



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)  
General Certificate of Education

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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# Religious Studies

## Assessment Unit AS 5

*assessing*

The Celtic Church in Ireland  
in the 5th, 6th and 7th Centuries



**[SRE51]**  
**Assessment**

\*SRE51\*

**TIME**

1 hour 20 minutes.

**Assessment Level of Control:**

Tick the relevant box (✓)

Controlled Conditions	
Other	

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided at the top of this page.

**You must answer the questions in the spaces provided.**

**Do not write outside the boxed area on each page or on blank pages.**

Complete in black ink only. **Do not write with a gel pen.**

Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The total mark for this paper is 100.

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.

**ADVICE TO CANDIDATES**

You are advised to take account of the marks for each part question in allocating the available examination time.

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## Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

- 1 (a) “Patrick was able to overcome the challenges faced by his mission to the Irish.”

With reference to Patrick’s writings, explain the evidence to support this statement. [25]

- (b) Comment on the claim that, due to unreliable sources, little is certain about the arrival and mission of Palladius. Justify your answer. [25]

- 2 (a) How does the Penitential of Cummean shed light on the understanding of sin and forgiveness in the Celtic Church? [25]

- (b) “While the influence of the Penitentials on the Celtic Church is clear, the influence these books had on the wider church at that time is questionable.”

Assess this claim. Justify your answer. [25]



## Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

- 3 (a) “Celtic monasticism was distinctive in its religious outlook and practices.”

Explain the evidence to support this statement. [25]

- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, assess the claim that leaders who exercise religious authority should always act with justice. Justify your answer. [25]

- 4 (a) With reference to examples from hagiographical writings, discuss their spiritual and devotional value for Celtic Christians at that time. [25]

- (b) “A saint is a perfect role model and example of holiness.”

With reference to other aspects of human experience, evaluate the moral and spiritual example provided by saints for believers today. [25]

[Turn over



## Section A

Answer **either** question 1 (pages 4 to 11) **or** question 2 (pages 12 to 19).

- 1 (a) "Patrick was able to overcome the challenges faced by his mission to the Irish."

With reference to Patrick's writings, explain the evidence to support this statement.

[25]

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**2 (a)** How does the Penitential of Cummean shed light on the understanding of sin and forgiveness in the Celtic Church? [25]

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(b) "While the influence of the Penitentials on the Celtic Church is clear, the influence these books had on the wider church at that time is questionable."

Assess this claim. Justify your answer.

[25]

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**Section B**

Answer **either** question 3 (pages 20 to 27) **or** question 4 (pages 28 to 35).

**3 (a)** "Celtic monasticism was distinctive in its religious outlook and practices."

Explain the evidence to support this statement. [25]

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**(b)** With reference to other aspects of human experience, assess the claim that leaders who exercise religious authority should always act with justice. Justify your answer. [25]

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**(b)** "A saint is a perfect role model and example of holiness."

With reference to other aspects of human experience, evaluate the moral and spiritual example provided by saints for believers today. Justify your answer. [25]

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**THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER**

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For Examiner's use only	
Question Number	Marks
1	
2	
3	
4	

<b>Total Marks</b>	
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Examiner Number

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