Focus 1: Social Justice – What can we teach the world about justice and is Australia a just nation?

Christian spiritual writings teach the mystery of God in the midst of world events in the course of human history. Catholic social teaching requires an examination of the Church in promoting justice in Australia and the rest of the world.

**Strands:**
- STCW11 - Mystery of God in world events
- BETR13 – God’s unending love revealed through people of Israel and Jesus
- CLMJ11 – Catholic Social teaching
- STOT16 – Biblical criticism
- STNT20 – key doctrines through early Church (sin)
- CHLS15 – The Eucharist

**Mandated texts:** (Old Testament) - Psalm 97:1-7

(New Testament)
- Galatians 3: 26-29
- Galatians 5: 13-26
- Galatians 6: 1-9
- 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
- John 13: 1-20
- 1 Corinthians 11: 23-28

**Supplementary texts:** Matthew 25: 35-40
Focus 2: Peace Studies – How does peace begin with me?

There are various sources that guide the Church’s actions in the world today, including the teaching of Jesus and the early Church, the principles of Catholic social teaching and the reasoned judgements of conscience. Many people have contributed to peace in the world today and the Church has a responsibility to this mission.

Strands:

STNT20 – Characteristics and themes of the early church

BEWR11 – The religions of the world contribute valuable insight into the idea of God

CHCH9 – Church responds in a time of challenge and change

CLPS24 – Mediative Prayer

Mandated texts: (Old Testament)

Deuteronomy 6:4-19, 11:1-27

Psalm 104: 1-25

(New Testament)

Matthew 9:35-36

Mark 6:32-34

1 Corinthians 11:23-28

Matthew 26:1-2; 17-30

Luke 22:1-2, 7-20

Matthew 18:15-29

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Supplementary texts:

Mark 14:1-2, 12-26
Focus 3: Good and Evil – Do I have the courage to care?

The Church has responded to a range of unprecedented threats in both human ecology and environmental ecology facing Australia and the modern world, from science, technology, materialism, consumerism and political ideologies.

Strands:

STCW11- Mystery of God in world events
CHPG11 – Scriptural origins of Church authority
CLMF14 – Conscience is a judgment of reason
CHCH9 – Church responds in a time of challenge and change
CLPS24 – Prayer for Justice, Peace and Environment
CLPS25 – Meditative Prayer (including praying with nature)

Mandated texts: (Old Testament)

Isaiah 49: 1-7; 8-13

(New Testament)

Matthew 18: 15-20
Matthew 9: 35-36
Mark 6:32-34

Supplementary texts:
Focus 4: The Mystery of God – What’s all the mystery?

The mystery of God or the “other” is ultimately beyond human language, concepts and stories. The different representations of God in the Old and New Testament search for the mystery of God and can lead believers to contemplation.

Strands:

STOT15 – images of God
STOT16 – Biblical Criticism
STCW11 - Mystery of God in world events
BEHE10 – Understanding God through creation
BETR13 - God’s unending love revealed through people of Israel and Jesus
BEWR11 – Idea of God or ‘Other’ through World Religions
CLPS25 – Meditative Prayer

Mandated texts: (Old Testament)

The Shema Israel Deuteronomy 6:4-9; 11:1-27
Creator and Provider Psalm 104: 1-25
Righteous King Psalm 97: 1-7

(New Testament)

Colossians 3: 12
Isaiah 49: 1-7; 8-13
Colossians 3: 12
Ephesians 2: 4-10
1 John 4:4-12

Supplementary texts:

Isaiah 49: 1-7; 8-13