

Key Concepts

Punishment	The consequences or penalty for someone that has committed a crime.	Absolutism	The belief that there are certain actions which are always right or always wrong.
Sin	An act against God	Relativism	The belief that certain actions are right or wrong depending on the situation or circumstances.
Forgiveness	The act of pardoning someone for the offences they've caused you. Overlooking a person's faults.	Eucharist	Meaning "thanksgiving". The sacrament in which Roman Catholics remember the Last Supper.
Salvation	The belief that through Jesus' death and resurrection humanity has achieved the possibility of eternal life.	Evangelisation	Spreading the "Good News" which can be translated as "Gospel" The sharing of the Gospel and life of Jesus with others.

Catholic Teaching on Evangelisation

Evangelisation literally means spreading the 'Gospel'. The word Gospel means 'good news'. This means Catholics have been given the responsibility to share the Gospel and the teachings of Jesus with others. They have a duty to bring people the message of Jesus so they can be saved by his death and resurrection. Evangelisation can be problematic as it can cause conflict between religious and non-religious people. It also suggests that salvation is only available to Catholics.

Sources of Authority

"Make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" **Matthew**

"Evangelization is first and foremost about preaching the Gospel to those who do not know Jesus Christ ..." " this is the first task of the Church" **Evangelii Gaudium**

"The main reason for evangelisation is to share the love of God" **Evangelii Gaudium**

How does the Church evangelise?	Catholics are called to continue the work of the apostles by announcing the gospel to all people. Catholics are expected to spread the gospel message locally, nationally and globally . Locally through the work of parishes and people, nationally by Bishops and Church leaders and globally through the work of the Pope and Catholic men and women throughout the world.
Evangelii Gaudium	In 2013 Pope Francis wrote a letter to all Catholics on the theme of the Church's mission of evangelisation in the modern world. It is called ' Evangelii Gaudium ', which in Latin means ' The joy of the Gospel '. Pope Francis says the way to share the gospel is to show love and care for the weak, vulnerable and poor. He wants " a Church which is poor and for the poor ", and for the Church to have a special love and care for " above all the poor and the sick, those who are usually despised and overlooked "
Evangelising in Britain: Benefits and Challenges	The UK is a multi-faith society in which people of different religion, and no religion, live alongside each other. According to the 2011 census, there is an increase in diverse religious and non-religious beliefs and practices (including those of Christianity; Buddhism; Hinduism; Islam; Judaism; Sikhism; Humanism and Atheism), whilst also showing that over half of those who responded considered themselves Christian . Britain is now a place which has an increasingly diverse pattern of religious and non-religious beliefs and practices. This diversity brings benefits and challenges . The Catholic Church teaches that people of other faiths and not faith should be respected , but Catholics also have a mission to pass on the message and teaching of Jesus .
Is salvation only available to Catholics?	Some traditional Catholic and Fundamentalist Christians may hold an exclusivist approach . This means Salvation is only possible for Christians. Jesus achieved Salvation. If you reject belief in Jesus and do not live a life consistent with his teachings then you cannot receive salvation. Jesus taught in the Gospel that his disciples had to go out and make disciples of all nations. This seems to suggest that being part of the Church is necessary. Jesus taught: " I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. " This is a strong argument in favour. However, Pope Francis has said that God will " forgive " atheists as long as they behave morally and live according to their consciences. People who are unfamiliar to the faith can achieve eternal life, as long as they live moral lives and follow the natural law as set out by God. People may be ' anonymous Christians '. They might have never heard the message of Jesus but they can still have salvation. All religions are just different paths toward God meaning all faiths can find salvation .

Exam Practice

c) Explain the importance of evangelisation for Catholics (8)