# **Module One – Search for Meaning:**

**Responding and response to religion:**

* Factors that influence religion are:
  + The context of a person’s life
  + the experiences each person has in life
  + the world in which they live.
* People respond to religions in different and complex ways and how they respond, varies throughout life.

**Personal development:** Every person experiences a range of influences in life that shape who they are and how they live

**How do people respond to religion:**

**Being religious:** People believe there is a higher divine being and live their life according to religion and religious life

**Secularism:** Promotes social ideas or values, over religious ways – promotes freedom from religious rule and teaching.

**Atheism:** people do not believe there is a God

**Agnosticism:** People are uncertain about the existence of God or people’s ability to know if God exists

**Humanism:** The understanding that the world itself and human beings reveal all. Human reason is the foundation for every situation and action in the world.

# **Module Two – Life, Beliefs and Teachings:**

**What is Justice:**

* Justice is a value that accompanies the exercise of the corresponding cardinal moral virtue. It is translated into behaviour
* Catholics believe that people show concern for justice because God is Just, and human nature has been created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:26)
* Social justice is a requirement related to the social question which today is worldwide in scope, and concerns the social, political and economic aspects.

**What is Injustice:**

* Injustice is unfair treatment in which the rights of a person or group of people are ignored.

**Catholic Social Teaching:**

* Catholics believe all people are created in the image and likeness of God.
* The Catholic church has taught that the God-given dignity of each and every person needs to be respected.
* From this belief and practice of developing and expressing this teaching has grown a body of teachings that deal with justice in society.
* Catholic Social Teachings address matters of social, economic and ecological justice in the world
* It is concerned with inter-group or social relationships, rather than interpersonal relationships.

**Rerum Novarum:**

* The tradition of Catholic Social teaching started with the Social Encyclical, **Rerum Novarum.**
* Rerum Novarum was written by Pope Leo XIII in 1891
  + This was about the working conditions (such as slavery) in the industrial revolution and political change in Europe.
* The Rerum Novarum recognised the increasing power and assertions in labour
  + The growth of trade unions in Britain and America was marked after Rerum Novarum was written
* Catholic Social Teachings became more concerned with global issues rather than only with Western society.
* This created the relationship between employers and employees to change dramatically.
* It enunciates principles such as the common good, the primacy of the family and the rights of workers that remained essential in the continued development of Modern CST.

**Important quotes:**

* “In protecting the rights of private individuals, however, special consideration must be given to the weak and poor” (#54)
* “Labour which is too long and too hard and the belief that pay is inadequate not infrequently give workers cause to strike and become involuntary idle” (#56)
* “Any injury has been given done to or threatened eighter to the common good or the interest of the individual groups, which injury cannot in any way be repaid or prevented, it is necessary for public authority to intervene” (#52)

**Catholic social teaching:**

**Preferential option for the poor:**

* The referential option for the poor is to remind us of God’s preferential love for the poorest and most vulnerable people.
* Originates from the liberation theology movement (Latin America)
* Preference is given to the well-being of the poor and powerless of society in the teachings and commands of God as well as the Prophets and other righteous people.

**Stewardship of Creation:**

* Humans are responsible for the world and should take care of and look after it
* Catholics believe that protecting and preserving the environment for future generations
* This involves sharing the earth’s natural resources and sustaining them for future generations.
* This is based on the biblical belief that God has created humans as stewards to rule the earth
* A steward makes God’s live visible by imitating Jesus
* The creation is a gift from God and being grateful and generous with those gifts
* This feature also draws from Genesis where God gives Adam and Eve responsibility over the Earth, asking them to “fil and subdue it” (genesis 1:28)

**Human Dignity:**

* Every human being is made in the image and likeness of God
* Human Dignity can be protected, and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected, and responsibilities are met.
* Each of us is unique and beautiful in our own way
* We are all called to treat every person and creature with love and respect
* The feature can be dated back to genesis where it is stated that all people are created in the image and likeness of God. Due to this, all people have been created with God-given dignity and should have access to the same basic necessities of human life, no matter their background.

# **Module four –** **Structure and Processes:**

**Structure:** Refers to how a religion is organized including its leaders.

**Processes:** Refers to how things are done in a religion and provides expression to the working of a religious structure. For example, church documents (Papal teaching), encyclicals, etc.

**Christian message:** Used to present the message of Christ to people across the world. This includes working to help develop the conscience of a society from a Christian Perspective. To succeed in the mission, the followers need to present their message accurately.

**Relationship between structure and process:**

* Both structures and processes work together to ensure that the church fulfils its **THREEFOLD EXPRESSION** (To teach, govern and sanctify)
* This means to preserve and teach the teachings of Christ, to direct people in the laws of God and to give all people opportunities to encounter God
* The church structure made up of the Pope and Bishops use processes such as councils to exercise their authority and fulfil the threefold mission.
* Councils are also used to preserve Jesus’ teachings such as the early Church Councils where decisions were made to “not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God.” This decision opened up the Church to all and ensured that Jesus’ teaching to “Baptise all nations” was met. Therefore, the Catholic Leadership structure exercises its authority through processes such as teaching, governing and sanctifying.

**The Threefold functions of Catholic structures and processes:**

**To teach:**

* Teaching for the Apostles meant not only preaching and explaining the Gospel but also determining whether the teachings of individuals or groups accurately express the Gospel of Jesus.
* Today the Pope and Bishops work together to speak out on issues and trends in society, especially where these conflict with the Gospel to teach Christian Faith.
* The Pope and Bishop today challenge views and interpretations of the Christian message that are not correct.

**To Govern:**

* The Apostles began governing the church so that it was effective in its work.
* They called and ordained their successors to receive the special gifts of the Spirit that they themselves had been given by Jesus.
* The Pope and Bishops continue to govern and organise the church in the name of Jesus by encouraging and supporting the message of Jesus
* The Pope and Bishop assist other Catholics with their vocation

**To Sanctify:**

* Jesus taught his followers to pray and instituted the Sacraments.
* The Apostles’ concern was to ensure that the liturgical celebrations in the life of the church remained authentic to Jesus.
* Today, the Pope and Bishops provide for the believer’s faith and holiness through the celebration of the sacraments.

**Ordinary and Extraordinary magisterium:**

**Extraordinary magisterium:**

* The formal declarations of the Pope or ecumenical council of Bishops approved by the Pope.
* When extraordinary magisterium takes the form of Papal definition or councillor decisions binding on the consciences of all the faithful in matters of faith and morals, it is infallible.
* The non-ordinary solemn teachings and infallible judgments or definitions of Popes and an ecumenical council.
* For example, a category of officials in the Roman Republic.
* The Bishops of the Catholic Church when gathered in the ecumenical council, or the Pope when teaching

**Ordinary Magisterium:**

* The ordinary magisterium is a teaching of that all Bishops (including the Pope) universally agree on and is called infallible
* Bishops are involved
* Informal
* More common
* Documents of the church

**Church structural roles:**

**Pope:**

* The head of the catholic church is fallible in defining matters of morals and faith.
* The Holy seat is the chair of the Bishop of Rome, the Pope.

**Cardinal:**

* Cardinals serve as the chief officials of the Roman curia (Papal bureaucracy). They are the senior members of the catholic church, immediately after the Pope.
* Roles include electing the Pope and acting as his principal counsellor.

**Bishop:**

* An ordained clergy member who is entrusted with a position of authority and oversight un a religious institution.
* There are roughly 5600 living bishops in the catholic church now
* A bishop’s main roles are to **teach, govern and sanctify**

**Priest:**

* Priests are the ordained minister and the leader of a parish community. Can administer most of the sacraments
* The primary function of all priests is administering the church’s seven sacraments
* They also visit the sick and oversee religious education

**Lay Catholics:**

* Not part of the professional paid staff or a parish, but the work they do is instrumental to the operation of a parish.
* Without them, many things within a parish won’t happen.
* Examples include:
  + Chair
  + Lectors
  + Ushers
  + Catechists

**Exam-styled questions:**

**Identify and describe one main structure or process of a particular religion:**

* One main structure of Catholicism is the Magisterium. In the catholic church, the religious structure refers to the leadership hierarchy of the church, also known as the Magisterium. This involved the Pope, Bishops, Priests and Deacons. The Pope has full authority over the church and its leaders. For example, the Australian Catholic Bishop Conference is an example of a leadership structure. This is the permanent national body for the Bishops of Australia on issues of national significance in the Australian Catholic Church.

**Explain the origin of the authority of a structure or processes within a religious institute:**

* The Authority of the Pope and Bishop is grounded in Peter’s declaration about Jesus in Matthew 16:13-20. Jesus states “and so I tell you Peter: You are a rock, and on this rock’s foundation, I will build my church. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.”
* The successor to Peter is known today as the Pope.
* The purpose of the Magisterium is to ensure that all who are trying to live and teach the message of Christ do authentically

**Describe the relationship between structure and processes:**

* Define each one and give a short example.
* Church structure is made up of the Pope and Bishops use processes such as councils to exercise their authority and fulfill the 3-fold mission: To teach, govern and sanctify.
* Outlines teach, govern and sanctify.

# **Module Six – Religious Practice:**

**Religious Practice:** A recognised way of doing something religious. They refer to a **Broad** range of experiences that relate to many aspects of religious life. For example, these could be:

* Praying
* Attending mass
* Sign of the cross
* Genuflect
* Praying the rosary
* Pilgrimage

**Key features of the Mass:**

**Introductory Rights:**

* Entrance procession:
  + - bless themselves with holy water when walking in and genuflect to the pew.
    - Everyone stands when the priest enters
    - The sign of the cross
* Greeting:
  + - Priest says, “Lord be with you” Kirae (standing)
* Penitential act:
  + - “I confess to the mighty God”
    - “Lord have mercy”
* Gloria:
  + - Giving oneself to God
* Opening Prayer:
  + - Start the Eucharist and to welcome God and the Church

**Introductory Rites – Affect on the life of a person:**

* The purpose of these rights is that faithful coming together take on a form of a community and prepare themselves to listen to God’s words and celebrate the Eucharist properly.
* People must achieve completely to these graces and receive them, full of gratitude
* Everyone should freely welcome the salvation and love that God offers him.

**Liturgy of the word:**

* First reading:
  + Scripture from the Old Testament where they read series of passengers that were from what would be read in the synagogue.
* Responsorial psalm:
  + Use the word of God to talk to God.
  + Taken from the Old Testament
  + We respond with the refrain (cues to respond)
* Second reading:
  + Comes from the New Testament taken from the letters of the Apostles to the early Christian communities.
* Gospel Acclamation:
  + Standing and greets the lord to profess their faith
* Gospel:
  + Reading from one of the Gospels
  + Priest does the sign of the cross and we do the same on the forehead, lips and heart, saying, “glory to you O’Lord”
* Homily:
  + Priest or deacon takes to reflect on readings of the mass.
* Creed:
  + “I believe”
* Prayers of the faithful:
  + Proclaim our faith

**Liturgy of the word - effect on the life of a person:**

* They call to mind, announce and, in a certain way, make present the wonders worked by God in history of salvation.
* Through them, God continues speaking to the men of everyplace and time
* In them and through them, Christ makes Himself present.
* The community receives a great teaching on the Christian mysteries.

**Liturgy of Eucharist:**

* Eucharistic Prayer – Preface, Holy, Memorial Acclamation:
  + - Same words that were praised are at the start of the Eucharist today
    - When pouring water into wine, shows Jesus’ Divinity
    - Lavabo (washed hands like what Jesus did)
    - Says, “lord be with you” again, “we lift them up to the lord” from priest
    - Use powerful words to let lord in
    - We kneel in adoration
    - The bread into Jesus’ body and wine into blood (transubstantiation before communion)
    - The great Amen
* Communion Rite – The Lords’ Prayer, sign of peace, Lamb of God, prayer after communion:
  + - The Lord’s prayer – focusing on the Eucharist (ready to receive the body of Christ)
    - Sign of Peace – the desire of reconciliation to form a community
    - Lamb of God – Jesus is the real Lamb of God as he is died for us. We know we are not worthy od Jesus, Christ declares he wants to help
    - Holy Communion – whole pilgrimage to receive communion of the Eucharist
    - After communion – giving thanks while reflecting
    - Purification

**Liturgy of the Eucharist – effect on the life of a person:**

* The purpose the gift of the Eucharist feeds, transforms, and heals us in our spiritual journey
* It gives us the grace we need to deny ourselves and to life for Christ, to live for our Life
* The Eucharist transforms the whole of our lives because it transforms us-the core person we are-into an ever more alive and alert companion of God in the world.

**Concluding Rites:**

* Final blessing:
  + - Standing while saying “Lord be with you”
    - Priest blesses everyone
* The dismissal:
  + - Transforms lives
    - Sunday mass

**Concluding Rites – Effect on the life of a person:**

* In the Concluding Rites we are sent forth with God's blessing to bring Christ to the world
* The experience of the Eucharist should propel us outward to share our joy with others and to invite the world to the paschal feast.

# **Module Three – Current Issue:**

**Five Current issues in society:**

1. Stem cell research
2. Abortion
3. Same sex marriage
4. Racism
5. Covid pandemic

**Key features of stem cells:**

**Purpose of stem cells:** can be used for tissue regeneration, cardiovascular disease treatment, brain disease treatment, cell deficiency therapy and blood disease treatments.

**Embryonic Stem Cells:**

* Comes from human embryos that are three to five days old.
* They are harvested during a process called in-vitro fertilization
* This involves fertilizing an embryo in a laboratory instead of inside the female body
* Embryonic stem cells are used to test drugs, model diseases and therapies injected into the body

**Adult stem cells (non-embryonic):**

* Comes from developed organs and tissues in the body
* Used to repair and replace damaged tissue in which they are found
* Have the ability to renew themselves and differentiate into specialised cell types.
* Rare and generally small, but they can be found in a number of various tissues of the adult organism.

**Induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSC):**

* Genetically reprogram the adult stem cell so they behave like embryonic stem cells.
* Development of an unlimited source of any type of human cell needed for therapeutic purposes.
* Treat diabetes, blood cells to create new blood free of cancer cells for a leukemia patient

**Two views on Stem Cells:**

**Religious:**

* The use of Adult stem cell research in finding cures and solutions to medical illnesses and issues is considered good
* Scientists have found that Adult stem cells are more likely to be successful in transplants and can replace damaged tissue
* The church supports the research by donating money to the cause
  + For example, donating $10 million to South Korea in 2005, for Adult Stem Cell Research
* The church does not agree with Embryonic Stem Cell Research as the church believes that life begins at conception and so embryonic stem cell research embryonic stem cell research leads to killing life
* The church believes a good end does not justify immoral so they cannot agree with embryonic research

**Society:**

* society agrees with the church’s view on stem cell research
* Believes that embryonic stem cells have the ability to differentiate into cells that can be used in organs/tissue in the body rather than just the organ/tissue they are found in.
* Society/scientist believe that they embryonic stem cells are not life yet and even if considered life it is worth the research that can prevent diseases and repair damaged organs.

**Involvement of religion in society:**

**Positives:**

* Religion motivates people to do the right thing:
  + All major religions are preoccupied with morality, and all encourage people to be more righteous.
  + Provides inspiration, the promise of rewards of the afterlife, or the threat of punishment, religion can be a powerful social force
  + Change cultural attitudes
  + Change the outlook of life of day-to-day hardships.
* Religion has inspired cultural achievements:
  + Pyramids of Egypt, Parthenon in Greece, Taj Mahal in India
  + Bach’s compositions were written as religious hymns
  + Masterpieces continue to be causes of awes.
* Religion promotes social cohesions:
  + Religious beliefs provide a sense of shared meaning to many people
  + Religious rituals bring people together

**Negatives:**

* Religion promotes prejudice:
  + Promotes prejudice and suspicion of outsiders
  + Religion has often led to discrimination
  + Women was treated as second-class citizens
  + Homosexuals fear for their lives
* Religion often leads to atrocities:
  + some most violent crimes have been motivated by religious fanaticism.
    - For example, crusades or great schisms
  + People are more likely to justify acts of violence and aggression when they are provided with a religious justification.
* Religion is the opium of the people:
  + People think that religious privileges blind faith and obedience over reason and critical thinking.
  + Religion can distract people from the problems they face in the life they are actually living

# **Module five – impact an event or issue in history had on a religion:**

**Introduction to the First Crusade:**

* Date of event: 1096AD to 1099 AD
* Key people involved:
  + Pope Urban II: Head of the catholic church and ruler of the Papal States from March 1099. Most known for initiating the crusades – he called Christians in Europe to war against Muslims in order to reclaim the Holy Land
  + Phillip I of France
  + Raymond of Toulouse
  + Godfrey de Bouillon: Joined 1096
  + Hugh of Verminous
  + Emperor Alexius I
* Outline the event that occurred:
  + Pope Urban II called a crusade in response to the persecution of Holy Land Christians, the harassment of Christian Pilgrims and to liberate the Holy Sepulchre of the Lord in Jerusalem from Muslim hands
  + 60 000 warriors answered Urban’s call from Western Europe
  + Travelled to:
    - Constantinople
    - Anatolia (new Turkey)
    - Nicaea
    - Antioch
  + The army faced lack of water and food along the way
  + The remaining 12 000 Crusader army liberated the city of Jerusalem on June 8, 1099
  + At this time the dictate of warfare, followed by Muslims and Christians, allowed victorious siege armies free reign once the city fell.

**Catholic church’s teachings on death:**

* The Legitimate public authority has the right and duty to “inflict penalties commensurate with the gravity of the crime” **CCC 2266**
* “The traditional teaching of the Church does not exclude, presupposing full ascertainment of the identity and responsibility of the offender, resource to the death penalty, when this is the only practicable way to defend the lives of human being effectively against the aggressor.” **CCC 2267**
  + The church’s view on the death penalty/killing is that they are against it but if there is no other solution, protecting the common good by killing is demanded okay
  + They are against killing innocent people.

**Just warfare:**

**Conditions:**

**Justice before the War:**

* There are four criteria for just warfare:
  + Have a cause. Just war must be fought for the right reasons, preventing a harm that is lasting, gave and certain.
  + Just war must only be waged as a last resort
  + Must be a real chance of success
  + Proportionality: the harms that a war seeks to prevent must be greater than the wars itself
  + Pacifism: when the church recognises that it is a moral choice to oppose wars

**Justice during the War:**

* The use of arms must not produce evils and disorders graver than the evil to be eliminated
* The power of modern means of destruction weighs very heavily in evaluating this condition

**The church’s concerns with modern weaponry:**

* They believe that modern weaponry can cause more harm than the people who originally caused harm

**Why the First crusade would be considered a Just war:**

* The call for the first crusade would be considered just due to the conditions of Just war
* from the recount of speeches of the contact from Alexios I kommenos and Pope Urban II addressed at the Council of Clermont to launch the First Crusade, the first crusades were just due to the conditions that many Christians were suffering as a result of the Islamises as there were being “killed and captured (many) and have destroyed the churches and devastated their empire.”
* These actions of injustices had not only defeated the catholic religion but had caused the loss of life
* The debts of many and loss of land had caused an issue for the last resort of the kingdom of the Greeks was how deprived of territory all those who are standards of God were called to free the holy land from enemies (Muslims)

**Key moments in the First Crusade:**

**Battle of Dorylaeum (1097):**

* Took place on July 1st 1097 between the Crusaders and the Seljuk Turks, near the city of Dorylaeum in Anatolia.
* Commanders for the crusaders were:
  + Buhemond of Taranto
  + Godfrey of Bouillon
* First full-scaled military clash
* In order to simplify the problem of supplies, crusader’s army split into two groups. One led by Normans and others by French.
* Normans were attacked by Kilji Arslan. Normans made a defensive line around their supplies and non-combat people went for help by the French (behind Normans).
* Death (crusade) = 4 000
* Death (Turks) = 3 000
* Crusaders one victory

**Battle of Antioch (1098):**

* The military enforcement fought between the forces of the Crusaders of Antioch (Frankish forces) and a Muslim coalition led by Kerbogna, ataby of mosuell. Kerbogna’s goal was part of the siege of Antioch
* During the time, kerbogna was being advanced by Franks. He attempted to back uo his army slightly in order to bring Franks into steady land
* Bohemond knew this was going to happen, so created a 7th division of Crusades, led by Rainhold of Toul to hold of the attack
* The crusaders (Catholics) managed to capture Antioch, securing lines for supplies and reinforcements to travel from
* 2 000 crusaders died and 10 000 Turks.

**The Fall of Jerusalem (1099):**

* Crusaders stormed and captures the city from Fatimid Egypt
* The capture of Jerusalem from Muslim control was the primary goal of the first crusade and a combined military campaign organised by western rulers, the Pope and the Byzantine Empire
* The main leaders of the crusade army included:
  + Robert of Flanders
  + Godfrey of Bouillon
  + And Robert of Normandy
* There was a mass slaughter of all Muslims and Jews of Jerusalem
* Victory led was by the crusaders with heavy casualty

**Military Orders:**

**Purpose of a military order:**

* The purpose is an association of military persons under rules membership in which confess some distinction.
* In the first crusade, a military order is a religious society of knights.

**The Knights of Templar:**

* Created to defend the original territory liberated by the Christian armies after the first crusade, due to most knights leaving
* Created by Hugh of Payns in 1120
* Warrior monks who embraced the Cistercian way of life
* They protected Christian pilgrims on road to Jerusalem

**Does knights of Templar still exist:**

* This order no longer exists today. They were abolished by King Phillip IV due to violence and corruption being conducted in the crusaders states.

**The Knights Hospitaller (Sovereign Military Order of Malta):**

* Founded in 1048
* Became a religious order and took on three monastic vows of poverty, Chasity and obedience
* Assumes military defence to the sick and pilgrims to protect medical centres along the main roads to Jerusalem.

**Does the Knights Hospitaller still exist:**

* They still exist today.
* The impact the church by providing service to the sick, refugee families and migrant communities
* Created charitable works in many communities during the world wars and later
* Still exist in Malta today.
* Helped aid the Ukraine wars

**Further Crusades:**

* The success led to the second crusade
* The second crusade was a mission to recapture the county of Edessa after it fell in 1144 to forces of Zengi
* The church wanted to defend the states which the first crusaders died for leading to many following crusades
* “How much our predecessors the Roman pontiffs did labour for the deliverance of the oriental church” – acknowledge the effort that went into liberating Edessa
* “The city of Edessa… has been taken many, of the castles of the Christian occupied by them (the pagans).

**Repairing relationships:**

* The first crusade led to a damaged relationship between Islam and the Catholic Church leaving a need to repair the connection
* The church has tried to reconnect with other religions through “Nostra Aetate (1965), “His Holiness Benedict XVI to the Ambassadors of Countries with Muslim Majorities and to the Representatives of Muslim Communities in Italy (2006) and the “fundamental Agreement between the Holy See and the State of Israel” (1993)