

Religious Studies Topic of the Month

August 2025

Can a Pope influence world economics?

Topic of the month aims to stimulate discussion at Key Stages 4 and 5 and bring religion to life. This can be achieved by considering religion's relevance in our vast modern world. We have selected a current news article, which you may wish to read and integrate into your teaching practice, using the discussion prompts provided.



Disclaimer:

This topic relates to an article, written by Antara Haldar for Project Syndicate* and is entitled "Pope Francis and the Soul of Economics".

Introduction

This article relates to Pope Francis's call for a moral shift in economic systems to tackle inequality and environmental issues.

[\(Click here to access the article\)](#)

Discussion prompts

- How did Pope Francis's economic vision challenge traditional economic models?
- What moral principles underpinned Pope Francis's critique of capitalism?
- How did Pope Francis integrate ecological concerns into his economic vision?
- What role did solidarity play in Pope Francis's economic proposals?
- How did Pope Francis's vision attempt to address the issue of inequality?

Links to topics featured in our specifications:

- **GCSE:**
 - Leaders of the Catholic Church
 - Equality
 - Environmental issues
- **A-Level:**
 - Environmental issues
 - Equality
 - Situation Ethics
 - The nature of the Church