**Bishop’s Certificate for Teachers (BCT)**

**Aim**

To support primary school teachers in Catholic schools of the Diocese of Nottingham to explore and understand the core theological principles of the Catholic faith in order to assist the delivery of the *‘Come and See’* programme for Religious Education. It would be particularly helpful for teachers who have been recently appointed to a Catholic school.

**Objectives**

* To provide an insight into aspects of the Catholic faith for primary school teachers in our Catholic schools
* To increase knowledge and understanding of theological background to topics in the *Come and See* Religious Education programme
* To raise confidence of staff in delivering RE in the classroom
* To encourage a creative approach to the teaching of RE
* To provide an encouraging learning environment in which to question and explore faith

**Structure**

* Ten sessions (over 5 full days – 9.30am – 3.30pm)
* Delivered over one academic year
* Delivered centrally at the Diocesan Centre, Mackworth
* Participants will be required to hand in one assignment for the course which will be designed to help practically in their work in school

**Outline of Sessions**

1. **Introductory Session**

* Introduction to theBishop’s Certificate for Teachers
* Teaching in a Catholic school
* The *Come and See* programme

1. **Scripture 1 – Old Testament**

* Basic principles
* Key texts/stories based on the theme of the **Family**
* Application to the *Come and See* programme

1. **Scripture 2 – New Testament:**

* Basic principles
* Key texts/stories based on **Advent/Christmas**
* Application to the *Come and See* programme

1. **Sacraments (1)**

* Key principles of a sacrament
* Focus on **Baptism** and **Confirmation**
* Application to the *Come and See* programme

1. **Sacraments (2)**

* History and theology of the Mass
* **First Holy Communion** and **Reconciliation**
* Application to the *Come and See* programme

1. **The Kingdom of God (1) - Who is Jesus?**

* Historical and Biblical evidence (use of **Lent/ Easter** texts)
* The Trinity
* Application to the *Come and See* programme

1. **The Kingdom of God (2) - What is the Church?**

* Basic principles – **Pentecost**
* The importance of the school/parish link, **Local Church**
* Application to the *Come and See* programme

1. **Living the Faith (1) - Christian Morality**

* Making connections between what we believe and how we live
* Catholic Social Teaching
* Application to the *Come and See* programme (SMSC)

1. **Living the Faith (2) - The Catholic Church and other Religions**

* The Universal Church
* The Catholic Church and other faiths - Judaism
* The Catholic Church and other churches - Ecumenism
* Application to the *Come and See* programme

1. **Prayer, Spirituality, Liturgy and Collective Worship**

* Different approaches to prayer
* Basic principles of liturgy and Collective Worship
* Application to the school context (spirituality of children)
* Application to the *Come and See* programme

1. **Concluding Session**

* Bringing together what we have learned
* Plenary feedback
* Next steps