religious Studies, differentiation is largely achieved by outcome on the basis of candidates' responses. To facilitate this, levels of response marking has been devised for many questions.

Levels of Response marking requires a quite different approach from the examiner than the traditional 'point for point' marking. It is essential that the **whole response is read** and then **allocated to the level** it best fits.

The **assessed level** of response to each part of each question must be indicated in the left-hand margin (L1, L2, etc.), leaving the right-hand margin for the numerical award.

If a candidate demonstrates knowledge, understanding and / or evaluation at a certain level, he / she must be credited at that level. **Length** of response or **literary ability** should **not be confused with genuine religious studies skills**. For example, a short answer which shows a high level of conceptual ability must be credited at that level. (If there is a band of marks allocated to a level, discrimination should be made with reference to the development of the answer.)

Levels are tied to specific skills. Examiners should **refer to the stated assessment target** objective of a question (see mark scheme) when there is any doubt as to the relevance of a candidate's response.

Levels of Response mark schemes include either **examples** of possible candidates' responses or **material** which they might use. These are intended as a **guide** only. It is anticipated that candidates will produce a wide range of responses to each question.

It is a feature of levels of response mark schemes that examiners are prepared to reward fully, responses which are obviously valid and of high ability but do not conform exactly to the requirements of a particular level. This should only be necessary occasionally and where this occurs examiners must indicate, by a brief written explanation, why their assessment does not conform to the levels of response laid down in the mark scheme. Such scripts should be referred to the Principal Examiner.

Assessment of quality of written communication

Where candidates are required to produce extended written material in English, they will be assessed on the quality of written communication.

Candidates will be required to:

- present relevant information in a from that suits its purposes;
- ensure that text is legible and that spelling, punctuation and grammar are accurate, so that meaning is clear;
- use a suitable structure and style of writing.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in all components and in relation to all assessment objectives.

3 marks are available.

3 marks	The candidate presents relevant information coherently, employing structure and style to render meaning clear. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate to render meaning clear.
2 marks	The candidate presents relevant information in a way which assists with the communication of meaning. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate not to obscure meaning.
1 mark	The candidate presents some relevant information in a simple form. The text produced is usually legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar allow meaning to be derived, although errors are sometimes obstructive.

0 mark The candidate's presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar seriously obstruct understanding.

Additional guidance to examiners

3 marks, to be added to the total of 80, are available for the quality of language, according to the three criteria given above.

How to assess quality of written communication

You may notice some of these criteria as you mark the paper. However, at the end of the paper, make a final check through the script, beginning with sections of extended writing.

Recommended procedure

- 1. If no accuracy can be found, 0 marks can be awarded for the quality of written communication.
- 2. Consider the extended writing first, in order to assess the quality of written communication.
- 3. Do not limit consideration to spelling alone. Assess grammar, punctuation and form and style. Try to form an overall impression as you read through a script.
- 4. Base your mark on the standard in the majority of the criteria within a level a candidate might not maintain the same standard in each category of the criteria.
- 5. Recognise that the highest mark does not demand perfection and that the more a candidate has written, the more errors should be permitted.
- 6. High performance should not be awarded if a candidate has written little or nothing in answer to sections where extended writing is required.

Effects of the Roman Catholic Tradition upon Aspects of Christian Lifestyle and Behaviour

A1 The Beatitudes

(a) One of the Beatitudes states "Blessed (Happy) are those who mourn, they shall be comforted". Write out another Beatitude.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the Beatitudes

1 mark for a superficial answer or a single point / comment e.g. Happy are the peacemakers.

2 marks for a developed answer or more than one point / comment e.g. Happy are the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

(2 marks) AO1

(b) Explain why many Christians believe that the Beatitudes are important today.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the relevance of the Beatitudes.

Levels of Response

0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	
Level 1	A minimal application of knowledge and understanding.	1 mark
Level 2	Some application of knowledge and understanding.	2 marks
Level 3	A clear application of knowledge and understanding with some	
	development.	3 marks

Content:

They are still important because Jesus spoke them and his words are always important. The Beatitudes contain many important lessons for modern Christians to follow. For example it is important to work for peace in our troubled world and to be merciful towards others. Like all of the teaching of Jesus the Beatitudes are timeless and can be applied to changing circumstances. They were not just meant for those who heard them. As Christians we are called to live as Jesus instructed and many of these instructions can be found in the Beatitudes. We should be gentle and merciful, always thirsting for what is right. Times may have changed but the characteristics of what makes a Christian have not.

A2 Euthanasia

(a) Explain one reason why some Christians believe that euthanasia is wrong.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the reasons against euthanasia

1 mark for a superficial answer or a single point / comment e.g. All life is a gift from God. (1 mark)

2 marks for a developed answer or more than one point / comment. e.g. The fifth commandment states 'thou shalt not kill' and to end the life of another is murder no matter what the circumstances or motives are. (2 marks)

(2 marks) AO1 / AO2

(b) Explain one reason why some Christians support euthanasia.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the reasons for euthanasia

1 mark for a superficial answer or a single point / comment e.g. A person may be terminally ill. (1 mark)

2 marks for a developed answer or more than one point / comment e.g. A person may be suffering from an incurable disease and wish to have their pain and suffering ended quickly. (2 marks)

(2 marks) AO1 / AO2

A3 Christian Service

(a) Explain what Christians can learn from The Parable of the Talents.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the Parable of the Talents

Levels of Response

0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	
Level 1	A minimal application of knowledge and understanding.	1 mark
Level 2	Some application of knowledge and understanding.	2 marks
Level 3	A clear application of knowledge and understanding with some	
	development.	3 marks

Content

God has blessed each human being by having different talents. Christians are expected to use these talents both for their own good and for the good of others. A Christian will be judged on how they have made the best of their God-given talents. Those who have made use of their talents will be rewarded while those who have not will be punished. If we wish to enter heaven we must make full use of our talents and overcome the temptation to hide them out of fear of failure.

(3 marks) AO2

A3 (b) Describe some ways in which lay people take part in the life of the Roman Catholic Church.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the role of the laity in the Roman Catholic Church

Levels	of Response
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0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	
Level 1	A minimal application of knowledge and understanding.	1 mark
Level 2	Some application of knowledge and understanding.	2 marks
Level 3	A clear application of knowledge and understanding with some development.	3 marks
	1	

Content

e.g. Lay people can bring the word of God to others by reading at mass / attending mass / giving out communion. A lay person can join many of the groups in the parish that work for the benefit of others. They may be a member of the St. Vincent De Paul Society or the Catholic Women's League. They can use their skills to help build up God's community on earth. Lay people have many skills and talents that they can use in the service of others. They can take an active role in the liturgical life of the parish through reading at mass, becoming eucharistic ministers or catechists. They can be an example to others by their attitude to prayer. Perhaps their greatest contribution is in offering their experience to apply the teaching of the Church to many of the problems faced by society such as crime, poverty, bereavement or marital breakdown. They may also set a good example through everyday family life and behaving as good, responsible and dependable citizens.

B4 Marriage

(a) Why do most Roman Catholics choose to get married in a church?

Target: Knowledge and understanding of some key Roman Catholic teachings about marriage

Content

Roman Catholics believe that marriage is a sacrament and therefore should be performed in the house of God. They want God to bless their marriage. They want the priest, God's earthly representative, to witness the exchange of vows. Marriage is a sacred public ceremony therefore it should be performed in a public and holy place. They want God to bless their union and be a part of their marriage.

Any two relevant points or one point developed.

(2 marks) AO1 / AO2

(b) Explain what the Roman Catholic Church teaches about marriage.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of some key Roman Catholic teachings about marriage

Levels of Response

0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	
Level 1	A minimal application of knowledge and understanding.	1 mark
Level 2	Some application of knowledge and understanding.	2 marks
Level 3	A clear application of knowledge and understanding with some	
	development.	3 marks

Content

It teaches that marriage is for life and cannot be broken. The couple make the vow 'till death do us part.' This means that marriage is permanent and exclusive to the two people involved. Marriage is a life-long commitment based on the teaching of Jesus. The couple become one by entering into a relationship of total self-giving and trust. They leave behind their old life to enter this indissoluble relationship with their partner alone. This means that divorce is unacceptable in the Roman Catholic Church.

(Candidates may approach this question in two ways. They may focus on a particular teaching, e.g. life-giving or they may refer briefly to a variety of teachings. Both are acceptable interpretations of the question to attain Level 3.)

(1 mark) AO1 and (2 marks) AO2

(c) Outline ways in which the Roman Catholic Church supports those who experience difficulties in their married life.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the ways in which the Roman Catholic Church supports those who experience marital difficulties

Levels	of Response
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0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	
Level 1	A minimal application of knowledge and understanding.	1 mark
Level 2	Some application of knowledge and understanding.	2 marks
Level 3	A clear application of knowledge and understanding with some	
	development.	3 marks

Content

Priests can offer counselling to those involved and help them to talk about their problems. The Church has developed a system of marriage guidance counselling where clergy and lay people offer their advice and experience to enable those experiencing difficulties to work through their problems in the hope that their marriage can be saved. ACCORD is an agency run by the Roman Catholic Church to offer expertise in solving many of the problems, which married people face. Many of the counsellors are married people who can bring their own experiences to the problems and help the couple to work through their problems. Priests can also help by being there to listen and offer advice. The Church can also advise the married persons to turn to God through prayer to help them in their time of difficulty. Another important factor is the provision of pre-marriage courses where the engaged couple are given advice and guidance before they exchange their vows.

(d) *"Roman Catholic priests should be allowed to get married." Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have thought about more than one point of view.*

Target: Evaluation of the issue of marriage for ordained clergy

Levels of Response

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0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks	
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark	
Level 2	Opinion supported by elaborated reason or two or more simple reasons (for the same view or different points of view).	2 marks	
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well-developed reason or two elaborated		
	reasons.	3 marks	
Level 4	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view.	4 marks	
Level 5	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view		
	expressed coherently.	5 marks	
For Level	4 and above the answer must contain Christian teaching.	(5 marks)	A03

B5 Anointing the Sick and Life After Death

(a) Why is oil used in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick?

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

A symbol of strength / healing properties / prepares the person for the next stage in their Christian journey / gives the sick person the grace of God / helps the sick person feel the presence of God / Jesus told his disciples to anoint with oil / carrying on Apostolic tradition, etc.

1 mark for a superficial answer or a single point / comment, e.g. the sick person is strengthened / the scripture tells us to.

2 marks for a developed answer or more than one point / comment, e.g. Oil is a symbol of healing and being anointed with oil may give the sick person the strength and courage needed to overcome their illness.

(2 marks) AO1

(b) *Explain why Roman Catholics believe that it is important to pray for sick people.*

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

for a superficial answer or a single point / comment, e.g. the sick person will experience the love and support of God.

2 marks for a developed answer or more than one point / comment, e.g. Prayer may give the sick person the comfort of knowing that God is with them helping them to overcome illness / it may help them to understand their suffering and God's plan for them and prepare them for their journey to heaven / the love and support of the community is expressed through their prayers.

(2 marks) AO2

(c) Explain what the Roman Catholic Church teaches about life after death.

Target: Knowledge of Roman Catholic teaching concerning life after death

Levels of Response

0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	
Level 1	A minimal application of knowledge and understanding.	1 mark
Level 2	Some application of knowledge and understanding.	2 marks
Level 3	A clear application of knowledge and understanding with some	
	development.	3 marks
	-	

Examples

Those who have lived as God intends go to heaven where they enjoy eternal happiness. They believe that death ends one part of human existence, however that is not the end. Although the body decays in the earth, the soul continues to live on with God if the person goes to heaven. Others who do not deserve heaven are sent to hell. Roman Catholics believe that death is not the end and that the soul survives and continues to live with god the Father in heaven. They believe that eternal life is a reward for those who have lived according to the teachings of Jesus and the Church. They also believe that some people are not ready for life with God and undergo a period of preparation called purgatory during which time the intercessions of the living enable them to get to heaven. They also believe in hell, a place of eternal damnation for the wicked and sinful. Candidates may refer to material from Mark 12 about marriage at the resurrection. This is creditable if they have made it relevant to the question.

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(d) "The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is for the living not for the dying." Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have thought about more than one point of view

Target: Evaluation of the effectiveness of the Sacrament of Sick

Arguments for the statement	Arguments against the statement	
 Many Roman Catholics have received this sacrament on numerous occasions during their lifetime and it has helped them to overcome illness and feel reassured of the love and mercy of God. Anointing the sick is one of the most valuable sacraments in the life of a Roman Catholic since it enables the sick person to understand that the risen Christ shares in their suffering and is giving them the strength and courage to fight their illness. In cases where recovery may not be possible it helps a person to come to terms with illness and prepare for the next part of the journey in their life, in the knowledge that God is watching over them. It can also give great comfort and reassurance to the family and relatives of the sick person, enabling them to understand that their loved one is in the care of God. It has become more common for this sacrament to be administered on several occasions, if requested, during a person's life. Many Catholics see the sacrament as mirroring the compassion shown by Jesus towards the sick during his lifetime and wish to benefit from the comfort of knowing that God is with them in their times of need. 	 Not all Roman Catholics have the opportunity to receive this sacrament during their lifetime. Anointing the Sick is usually only received at the end of a person's life, when it is often too late to understand its meaning or see any of its benefits. It is still incorrectly associated with the last rites, which means that many believers do not recognise its value at any stage in life. Other sacraments like the Eucharist and reconciliation are viewed as more important to the living because they are received more regularly. Many see this sacrament as a ritual associated with death and fail to see the positive impact that it can have because they associate it with pain, illness and loss of someone close to them. The Sacrament of the Sick is usually administered to a person in the later stages of life, often on their deathbed when they have little or no time to benefit from it. Although the theology of the sacrament has changed dramatically in recent times the perception of the sacrament seems stuck in the past and for this reason many still see it as a preparation for death. 	

Levels of Response

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0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks			
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark			
Level 2	Opinion supported by elaborated reason or two or more simple				
	reasons (for the same view or different points of view).	2 marks			
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well-developed reason or two elaborated				
	reasons.	3 marks			
Level 4	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view.	4 marks			
Level 5	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view				
	expressed coherently.	5 marks			
For Level	4 and above the answer must contain Christian teaching	(5 marks)	A03		

C6 Justice and Reconciliation

(a)(i) Give an account of one of the following parables: EITHER The Good Samaritan OR The Forgiving Father (Prodigal Son).

Target: Knowledge of either the Good Samaritan or the Forgiving Father

Levels	of Response
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0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks		
Level 1	One or two accurate points.	1 mark		
Level 2	A basic outline with some omissions or confusion.	2 - 3 marks		
Level 3	A reasonable account covering most of the main points.	4 - 5 marks		
Level 4	A competent though not necessarily perfect account for a			
	16 year old.	6 marks		

Content: The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)

A teacher of the law asked Jesus 'what must I do to inherit eternal life' / Love the Lord with all your heart, soul and strength and love your neighbour as yourself / Who is my neighbour / [A man was travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho when he fell into the hands of brigands / beat him and left him half dead / A Priest and a Levite saw the man but walked past / The Samaritan was filled with pity (compassion) / he bandaged the injured man's wounds, pouring wine into them / He put him on his own animal / took him to a nearby inn and looked after him / He gave the innkeeper two coins and told him to look after the man / I will pay any extra expense on my return] / Who proved to be a good neighbour? / the one who helped him / go and do likewise.

Jesus' comments before and after parable (marked with square brackets) are not essential to obtain Level 4.

Content: The Forgiving Father (Luke 15:11-32)

[A man had 2 sons / one asked for his share of the estate / left a few days later / Went to a far off land / squandered all his money on reckless living / The country experienced severe famine / son was forced to work feeding pigs / willingly filled his belly with the pig's food / Then he came to his senses / none of my father's servants live like this / I will go to my father and ask to be treated as a slave / His father saw him in the distance / ran to him, took him in his arms and kissed him / the soon said that he was no longer worthy to be called his son / His father called for a robe, ring, sandals and ordered a feast / my son was dead and is alive, lost and is found] / Elder son heard the commotion / found out what was going on / refused to go into the party / I have worked all these years for you / never disobeyed you / yet you never even give me a kid to celebrate with my friends / You are always with me / all I have is yours / we have to celebrate / your brother was dead and is alive, lost and is found.

Jesus' comments before and after parable (marked with square brackets) are not essential to obtain Level 4.

(a)(ii) Explain what a Christian might learn from the parable you have chosen.

Target: Understanding of either the Good Samaritan or the Forgiving Father and its application to Christian living

Levels of Response

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3
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Content

The Good Samaritan teaches Christians that they should always help those who are in need. They might learn that it is wrong to judge someone from their outward appearance. The person whom you least expect may be the one who is the most compassionate and generous. Therefore we should reserve judgement until we see people in action. The parable of the Good Samaritan proves to Christians that racial prejudice is wrong and unfounded. We should not make assumptions about others on the basis of colour or nationality. They could also learn that they should try to be like the Samaritan who when passing the injured man saw him firstly as someone in need and not as an enemy.

The Forgiving Father teaches Christians that they should always forgive others no matter what they have done. The love of the father in the story is a symbol of the love of God. Christians learn that they must learn to forgive the mistakes of others just as the father welcomed back his wayward son with open arms. Christians learn that the father in the story represents God, who is merciful towards his sons and daughters. They also realise that the love of God is unconditional. Whenever we do something wrong we can go to God with confidence that we can be forgiven. It is our task to become like the father and forgive those who do wrong to us.

(b) *CAFOD and TROCAIRE aim to make the world a better place. Explain how the work of one of these organisations helps the poor in the less developed countries.*

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the work of CAFOD and TROCAIRE

Levels	of Response
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Ő	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	A minimal application of knowledge and understanding.	1 - 2 marks
Level 2	Some application of knowledge and understanding.	3 - 4 marks
Level 3	A clear application of knowledge and understanding with some	
	development.	5-6 marks

Content

TROCAIRE/CAFOD provide short-term aid in response to natural disasters such as earthquakes and crop failures. Examples of this aid might include food, clothing and shelter for the victims. CAFOD/TROCAIRE give people the basic necessities of life such as food, shelter and clothing to keep them alive during times of difficulty. Long-term aid means giving them the equipment and resources needed to work towards a solution to their problems. Examples of this include teaching them better farming techniques, such as how to irrigate land and crop rotation. They also provide education and medical care for the people. Long-term aid is a vital part of CAFOD and TROCAIRE's work. They provide tools, seeds and education to enable the inhabitants of a poor country to work their way out of poverty. They may also fund projects such as the digging of a well in a village to enable the local people to have clean water for drinking, washing and cooking. They also provide medical help to treat diseases and prolong life expectancy. Short-term aid is also important as providing food and shelter, in response to natural disasters, famine or war keep people alive until the benefits of the long-term projects are seen.

(c) "Being a Christian means always putting others first." Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have thought about more than one point of view.

Target: Evaluation of the importance of service in the Christian life

Arguments for the statement	Arguments against the statement	
 Arguments for the statement A Christian should always put others first because this is what Jesus did when he was on earth. The parable of the Sheep and the Goats makes it clear that when we help the hungry, the naked, the thirsty, those in prison, we are in fact helping Jesus and this will help us to receive eternal life on the day of judgement. During his lifetime Jesus always put the needs of others before his own, claiming that the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve. If we wish to be judged favourably by God then we have to put these teachings into practice in our everyday lives. There are many examples today of how Christians live lives dedicated to the service of others. Those who take religious vows are following in the footsteps of Jesus and serving their community through their commitment to living out the gospel values. Sacrifice and service are also evident in everyday life in the attitude of many parents who put their family at the centre of their lives. We can also see this degree of service in the attitude of a great number of people to charity where they give up money and time to ensure that others have a better quality of life. They do voluntary work in charity shops, help the Samaritans, and distribute food etc. to the homeless. This is perhaps the best we can expect of Christians today. 	 Arguments against the statement It is only natural to put oneself first. We are naturally selfish and want our own needs to be met before we worry about the needs of others. It may not be possible for a Christian, no matter how dedicated they are, to live this way all the time as the reality is that we live in a world where people have to work to pay bills in order to survive. In an ideal world Christian would always put others first. However this is not always possible. Modern living means that people have priorities and demands placed upon them that have to come first. In the time of Jesus it was perhaps easier to leave everything behind and go and live out the gospel message every day. Furthermore there were less obstacles, temptations and distractions to get in the way of serving others. In today's consumer and material world it is more difficult for Christians to put others first as we are all chasing dreams and trying the make ourselves secure. We simply do not have the time. The demand of Jesus to leave all behind for a life of total service is unrealistic in the vast majority of cases today. Many feel that if they try their best to serve others when it is possible then God will still look favourably on them on the day of judgement. 	

Levels of Response

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0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark
Level 2	Opinion supported by elaborated reason or two or more simple reasons (for	
	the same view or different points of view).	2 marks
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well-developed reason or two elaborated reasons.	3 marks
Level 4	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view.	4 marks
Level 5	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view	
	expressed coherently.	5 marks
	(5 mark	(s) AO3

C7 The Sacraments

(a) Explain the main arguments in favour of: (i) Infant baptism; and(ii) Adult / Believers' baptism.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the reasons in support of baptism for both infants and adults

Levels of Response

0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	A minimal application of knowledge and understanding.	1 mark
Level 2	Some application of knowledge and understanding.	2 marks
Level 3	A clear application of knowledge and understanding with some	a 1
	development.	3 marks
Level 4	A clear application of knowledge and understanding with good	
	development.	4 marks

Infant Baptism

Baptism cleanses original sin and parents want their child to be free from sin at an early age. Baptism makes the new-born Christian a member of God's family and the local Church. They are assured of the love of God as they begin their faith journey. Baptism gives the child an identity as a member of God's community both in heaven and on earth and parents want this child to grow up having a system of values and beliefs that will enable them to live Christian life. They want their child to be freed from sin and live under the care and protection of God as they grow. Baptism of infants is a long established tradition in the Roman Catholic Church, which many feel important to keep alive. Parents want the same values for their children that they were given by their parents. They want their child to begin the process of becoming a complete member of the Church and to feel the protection of God from an early age. As original sin is removed and the child given a fresh start many feel reassured that their child has the love of God. They have also become part of the local Church community; a community that will teach the child as they grow.

(4 marks) AO2

Adult / Believers' Baptism

Jesus was baptised as an adult and Christians should follow in his footsteps. It is important for Christians to understand and appreciate the meaning of being a Christian so that they can live out the promises they make. It is important therefore that baptism does not take place until the Christian is aware of what they doing. The baptism of adults was the standard practice and tradition of the early church for at least 3 centuries. Those baptised had made a personal choice and were aware of the responsibilities that were part of being a Christian. They could freely choose their faith. To be a Christian means to be an active member of the church, fully aware of the roles and responsibilities that membership entails. A child cannot make that choice, nor can they live out their faith. Therefore baptism should only take place when a person is old enough to make a conscious decision about their faith with full knowledge of how they will have to live. They should not be indoctrinated into something that they may later rebel against or reject.

(b) Explain the importance of the Eucharist in the Roman Catholic Church. You should refer to the purposes and effects of the sacrament in your answer.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the purpose and effects of the Eucharist for Roman Catholics.

Levels of Response

Ő	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	A minimal application of knowledge and understanding.	1 - 2 marks
Level 2	Some application of knowledge and understanding.	3 - 4 marks
Level 3	A clear application of knowledge and understanding with some	
	development.	5 - 6 marks
Level 4	A clear application of knowledge and understanding with good	
	development.	7 marks

Content

The Eucharist is an important sacrament for Roman Catholics because by receiving the body and blood of Christ the person feels closer to God and this inspires them to be a better Christian. The Eucharist is the weekly celebration of faith in the Roman Catholic Church. It is the way in which Catholics express their faith and show their willingness to participate in the life of the Church. By listening to the Liturgy of the Word Catholics are given spiritual food that teaches them how to live as Jesus wants them to. This will help them in their everyday interactions with others. By receiving Holy Communion Catholics believe that they are eating the body of Christ. This is spiritual food for the journey of Christian living. The Eucharist means 'thanksgiving' and reminds the believer of the sacrifice of Jesus on Calvary and encourages them to adopt the same attitude in their own life. At the end of the Mass the instruction is given 'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.' Catholics believe that what has been learned in the mass has to be lived out in the community each day.

(c) "The sacraments are the best way for a Christian to get close to God." Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have thought about more than one point of view.

Target: Evaluation of the centrality of the sacraments in the religious life of a Roman Catholic

Levels of L	Response		
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks	
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark	
Level 2	Opinion supported by elaborated reason or two or more simple		
	reasons (for the same view or different points of view).	2 marks	
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well-developed reason or two elaborated		
	reasons.	3 marks	
Level 4	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view.	4 marks	
Level 5	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view		
	expressed coherently.	5 marks	
		(5 marks)	AO3