



Sydney Catholic Schools



2024

Year 8 Religious Education Test

Q1 Study the image and answer question 1.



This symbol is found in Catholic churches during the season of

- (A) Ordinary Time.
- (B) Advent.
- (C) Lent.
- (D) Easter.

Q2 Every year during Lent, Catholic schools have the opportunity to engage with Caritas' fundraising appeal.

What is the name of this appeal?

- (A) Project Tenderness
- (B) Project Kindness
- (C) Project Compassion
- (D) Project Solidarity

Q3 In the New Testament, what type of Biblical text can the writings of St Paul be defined as?

- (A) Gospels
- (B) Prophecies
- (C) Letters
- (D) Psalms

Q4



Jesus modelled how to pray by teaching the

- (A) Glory Be.
- (B) Hail Mary.
- (C) Angelus.
- (D) Our Father.

Q5

Which of the following actions of Jesus **BEST** demonstrates his teaching of love and concern for others?

- (A) walking on water
- (B) cleansing the leper
- (C) discussing parables with his disciples
- (D) observing the Passover with his disciples

Q6

The Church teaches that human nature is essentially good because humans

- (A) are created in the image and likeness of God.
- (B) are rewarded in heaven if they are good.
- (C) are the only part of God's creation that can worship him.
- (D) are superior to animals.

Q7

When examining the words and actions of Jesus, what central themes can be identified?

- (A) honesty and self-worth
- (B) ambition and selflessness
- (C) compassion and love
- (D) generosity and ambition

Q8 Choose the word that **BEST** completes the statement.

The Catholic Church teaches that the Bible is ____? ____ by God.

- (A) outlined
- (B) taught
- (C) dictated
- (D) inspired

Q9 The area under the leadership and care of a Bishop is known as a

- (A) presbytery.
- (B) deanery.
- (C) diocese.
- (D) parish.

Q10 Every Tuesday afternoon students from a Catholic high school visit the local nursing home. They talk with and listen to the residents, and sometimes sit in silence while keeping them company.

This is an example of how

- (A) good actions are noticed and rewarded.
- (B) good actions can be simple acts of service.
- (C) schools can act for good when it is convenient to do so.
- (D) schools should force students to do good actions.

Q11 Read the Scripture passage and answer question 11.

"And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them ... they began to speak in other languages."

ACTS 2:2-4

This passage describes the first

- (A) Easter.
- (B) Passover.
- (C) Pentecost.
- (D) Lent.

Q12 Holy men and women have been canonised as saints because they

- (A) were admired by many people.
- (B) exemplified the Christian life.
- (C) adapted to the needs of their time.
- (D) followed the laws of Christian society.

Q13 Read the Scripture passage and answer question 13.

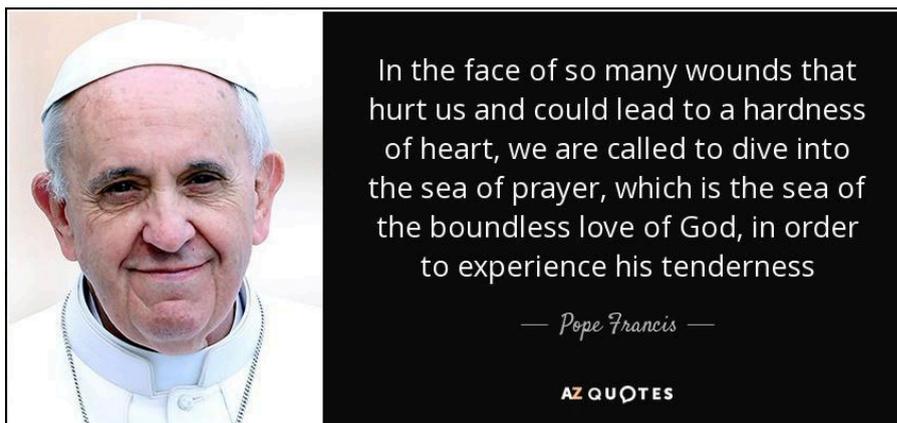
"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

LUKE 6:31

In this Scripture passage, Jesus is emphasising

- (A) forgiveness and redemption.
- (B) compassion and love.
- (C) penance and salvation.
- (D) obedience and sacrifice.

- Q14 The first canonised saint from Australia is
- (A) Saint Marcellin Champagnat.
 - (B) Saint Catherine of Siena.
 - (C) Saint Vincent de Paul.
 - (D) Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop.
- Q15 The Maronite Catholic Church is an example of the
- (A) Eastern Catholic Churches.
 - (B) Western Catholic Churches.
 - (C) Latin Catholic Churches.
 - (D) Orthodox Churches.
- Q16 Which of the following is **NOT** true of the Catholic tradition?
- (A) Creation can help us understand the nature of the Creator.
 - (B) We can pray by reflecting on the beauty of the natural world.
 - (C) Worshipping the sun is a way of worshipping God.
 - (D) Creation is good and should be protected.
- Q17 Read the quote and answer question 17.



Pope Francis is saying that prayer assists in developing

- (A) a desire to attend Mass.
- (B) a relationship with God.
- (C) knowledge to overcome problems.
- (D) resilience in the face of adversity.

Q18 Catholic teachings put a focus on the principle of human dignity through

- (A) promoting material success and the accumulation of wealth.
- (B) emphasising the need to adhere to religious practices.
- (C) acknowledging that there will always be inequality.
- (D) helping others and caring for those in need.

Q19 In the Parable of the Sower, Jesus describes different types of soil where the seeds are sown or planted.

How **BEST** could a Year 8 student apply the lesson from this parable to their own lives?

- (A) by recognising the impact of various influences on their own thoughts and actions
- (B) by protecting the diversity of God's creation
- (C) by understanding the need to lay good foundations in life
- (D) by understanding the importance of being a good listener in class

Q20 What was the first important dispute in the history of the Church?

- (A) the place where the Christian community would worship
- (B) how the Christian community would receive the bread and wine
- (C) the role men and women would have in the Church
- (D) which parts of the Old Testament had to be followed

Q21 Which of the following terms best reflects the term dominion as understood in the Christian story of creation?

- (A) responsibility
- (B) control
- (C) superiority
- (D) dominance

Q22

Choose the words that **BEST** complete the statement.

The ___1___ is a form of ___2___ that involves reciting a specific number of Our Fathers and Hail Marys while meditating on events in the lives of Jesus and Mary, known as the ___3___.

- (A) 1. Rosary
2. petition
3. parables
- (B) 1. Glory Be
2. prayer
3. parables
- (C) 1. Glory Be
2. petition
3. mysteries
- (D) 1. Rosary
2. prayer
3. mysteries

Q23

Read the following statements and answer question 23.

Statement 1	Conscience can prevent sinful actions.
Statement 2	Conscience supports ethical decision-making.

Which option **BEST** describes the two statements?

- (A) Both statements are true.
- (B) Both statements are false.
- (C) Statement 1 is true and statement 2 is false.
- (D) Statement 1 is false and Statement 2 is true.

Q24

Read the following story and answer question 24.

Eli and Jake consider themselves very fortunate. They attended a Catholic primary school for seven years which was next door to their local parish church. They have now commenced high school and their Catholic secondary school has a chapel in which they celebrated their Year 7 beginning of the year mass. In both places of worship they identified particular religious items with which they have become familiar.

Which option **BEST** lists the religious items displayed in the places of worship which Eli and Jake have become familiar with?

- (A) candles, Stations of the Cross, a presider's chair and an organ
- (B) a religious icon, seats, crucifixes and an organ
- (C) Stations of the Cross, an Altar, crucifix and a religious icon
- (D) an Altar, Bible, Baptismal Font and a noticeboard

Q25

St Paul is known as the Apostle to the Gentiles. This means that he

- (A) celebrated Mass with all the followers of Jesus.
- (B) shared the teachings of Jesus with the non-Jewish communities.
- (C) emphasised the importance of the Sacraments.
- (D) built relationships with the wider Jewish community.

Q26

In relation to the environment, the Church teaches that

- (A) good stewardship is both social and environmental.
- (B) human society is more important than the created world.
- (C) people should worry about the social crisis before they worry about the environment.
- (D) the social crisis should be considered separately to the environmental crisis.

Q27 What am I?

I am a prayer said before the Liturgy of the Word. I am prayed by the priest before the readings are proclaimed. I am designed to gather the intentions and prayers of the faithful and I set the tone for the Liturgy of the Word.

I am the

- (A) Agnus Dei.
- (B) Confiteor.
- (C) Nicene Creed.
- (D) Collect.

Q28 Catholics consider sin to be

- (A) a failure to love God or your neighbour.
- (B) a failure to pray every day.
- (C) an action that breaks the law.
- (D) an action that leads to punishment.

Q29 Read the statements and answer question 29.

Sarah	Freedom means making choices, no matter the consequences.
Monique	Freedom comes with responsibility to help others.
Natalie	We are free to make any choice, so long as it's not harmful to other people.
Elana	We are free to do whatever we want, whenever we want.

Who is **BEST** expressing the Catholic understanding of freedom?

- (A) Sarah
- (B) Monique
- (C) Natalie
- (D) Elana

Q30 A traditional practice of scriptural reading, meditation, prayer and contemplation that helps a person bridge the gap between the Biblical text and their daily life can **BEST** be identified as

- (A) Ignatian Examen.
- (B) Visio Divina.
- (C) Journal Writing.
- (D) Lectio Divina.

Q31 Read the following statement and answer question 31.

"True charity is always unmerited, unconditional, and gratuitous*!"

**Gratuitous - given or done free of charge*

Pope Francis February 15, 2015

The spirit of Pope Francis' quote could be BEST lived out through

- (A) volunteering for charities that only align with your circumstances.
- (B) contributing without looking for recognition or reward.
- (C) giving only to Christian causes.
- (D) saving charitable work exclusively for almsgiving during Lent.

Q32 Australian studies are now demonstrating the links between environmental quality and public health.

These studies highlight an urgent task for Catholics to

- (A) fulfil their responsibility for the environment.
- (B) look after the old and the sick who are affected by poor health.
- (C) pray, fast and give alms.
- (D) preach the Gospel to all people.

Q33

Choose the words that **BEST** complete the statement.

___ 1 ___ are religious images or paintings. They are not ___ 2 ___ themselves, but are venerated* as sacred objects. They serve as aids in prayer and meditation, reminding believers of the presence and ___ 3 ___ of the saints.

*venerated - to honour

- (A) 1. Murals
2. worshipped
3. importance
- (B) 1. Murals
2. holy
3. intercession
- (C) 1. Icons
2. holy
3. importance
- (D) 1. Icons
2. worshipped
3. intercession

Q34

How do the teachings of Jesus provide a guide for Christian living?

- (A) They replace the need to follow the laws of society.
- (B) They fulfil ancient prophecies.
- (C) They are relevant to human lives and values.
- (D) They can lead to good fortune and success.

Q35 Read the following passage and answer question 35.

"They went to their deaths accompanied by derision; they were covered with skins of wild animals and ripped to pieces by dogs, or they were nailed to crosses and, when darkness fell, set on fire to become lamps in the night ..."

Tacitus. Annals xv, 44

These acts experienced by the early Christians would **BEST** be described as

- (A) punishment.
- (B) persecution.
- (C) exploitation.
- (D) mistreatment.

Q36 In the Gospels, Jesus often interacts with people on the margin of society: the sick, the poor, the unclean.

What change did they often experience as a result of their encounter with Jesus?

- (A) They were healed and forgiven.
- (B) They were accepted by those who rejected them.
- (C) They were converted to Christianity.
- (D) They were judged and condemned.

Q37 Read the following Scripture passage and answer question 37.

"He said, 'Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.'"

MARK 14:36

Jesus prayed this prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane. This type of prayer is called a prayer of

- (A) thanksgiving.
- (B) blessing.
- (C) petition.
- (D) praise.

Q38 What am I?

In the Catholic tradition, I am a guided reflection that engages thoughts, imagination, emotions and desires. I am a practice that seeks to deepen faith, convert hearts, and strengthen the will to follow Christ. I place the person before the Word of God, seeking to make it their own. I allow the person to encounter Jesus in a personal and transformative way.

I am

- (A) the Mass.
- (B) Reconciliation.
- (C) the Gregorian Chant.
- (D) Christian Meditation.

Q39 How can Gospel values be applied to today's contemporary issues?

- (A) by ignoring societal challenges and focusing solely on personal salvation
- (B) by adopting a rigid approach to moral dilemmas
- (C) by addressing problems with justice and compassion
- (D) by supporting modern advancements in favour of traditional values

Q40 Why does the theme of the Kingdom of God recur prominently in Jesus' teachings?

- (A) to promote political processes and power struggles
- (B) to convey the ongoing presence and rule of God in the lives of believers
- (C) to showcase Jesus' storytelling skills and creativity
- (D) to describe what happens as Children of God when we die

Q41 Why was the Edict of Milan so important?

- (A) It permanently established tolerance for Christianity within the Roman Empire.
- (B) It clarified the wording of the Nicene Creed.
- (C) It transformed Christianity in how its beliefs and rituals were practised.
- (D) It gave many benefits to Christians such as tax benefits which helped them to live well.

Q42

Read the following Scripture passage and answer question 42.

"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

MATTHEW 4:1-4

This passage shows

- (A) how evil can overcome goodness.
- (B) people should fast as a sacrifice to God.
- (C) people should fast to show they can resist the devil.
- (D) how goodness can respond to evil.

Q43

Read the Scripture passage and answer question 43.

"Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little." Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

LUKE 7:47-50

What quality of Jesus is **MOST** evident in this story?

- (A) mercy
- (B) humility
- (C) integrity
- (D) charity

Q44

God offered protection and land to Abraham and his descendants, as long as they followed the path of God.

How is the Abrahamic covenant still relevant to Christians today?

- (A) It helps them to understand the literal interpretation of the Bible.
- (B) It highlights the importance of faith and trust in God's promises.
- (C) It encourages Christians to strive for good relationships.
- (D) It serves as a guide to ethical practice.

Q45

Read the following statement and answer question 45.

"Regrettably, the climate crisis is not exactly a matter that interests the great economic powers, whose concern is with the greatest profit possible at minimal cost and in the shortest amount of time."

Pope Francis, 2023, *Laudate Deum*

Which option **BEST** expresses Pope Francis' argument in this passage?

- (A) Wealth and greed are obstacles to fighting climate change.
- (B) Wealth and greed can motivate people to fight climate change.
- (C) The climate crisis has a greater impact on wealthy people than on poor people.
- (D) The climate crisis has been caused by both poor people and wealthy people.

Q46

Choose the words that **BEST** complete the passage.

Catholics believe that all people are created and loved by God, and so have a fundamental ___1___ that can never be altered. This extends to ___2___, whether they are old or young, rich or poor, or sick or healthy. It has implications for the way we ___3___ others, particularly those who are vulnerable.

- (A) 1. goodness
2. Christians
3. treat
- (B) 1. goodness
2. everyone
3. value
- (C) 1. dignity
2. everyone
3. treat
- (D) 1. dignity
2. Christians
3. value

Q47

What did Jesus' teachings promote in the *Sermon on the Mount*?

- (A) the importance of wealth and material possessions
- (B) the significance of outward appearances and rituals
- (C) the need for love, humility and forgiveness
- (D) the superiority of some religious practices over others

Q48 Read the following quote and answer question 48.

"In January 2023, as the tenth anniversary of his Papacy was in sight, Pope Francis reminded everyone that we are each responsible for Mission. We must be a 'Church that goes out of herself' to proclaim the Gospel of Christ. And this task cannot be left only to certain elites, or only the boldest of us."

Mission - Pope Francis - The Church's true mission.

Which option **BEST** describes Pope Francis' teachings about mission?

- (A) The Golden Rule should be lived in everyday life.
- (B) Every Catholic is responsible for sharing the message of Jesus Christ.
- (C) The message of Jesus Christ is best proclaimed by the clergy in the Gospel.
- (D) Catholics must travel to places where they can convert people.

Q49 The love which is expressed in the Great Commandment is threefold.

It is oriented towards

- (A) God, the community and the individual.
- (B) God, the individual and the family.
- (C) God, the family and the saints.
- (D) God, parish life and the community.

Q50 Read the following quote and answer question 50.

"As climate change damages our homes and land, the impact on our neighbours in the Pacific is extreme."

Caritas Australia's website: *Take Action on Climate Change.*

Caritas Australia's Take Action on Climate Change campaign shows how

- (A) governments are solely responsible for climate change.
- (B) protest action can lead to climate justice.
- (C) Catholic organisations are essential in preventing climate change.
- (D) Catholic organisations can promote environmental stewardship.