



CATHOLIC
CERTIFICATE IN
RELIGIOUS STUDIES



Archdiocese of
Liverpool

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Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is designed for those engaged in the communication of their Catholic Faith, whether directly or indirectly. It is open to teachers - primary and secondary; catechists, people involved in liturgical work and other interested adults.

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) is awarded by the Board of Religious Studies of the Bishops of England and Wales.

Brief History of CCRS

Created over 30 years ago, it aims to help those responsible for passing on our faith to understand more deeply the truths they are handing on.

By virtue of their baptism every Christian, whether Catholic or otherwise is called to bring the Good News to others.

In practical terms it is a course comprising eight modules which can be completed in two years or up to five.

It builds on the Foundations laid within "Christ at the Centre."

Contacts: - CCRS

The CCRS Coordinator Dcn. Paul Mannings p.mannings@rcaol.org.uk

The CCRS Administrator Mr Paul Crilly p.crilly@rcaol.org.uk

Postal address - [Archdiocese of Liverpool Education Department CCRS](#)
[St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, L17 1AA](#)

Some elements of the course are to be delivered by virtual learning. 6 Sessions a year will be delivered as a live session. A device is required with a working camera.

Organisation of the course

The course is designed for part-time study over a period of two years, though it may be spread over a longer period — up to five years. It is made up of 8 modules, 6 of which are core plus 2 specialists.

Each year:

4 modules - 3 core, 1 Specialist (10 hours contact time for each module)

Each term:

5 evening sessions will cover one core module. 1 evening session each term (up-to 2 hours) will cover a specialist module.

Assessment:

Attendance is compulsory at all sessions of each module plus successful completion of an assignment per module.

Start times of sessions:

These are the starting times which are subject to alteration and will be confirmed by tutors.

The course needs completing in a 5-year time scale.

Course Fees 2026-2027: -

Registration fee:	£20.00
Cost per module for the sessions:	£60.00

Candidates are encouraged to explore the possibilities of their fees being paid in whole or part by, for example, LEA, School, or Parish. Candidates are responsible for course fee's being paid.

Applications: The Registration Form is attached

Your email address is important as part of the course is delivered virtually. If you have a school email address, please use this one.

Continuation? Wishing to re-engage or transfer from another centre? - Contact the CCRS Office for further information.

The CCRS Coordinator Dcn. Paul Mannings: p.mannings@rcaol.org.uk

The CCRS Administrator Mr Paul Crilly: p.crilly@rcaol.org.uk

To attend the course, you will need:

A device with a front facing camera, microphone, and speakers. This could be a computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone.

You must have good internet connection through Wi-Fi, or a strong mobile signal.

Find your quiet place.

Most of the course sessions will run online via Zoom or Teams. As a courtesy to fellow students, please make sure there is no background noise or other disturbance that could interrupt or distract others. For example:

- You should not be in a public place.
- You should not be eating meals.
- You should not be in a moving vehicle. (Driving or Passenger).

You will be removed.

- If you are indisposed in any way for a session, please provide notice of the occurrence.
- You should always conduct yourself on-line appropriately.



Be prepared.

This is as much a practical reminder as it is a rule, but to make sure everything runs smoothly, learners should be prepared and ready to go five minutes before class starts. Here is what you could include in a quick checklist:

- Have a pen and paper.
- Be familiar with the device and zoom.
- Have full name showing.
- Fully charge or connect your device before class starts.
- Have a glass of water.
- Check lighting.
- Turn off any notification alerts.

You must ensure your camera is turned on for the duration of each session. As the camera will be able to see behind you during the course, please consider what is visible in the background to other participants and the presenters and administrators.

- you may wish to consider applying a background filter.
- If you do not have your camera on, you will be removed from session and be marked as absent.
- we must be able to see you clearly on screen.
- If we can't see you, we will remove you from the session, once removed you cannot rejoin that session.

As CCRS is a nationally recognised qualification, it is a requirement of your successful completion that the trainer can see that you are present and engaged throughout the whole course. Your first name and surname must be displayed via your Zoom ID.

Non-compliance on a course is unacceptable, and you may be removed from the course if you are unable to fully take part and engage with the training.



Be on time.

Late arrivals can be a big distraction – your class time is limited, learners could miss a crucial set of task instructions, and especially in a small regular class, lateness compromises people's engagement and focus.

Mute the mic.

Especially with big classes, without a hard-and-fast mute rule in place an array of noises will start to feed through – the neighbour's dog, people shifting in their seats, the Cobra Kai theme tune – so ask everyone to stick to mute unless they have the floor or are in a group activity.

No distractions

You would not have learners messaging friends or scrolling through their social media apps in a traditional class, so they should not do it in your virtual classes either.

No eating

As is the case in an in-person class, eating is distracting and even a little rude – especially during group activities. So, other than a glass or bottle of water, no eating or drinking during the virtual class is a rule most learners appreciate.

Raise your hand.

It is just not practical for large classes to have people jumping in with their questions and comments – it is too easy for other learners to lose the thread or for the class to get sidetracked.

Instead, encourage learners to raise a virtual hand, so you can come to them at the opportune moment.

Virtual classes often bring people together from all kinds of backgrounds, across diverse cultures and time zones, so it is a fantastic opportunity for students to exchange ideas and learn from each other – but it relies on their willingness to contribute and collaborate.

Year 1 modules

1. THE BIBLE - OLD TESTAMENT (Hebrew Scriptures)

The purpose of this module is to introduce participants to the writing in the Old Testament to help them to recognise God's revelation contained there and its continuing relevance in Christian life today.

2. THE BIBLE - NEW TESTAMENT

The purpose of this module is to familiarise participants with the process through which the New Testament writings came into being, and to help them interpret the material presented, and understand its significance for the life of a Christian today.

3. PERSON OF JESUS

The purpose of this module is to deepen participants' awareness of the significance and centrality of the person and work of Jesus Christ in the daily life of the Christian as well as in the worship of the Church.

Specialist module

1. THE DISTINCTIVE NATURE OF A CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School.

The purpose of this module is to explore the religious dimension of the education offered in a Catholic school.

Year 2 modules

4. THE CHURCH

The purpose of this module is to enable participants to reflect on the nature of the Church and its mission in the world today.

5. SACRAMENTS

The purpose of this module is to develop participants' understanding and appreciation of Sacrament in the life of Catholics as a sign of Christ's continuing presence with the Church.

6. CHRISTIAN MORALITY

The purpose of the module is to help participants develop the skills of moral decision-making, to examine Christian teaching in its relation to the universal search for what constitutes "human good," and to explore the application of Christian understanding to some contemporary moral issues.

Specialist module

2. CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The purpose of this module is to explore current developments in curriculum Religious Education.



Archdiocese of Liverpool

CCRS 2026 – 2027 YEAR ONE

To be delivered as mixture of Live and Virtual learning – Tuesday
All sessions start 6.00 for 6.30pm - Live location St Margaret Clitherow Centre.
These are the starting times which are subject to alteration and will be confirmed by tutors.

Autumn Term 2026

Module 1 The Bible OLD TESTAMENT (Hebrew Scriptures)

22 nd September	ORIENTATION &	LIVE	Module 1	Session 1
29 th September	Virtual		Module 1	Session 2
13 th October	Virtual		Module 1	Session 3
10 th November	Live		Module 1	Session 4
17 th November	Virtual		Module 1	Session 5

Spring Term 2027

Module 2 The Bible NEW TESTAMENT

12 th January	Virtual	Module 2	Session 1
19 th January	Virtual	Module 2	Session 2
26 th January	Virtual	Module 2	Session 3
2 nd February	Virtual	Module 2	Session 4
9 th February	Virtual	Module 2	Session 5

Summer Term 2027

Module 3 PERSON OF JESUS

20 th April	Live	Module 3	Session 1
27 th April	Virtual	Module 3	Session 2
15 th June	Virtual	Module 3	Session 3
22 nd June	Live	Module 3	Session 4
29 th June	Virtual	Module 3	Session 5

SPECIALIST MODULE 1

Teachers: The distinctive nature of a Catholic School

6 th October 2026	Live	Session 1
16 th March 2027	Virtual	Session 2
11 th May 2027	Live	Session 3



Archdiocese of Liverpool

CCRS DATES 2026 – 2027 YEAR TWO

To be delivered as mixture of Live and Virtual learning - Thursday
All sessions start 6.00 for 6.30pm - Live location St Margaret Clitherow Centre.
These are the starting times which are subject to alteration and will be confirmed by tutors.

Autumn Term 2026

Module 4 THE CHURCH

10 th September	Live	Module 4 Session 1
17 th September	Virtual	Module 4 Session 2
8 th October	Virtual	Module 4 Session 3
15 th October	Live	Module 4 Session 4
12 th November	Virtual	Module 4 Session 5

Spring Term 2027

Module 5 THE SACRAMENTS

14 th January	Virtual	Module 5 Session 1
21 st January	Virtual	Module 5 Session 2
28 th January	Virtual	Module 5 Session 3
4 th February	Virtual	Module 5 Session 4
11 th February	Virtual	Module 5 Session 5

Summer Term 2027

Module 6 MORALITY

22 nd April	Live	Module 6 Session 1
29 th April	Virtual	Module 6 Session 2
6 th May	Virtual	Module 6 Session 3
20 th May	Live	Module 6 Session 4
10 th June	Virtual	Module 6 Session 5

SPECIALIST MODULE 2

Teachers: Current development in R E

1 st October 2026	Live	Session 1
18 th March 2027	Virtual	Session 2
24 th June 2027	Live	Session 3



REGISTRATION FORM FOR NEW STUDENTS ONLY

STUDY CENTRE:
ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL

SURNAME: TITLE:

FIRST NAME(S)

ADDRESS:
POST CODE:

CONTACT DETAILS Work (e-mail)
.....
Mobile No. Home No.
.....

This section is optional, but the Board would be grateful for your response.
Why are you studying for the CCRS?

- training for teaching
- professional development – teaching
- parish ministry – state ministry:
- personal interest

Who is responsible for paying for course? Student/School/Church or Other.

Name..... Email Contact No.

Please indicate any relevant qualifications (Previous CCRS modules):
.....

If you are a teacher.

How long have you been teaching?

Are you in a maintained or independent school?

Which phase are you in: primary / secondary/ FH / HE?

Subject area

Any post of responsibility?

Signature **Date**

[Once completed email \(p.crilly@rcaol.org.uk\) this form with cheque/BACS payment for £20.00 to the CCRS Centre where you are registered. If School is paying do not send £20, will invoice school direct.](mailto:p.crilly@rcaol.org.uk)
[All academic enquiries should be sent to p.mannings@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:p.mannings@rcaol.org.uk)

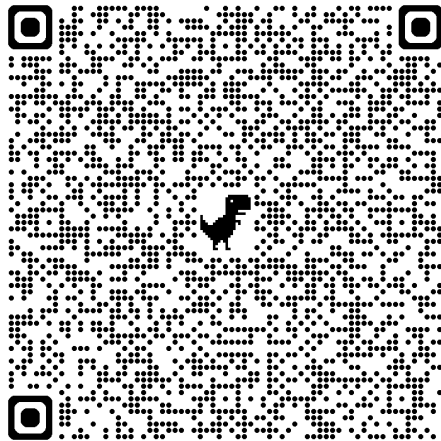
Please do not send copies of this form to the Board of Religious Studies.

As an organisation we are obliged to comply with the GDPR 2018 and other guidance on privacy and data confidentiality.

Live Location

Location of LIVE sessions Scan QR code.

Live location St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, L17 1AA.



Archdiocese of Liverpool

A charitable incorporated organisation (registered charity number 1199714)

Principal office: Liverpool Archdiocesan Office, St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive,
Liverpool, L17 1AA

Safeguarding Section

Email: safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk

Phone: 0151 522 1103

Archdiocese
Safeguarding



Catholic
Safeguarding
Standards
Agency

