

Unit 4.2: Saints and heroes (S)

Key Question: What makes a hero?

About this unit This unit provides opportunity to explore lives of faith members who have performed heroic deeds or dedicated their lives to a cause and to consider the concept of commitment. Include past and present saints and heroes from different world faiths, starting with the local. There are opportunities to link with aspects of history and citizenship. This unit builds on Unit 2.1 <i>Belonging</i> . <i>Resources: texts, posters and film clips of the actions of saints, heroes and modern day people, Christian and other faiths who have lived their lives dedicated to an altruistic cause</i>		
Programme of study	Teaching and learning outcomes (AT1)	Teaching and learning outcomes (AT2)
Identity and values explore commitment as demonstrated in the lives and work of significant people of faith	describe the effect of life-changing events on the commitment of significant people of faith	share ideas as to how the lives of significant people of faith have affected the lives of others
Beliefs and practices explore teachings of other significant religious people	describe the teachings of significant religious people, identifying some similarities and differences	reflect on the teachings of significant religious people and how these teachings impact on society
Prepare for learning Symbols and artefacts CDs and book resources Media research		
Engage the learner Introduce pupils to one or two people of faith who have shown great commitment to a cause. Use the class success criteria to identify whether these people might be saints, or are they heroes? Is there a difference?		

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Identify learning questions – shape enquiry – make connections

What is a saint?
What is a hero?
What can we learn from saints and heroes?
What is commitment?
How do people show commitment?
What can we learn about commitment from the lives of significant people of faith?
What impact may a person's actions have on the lives of others?

Provide new information – think about religion and belief – burning core of knowledge

Share information about the lives of saints and heroes (including local) through animations, cartoons, pictures, newspapers, audio
Look at and handle (where appropriate) statues, icons, figures, models of saints and heroes
Present evidence of the values those saints and heroes lived by - faith, service, teachings
Discover the process of becoming a saint

Search for meaning – investigate and interpret – authentic sensory experiences

Discuss who are our heroes; why? What are the key characteristics of a hero?
Explore the life and work of a local saint; consider why they were made a saint; what are the key characteristics of a saint?
Investigate the difference this saint has made to others
Compare the actions of an historical Christian and a modern day hero
Make links between the impact of a saint on believers and the influence of heroes on pupils
Consider what has influenced and inspired significant religious people to commit to a cause

Share new understanding – communicate and evaluate – using symbols

Create a class book or display of saints and heroes
Roleplay or hotseat a significant person of faith; focus on an event in their life, find out why they acted as they did, run a 'conscience alley' as to whether they should/should not have acted in certain way
Choose a poem, prayer, song, teaching or quote of a significant person of faith - share thoughts about its teaching; what impact did their teaching have in their lifetime and what impact might their teachings have now?
Celebrate a worthy life in the style of *This is your Life!* or in assembly, raising money for good causes
Tweet or Blog in the role of a significant saint or hero, reflecting their cause, belief or a significant event in their lives

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Reflect on learning - values

Reflect on the heroes and 'saints' at local community, national and global level, including people in the modern world; suggest a Heart of Gold or Pride of Britain award for someone in their family / friends / community

Pupils think about who or what inspires them and why

Consider the significance of a local saint or person who has worked hard for the local community; what were their motives and what is their long-term impact?

Express thoughts about how the actions of saints and heroes can change lives for the better and continue to influence others long after their death

AT1 (Knowledge & Understanding)	AT2 (Reflection & Response)
Describe and show understanding of links between stories, beliefs and practices of faith communities specified in the key content	Respond thoughtfully to a range of sacred writings and the beliefs, teachings and practices of different faith communities specified in the key content
Show understanding of how beliefs, practices and forms of expression influence individuals and communities	Give reasons for the significance of beliefs, practices and forms of expression to individual members and faith communities
Show understanding of the challenges of commitment to a community of faith	Suggest why belonging to a community of faith may be valuable, both to faith members and in their own lives