

St. Benedict's College



Guigh Agus Foghlaim

# Year 12

## Easter Revision Booklet

# 2026



**Shared  
Education**

We are a  
**Take5  
SCHOOL**



Antrim & Randalstown Schools  
**MOVING FORWARD  
Together**



Dear Students and Parents,

As we approach the final, most critical stretch of your Year 12 journey, we want to acknowledge the hard work you have already invested. However, we must also be available to the reality that the coming weeks will define your outcomes. To support you, we have prepared this guidance booklet to ensure every student at St Benedict's is equipped for the Summer 2026 examinations.

### **The Road to Success: Our Expectations**

While we are here to support you pastorally, academic success at this level requires an uncompromising commitment. To reach your potential, the following are non-negotiable:

- **Total Attendance:** Students are expected to attend every single lesson until study leave begins. These final sessions are where the most complex content is consolidated.
- **Coursework Completion:** All outstanding coursework must be submitted before the final deadlines. There is no room for delay; missing these marks is often the difference between grade boundaries.
- **Easter Revision Scheme:** We strongly expect all students to attend our Easter Revision sessions. This is a vital opportunity for structured, teacher-led intervention. **Thursday 9th April Eng, Maths, Science.** (Letters have been distributed to targeted pupils.)
- **Independent Rigour:** At this stage, students must take full responsibility for their progress. This means a minimum of **2–3 hours** of dedicated schoolwork every evening.

### **Academic Benchmarks: Setting Your Targets**

To ensure you are aiming for the best possible post-16 opportunities, we have set clear performance benchmarks. Every student should be striving to hit—or exceed—these targets: **5 GCSEs, 5 GCSEs inc. Eng & Maths, 7 GCSEs.**

### **Planning for Performance**

Success is rarely an accident; it is the result of a plan. We strongly encourage all students to create a personal revision timetable immediately. A highly recommended tool to help organize your study blocks is [GetRevising.co.uk](https://www.getrevising.co.uk). Once your plan is set, please follow the specific guidance provided by your subject teachers. This booklet also includes strategies from our "**Study for Success**" programme to help you manage the mental and physical demands of independent learning.

### **A Moment of Reflection: Year 12 Mass**

As a community of faith, we want to take a moment to pause. Thursday 30th April @ 2pm we will hold a Year 12 Mass to celebrate your time here at St Benedict's. This will be a special occasion for pupils and parents to come together, to find strength in our shared community, and to seek spiritual encouragement as you prepare for the challenges of the exam season.

### **Support and Next Steps**

If you have any concerns regarding your results or the upcoming season, please contact your Form Teacher, your Head of Year (Ms Shine), or myself.

We have every confidence in what you can achieve if you apply yourselves with discipline and heart. We wish you the very best of luck in your preparation and for your bright futures ahead.

Yours sincerely,

*Nicky Bonnes*









Mr N Bonnes

**Curriculum and Assessment Manager**

## Year 12 Summer 2026 Exam Timetable

Unit	Exam Title	Board	Candidates	Date	Time	Duration
GEN1	English Language Unit 1	CCEA	60+	7 May	9.30-11.15	1h 45m
GEL11	English Literature Unit 1	CCEA	6	11 May	9.30-11.15	1h 45m
GSA11	SAS Biology Unit 1 (F)	CCEA	25	12 May	1.30-2.30	1h
GSA12	SAS Biology Unit 1 (H)	CCEA	4	12 May	1.30-2.30	1h
GHL11	Health & Social Care Unit 1	CCEA	12	13 May	1.30-3.00	1h 30m
GGMC1F	Mathematics Unit 1 (F)	CCEA	1	14 May	9.30-11.15	1h 45m
GGMC2F	Mathematics Unit 2 (F)	CCEA	1	14 May	9.30-11.15	1h 45m
GHR11	History Unit 1	CCEA	3	15 May	9.30-11.15	1h 45m
GSA21	SAS Chemistry Unit 2 (F)	CCEA	12	18 May	9.30-10.30	1h
GLF31	LLW Unit 3	CCEA	1	19 May	1.00-2.00	1h
GRE51	Religious Studies Unit 5	CCEA	12	20 May	9.30-11.00	1h 30m
GSY3	Business & Comm Systems Unit 1	CCEA	16	20 May	12.00-2.30	2h 30m
GEN41	English Language Unit 4	CCEA	27	21 May	9.30-11.15	1h 45m
1AA01H	Paper 1: Listening and understanding Arabic in Higher Tier	Edexcel	3	22 May	9.30- 10.15	45 m
1AA03H	Paper 3: Reading and understanding Arabic in Higher Tier	Edexcel	3	22 May	10.30-11.35	1h 05 m
C550QS	WJEC Physical Education	CCEA	9	22 May	9.30-11.30	2h
GGY21	Geography Unit 2	CCEA	15	26 May	9.30-11.00	1h 30m
GEL21	English Literature Unit 2	CCEA	21	28 May	9.30-11.30	2h
1AA04H	Paper 4: Writing in Arabic Higher Tier	Edexcel	3	2 June	1.00-2.25	1h 25m
8688/LH	Polish: Listening	AQA	2	2 June	1.00-1.45	45 m
8688/RH	Polish: Reading	AQA	2	2 June	2.00-3.00	1hr
GMC61	Mathematics Unit 6 Non-Calc (F)	CCEA	38	3 June	9.30-10.30	1h
GMC62	Mathematics Unit 6 Calc (F)	CCEA	38	3 June	10.45-11.45	1h
GMC71	Mathematics Unit 7 Non-Calc (H)	CCEA	10	3 June	9.30-10.45	1h 15m
GMC72	Mathematics Unit 7 Calc (H)	CCEA	10	3 June	10.45-12.00	1h 15m
GGMC81	Mathematics Unit 8 Non-Calc (H)	CCEA	13	3 June	9.30-10.45	1h 15m
GGMC81	Mathematics Unit 8 Calc (H)	CCEA	13	3 June	10.45-12.00	1h 15m
GCN11	Construction Unit 1	CCEA	2	3 June	1.30-2.30	1h
GHR21	History Unit 2	CCEA	17	4 June	9.30-10.45	1h 15m
GGY31	Geography Unit 3	CCEA	15	5 June	1.30-2.30	1h
GDW41	DAS Biology Unit 2 (F)	CCEA	5	8 June	9.30-10.45	1h 15m
GDW42	DAS Biology Unit 2 (H)	CCEA	13	8 June	9.30-10.45	1h 15m
GSA42	SAS Practical Skills Unit 4 (F)	CCEA	25	8 June	9.30-10.30	1h
GSA44	SAS Practical Skills Unit 4 (H)	CCEA	4	8 June	9.30-10.45	1h 15m
GDW72	DAS Practical Skills Unit 7 (F)	CCEA	5	8 June	10.45-11.15	30m
GDW76	DAS Practical Skills Unit 7 (H)	CCEA	13	8 June	10.45-11.15	30m
GCN21	Construction Unit 2	CCEA	18	11 June	9.30-11.00	1h 30m
GDW51	DAS Chemistry Unit 2 (F)	CCEA	5	12 June	9.30-10.45	1h 15m
GDW52	DAS Chemistry Unit 2 (H)	CCEA	13	12 June	9.30-11.00	1h 15m
8688/WH	Polish: Writing	AQA	2	12 June	1.00-2.15	1h 15m
GDW61	DAS Physics Unit 2 (F)	CCEA	5	15 June	9.30-10.45	1h 15m
GDW62	DAS Physics Unit 2 (H)	CCEA	13	15 June	9.30-10.45	1h 15m
GSY21	Business & Comm Systems Unit 2	CCEA	16	16 June	1.30-2.30	1h
GST21	Statistics Unit 2 (F)	CCEA	4	18 June	9.30-11.00	1h 30m

### GCSE EXAM PREPARATION CHECKLIST

1.  Confirm exam dates and times.  
Create a revision schedule.
2.  Assemble equipment: Black pens, pencils, eraser, ruler.
3.  Check your bag the night before.
- 4 & 5.   Revise core subjects and topics.  
  Practice time management.
6.  **FOCUS**  
**Manage stress.**  
 Healthy snacks.  
 Hydrate, rest.
7.   Plan travel to school.  
 Set an alarm.
8.  Follow invigilator instructions.  
Take a deep breath.  
Five stars for success.



Guigh agus Foglaim

# Master Your Revision

Craft a revision schedule that works for you.

## 1. Time Allocation



Set a clear deadline and allocate enough time to achieve your revision goals. Make sure you fill in your current commitments like school, meals, or exercising.

## 2. Subject Prioritisation



Identify which subjects you currently feel the most and least confident about. Take into account the following:

- Core subject prioritisation (Maths, English, Science)
- Amount of material to be learned within each subject
- The order of your exam timetable

## 3. Topic Breakdown



Break down each subject into smaller topics for focused and efficient revision. Use the specification which contains everything you could possibly be examined on.



Creating a structured revision timetable with prioritised subjects, topic breakdown, and time slots can lead to efficient and effective revision.



# CREATE A PURPOSEFUL REVISION TIMETABLE

A smart plan helps you work consistently, reduce stress and remember more.



## 1. START WITH A CLEAR PLAN



- List all your subjects and exams.
- Note the exam dates.
- Estimate how many hours each subject needs.
- Write down other commitments (lessons, sports, part-time jobs, rest days).

## 2. BREAK IT INTO SMALL SESSIONS



- Use short, focused study blocks (e.g. 45 minutes).
- Take a 10–15 minute break after each block to rest and reset.
- Short sessions improve focus and make revision feel manageable.

## 3. USE ACTIVE REVISION METHODS



Don't just reread notes – actively test yourself!

- **Practice questions**  
Answer exam-style questions.
- **Flashcards**  
Test key facts regularly.
- **Mind maps**  
Summarise ideas in your own words.
- **Teach someone**  
Explaining helps you remember more.



## 4. BE REALISTIC & BALANCED



**Space it out** – Revise a little each day instead of cramming last minute.



**Include rest & sleep** – Aim for 7–9 hours sleep each night to help memory.



**Build in breaks & exercise** – Time away from work helps your brain recharge.



**Allow time for things you enjoy** – A balanced timetable keeps you motivated.

## 5. REVIEW & ADJUST REGULARLY



- Check what's working and what isn't.
- Tick off completed sessions – it's motivating!
- Update your timetable if subjects or dates change.

## EXAMPLE DAILY TIMETABLE

Time	Activity
4:00 – 4:45pm	Maths – Practice Questions
4:45 – 5:00pm	Break
5:00 – 5:45pm	English – Flashcards
5:45 – 6:30pm	Dinner & Relax
7:00 – 7:45pm	Science – Mind Map + Review



### TOP TIP

Put your timetable somewhere visible and treat each session like an important appointment with yourself!



**REMEMBER:** A purposeful timetable helps you feel in control, reduces stress, and leads to better results.

# April 2026

## ■ Easter Revision Planner

### Top Tips for Effective Revision:

- Revise in short 30–45 minute sessions
- Take regular breaks
- Use active methods (flashcards, practice questions)
- Balance revision with rest and activities

Day	Session	Subject	Topic	Time	Done ✓
Monday	1				
	2				
	3				
Tuesday	1				
	2				
	3				
Wednesday	1				
	2				
	3				
Thursday	1				
	2				
	3				
Friday	1				
	2				
	3				
Saturday	1				
	2				
	3				
Sunday	1				
	2				
	3				



# MALPRACTICE: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

On GCSEs, OCN and Prince's Trust qualifications



## WHAT IS MALPRACTICE?

Malpractice is when a student breaches the rules of an examination or assessment. It can affect the fairness of results and your future opportunities.



## WHY EXIST?

- ✓ To ensure your results are fair and accurate.
- ✓ To maintain the value and credibility of qualifications.



## EXAMPLES OF MALPRACTICE



### UNAUTHORISED MATERIALS

Bringing notes, phones or smartwatches into exams.



### COMMUNICATION

Talking to or trying to communicate with other candidates during an exam.



### COPYING

Looking at or copying someone else's work.



### AI / ONLINE TOOLS

Using artificial intelligence tools or online content to produce your work.



### COLLUSION

Sharing or exchanging information with others to gain an unfair advantage.



### IMPERSONATION

Someone else completing work or sitting the assessment for you.



## CONSEQUENCES OF MALPRACTICE

If malpractice is suspected or proven, the awarding body may apply one or more of the following penalties:

1

### WARNING

A formal warning may be issued for minor issues.

2

### MARKS REMOVED

Marks for the affected component may be lost.

3

### QUALIFICATION DISALLOWED

The result for the subject or qualification may be awarded as U (Unclassified).

4

### BARRED FROM FUTURE ASSESSMENTS

In serious cases, you may be prevented from entering exams or assessments for a period of time.



## HOW TO STAY ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE RULES



### PREPARE PROPERLY

Revise and practise so that your work is your own.



### ASK IF YOU'RE UNSURE

If unsure about a rule, speak to your teacher or invigilator before the assessment.



### LEAVE UNAUTHORISED ITEMS OUT

Do not bring mobile phones, smartwatches or notes into the exam room.



### COMPLETE YOUR OWN WORK

Do not use AI tools or copy from others; assessments must reflect your own ability.



### FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS

Listen carefully to invigilators and read the information given at the start of the exam.



## NEED HELP OR HAVE CONCERNS?

If you are unsure about what is allowed, or someone is pressuring you to act unfairly, speak up.



### TALK TO A TEACHER

Your teacher can give you guidance and report concerns.



### SPEAK TO A HEAD OF YEAR

They can support you and escalate any issues.



### CONTACT THE EXAM CENTRE

You can raise concerns confidentially before or after an assessment.



## REMEMBER

**Honesty protects your results and your future.**

Always produce your own work and follow the rules – it's the best way to succeed.



**BE FAIR. FOLLOW THE RULES. ACHIEVE WITH INTEGRITY.**

# THE ULTIMATE GCSE SUCCESS GUIDE

## POWER UP YOUR STUDY

### 5 SUCCESS-BOOSTING TIPS

**1 Attend School Every Day**



Consistency Wins!

**2 Create a Revision Timetable**



Plan your study, beat the stress

**3 Take After-school support**



Unlock extra marks

**4 Power Up Your Body**



8+ HOURS SLEEP / HYDRATION / HEALTHY MEALS

**5 Practice with Past Papers**



Know the format, build confidence

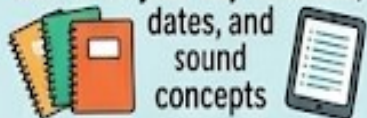
### YOUR GCSE SUPPORT SYSTEM

The power to succeed is within you!

#### NEEDS

##### ORGANIZED NOTES

Gather all your key formulas, dates, and sound concepts



#### STRATEGY

##### NEGOTIATE Distractions

Silence your phone and social media during study blocks



#### MOTIVATION

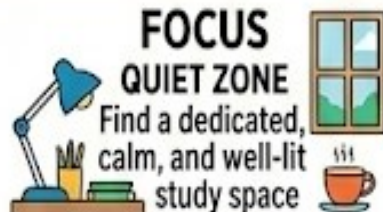
REWARD TIME - Celebrate small wins with time-bound rewards



#### FOCUS

##### QUIET ZONE

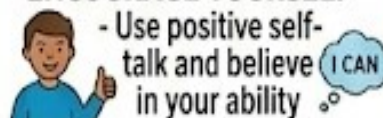
Find a dedicated, calm, and well-lit study space



#### MINDSET

##### ENCOURAGE YOURSELF

- Use positive self-talk and believe in your ability



#### ENCOURAGEMENT

##### USE POSITIVE ENCOURAGEMENT

- Reach out for support from friends and family



### GCSE-SPECIFIC ADVICE!

#### LEARN TO APPLY KNOWLEDGE

- It's not just about memorizing, it's about understanding and applying



#### REACH OUT

If in doubt, talk to a teacher. We are here to support YOU





# BEST REVISION TECHNIQUES FOR GCSE STUDENTS



Work smarter, not harder – use these proven methods to remember more and perform better.

## 1 CHUNKING

Break information into smaller manageable chunks.

### HOW TO DO IT:

- Split topics into small sub-topics.
- Study and test one chunk at a time.



### EXAMPLE:

Instead of revising "The Digestive System" all at once, break it into:

- 1 Mouth & Teeth →
- 2 Stomach →
- 3 Small & Large Intestine

## 2 MNEMONICS

Use memory tricks to help you remember key information.

### HOW TO DO IT:

- Create a phrase or acronym from the first letters.
- Make it memorable and silly!



### EXAMPLE:

To remember the order of the planets:

**"My Very Educated Mother Just Served Us Noodles"**

(Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune)

## 3 CORNELL NOTES

Organise notes clearly and review them effectively.

### HOW TO DO IT:

Cornell Notes	
Topic/Date: _____	
Cue Column • Key words • Questions	Notes • Main points • Details • Examples
Summary • 2–3 lines summarising the main ideas	

- 1 During a lesson or revision, write notes in the main area.
- 2 Afterwards, write key words or questions in the cue column.
- 3 Write a short summary of the page at the bottom.

## 4 TIMED RESPONSES

Practise exam skills and improve speed under pressure.

### HOW TO DO IT:



- Set a timer for the recommended exam time.



- Answer a past paper question without notes.



- Mark using the mark scheme and check for improvements.

### EXAMPLE:

"Answer a 6-mark question in 6 minutes, then self-assess using the mark scheme."

## 5 A\* MODELLED ANSWERS

Learn from high-quality responses to understand what examiners want.

### HOW TO DO IT:

- Read an example A\* answer to a past paper question.
- Highlight key features.
- Try to improve a lower-level answer using the A\* model.



### KEY FEATURES OF A\*:

- ✓ Clear, focused and directly answers the question.
- ✓ Uses subject terminology.
- ✓ Includes accurate facts, examples and explanations.
- ✓ Well-structured with good spelling, punctuation and grammar.

## 6 SPACED & ACTIVE RETRIEVAL

Review information regularly and actively test yourself to remember it long-term.

### SPACED REPETITION



Review topics at increasing intervals:

Day 1 → Day 3 →  
Day 7 → Day 14

### ACTIVE RETRIEVAL



Test yourself **without** looking at notes:

- Flashcards
- Practice questions
- Mind maps from memory

## HOW TO USE THESE TECHNIQUES TOGETHER

- 1 Chunk your topic
- 2 Make a mnemonic for key facts
- 3 Create Cornell notes
- 4 Practise timed questions
- 5 Check and improve using A\* model answers
- 6 Repeat regularly with spaced retrieval



## TOP REVISION TIPS

- ✓ Start early and be consistent.
- ✓ Combine techniques for best results.
- ✓ Focus on understanding, not just copying.
- ✓ Look after your wellbeing: sleep, breaks and a healthy balance boost memory!

# YEAR 12 ACADEMIC COMMITMENT & PREPARATION FOR SUMMER 2026 GCSEs

## A FIRM COMMITMENT TO ACADEMIC RIGOUR



## TARGETING YOUR SUCCESS: OUR GCSE BENCHMARKS

### FOUNDATION



**REQUIREMENT:**  
5 GCSEs

**IMPACT:**  
Access to vocational and Level 3 courses

### GOLD STANDARD



**REQUIREMENT:**  
(inc. Eng & Maths)

**IMPACT:**  
Essential for Sixth Form and employment

### EXCELLENCE



**REQUIREMENT:**  
7+ GCSEs

**IMPACT:**  
Required for competitive university entry

## PREPARE TO SUCCEED



**PERSONAL REVISION TIMETABLE**

→ [getrevising.co.uk](https://getrevising.co.uk)

**STUDY FOR SUCCESS**



- Create a plan.
- Review regularly.
- Practice past papers.
- Top Tips: Use flashcards, take breaks.



## CELEBRATE & REFLECT



**YEAR 12 MASS:**  
To encourage pupils and parents



## SUPPORT & WELL WISHES



We wish you the very best for your future!

- Form Teacher, Head of Year (Miss Shine), or school office.



## THE PATH TO SUCCESS

*"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out." — Robert Collier*

# A PARENTS' GUIDE to Academic Success & Well-being

## TIPS FOR PARENTS

### 1 Attend School Every Day



Miss School, Miss Out!

### 2 Increase Study



Focus on completing tasks & key learning for exams

### 3 After-school Classes



Don't miss the extra support!

### 4 Good Routines



6+ HOURS SLEEP / BREAKFAST / ASBRS / BALANCED MEALS / EXERCISE

### 5 Habits of Effective Study



PLAN in advance / SHORT BURSTS / USE VISUALS / TEST YOURSELF

## HOW CAN PARENTS REALLY HELP?

# You don't need to understand the content!

### NEEDS

Ensure your child has all needed materials



### NEGOTIATE

Distractions



NO TIME

### REWARD TIME

Time-bound rewards



### SUPPORT a Positive Approach

Study in a calm state



### ENCOURAGE

### USE Positive Encouragement

Be a model of calm

### GIVE SPACE

Quiet, Light place



### DISPLAY A TIMETABLE

On the WALL!



### IF IN DOUBT, GIVE A SHOUT!

We are here to support YOU and your child



## 7 HABITS towards SUCCESS!

### 1 PLAN



### 2 USE



### 3 ATTITUDE is

I can...



### 4 SMALL BITES



### 5 5. T.R.U.T.H. PAGE



### 6 STUDY with OTHERS



### 7 BODY COMPASS



N/S/E/W

# GCSE RESULTS DAY

THURSDAY 20TH AUGUST 2026

– Take time to celebrate and then think about your next steps!



## YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR GCSE RESULTS

You will be awarded grades from A\* to C.

### GCSE GRADES IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Grade	What it means
A*	Top achievement – excellent results
A	Strong pass – a high standard of work
B – C	Good pass – solid progress made

## WHAT TO DO ON RESULTS DAY



### Collect your results

Pick them up from school or access them online as advised by your school.



### Check your grades

Read through each subject carefully and compare with the grade guide on the left.



### Decide your next steps

Think about which post-16 pathway is right for you (see options below).



### Get advice and support

Speak to teachers, careers staff and family before making decisions.

## GRADE DESCRIPTORS – OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

### OCN – OCCUPATIONAL STUDIES

Grade	Mark Range	GCSE Equivalent
L2 Distinction*	90 – 100	A*
L2 Distinction	80 – 89	A
L2 Merit	70 – 79	B
L2 Pass	60 – 69	C
L1 Distinction	50 – 59	D
L1 Merit	40 – 49	E
L1 Pass	30 – 39	F
Fail	< 29	U

### PRINCES TRUST

Grade	What it means
BB	Level 2 Certificate
U	Fail

## POST-16 STUDY OPTIONS

There are several pathways you can take after GCSEs:



### A LEVELS

- Usually 3 subjects
- In-depth academic study
- Leads to university, apprenticeships or work



### BTEC/ VOCATIONAL COURSES

- Practical, work-related
- One or more subjects
- Builds skills for work or further study

## THINKING ABOUT YOUR GRADES?



### If your grades are A\*–C:

You have a strong range of options – consider A Levels, BTECs or competitive apprenticeships.



### If you receive any U grades:

Don't worry – ask about resitting GCSEs in English, Maths or other subjects, or alternative pathways.

## GET SUPPORT

You are not alone. On or after Results Day:



### TALK TO PEOPLE

Speak with teachers, careers advisers, or trusted adults.



### RESEARCH

Look at college websites, course guides and apprenticeship vacancies.



### KEEP YOUR OPTIONS OPEN

Take time to consider what is best for your future.



YOUR NEXT STEPS START HERE – **GOOD LUCK!**

# St. Benedict's College



Guigh Agus Foghlaim

## A PRAYER FOR EXAMINATIONS

1 O GOD  
HELP ME IN MY  
EXAMINATIONS



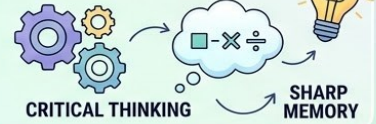
2 TO REMEMBER  
THE THINGS  
WHICH I HAVE LEARNED  
AND STUDIED



STUDY  
HABITS

RECALL KNOWLEDGE

3 HELP ME TO  
REMEMBER WELL,  
AND TO THINK CLEARLY



CRITICAL THINKING

SHARP  
MEMORY

4 HELP ME NOT TO BE SO  
NERVOUS AND EXCITED THAT  
I WILL NOT DO MYSELF  
JUSTICE



SELF-  
ASSURANCE

5 AND KEEP ME CALM  
AND CLEAR HEADED



PEACE OF MIND

STRUCTURED  
THOUGHTS

6 HELP ME TO TRY MY HARDEST  
AND TO DO MY BEST



MAXIMUM EFFORT

EXCELLENCE

+ ✨ ✝ THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN. 🙏 ✨