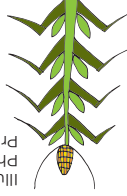


A RESOURCE FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE



AT SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL

The Saint Oscar Romero shrine



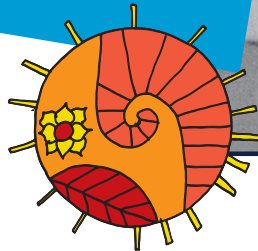
CAF7263

CAFOD.org.uk/getinvolved
Take action for justice at:

Saint Oscar Romero, pray for us.
in witness to our faith in Jesus Christ.
speaking up for justice,
Help us to be 'microphones' for God,
to work for justice and reconciliation.
guide and inspire us
prophet of peace,
defender of the poor,
Saint Oscar Romero,



Will you...



“be God's
“microphone!”

“Each one of you
has to be God's
microphone.
Each one of
you has to be a
messenger,
a prophet.”
Saint Oscar Romero

- ANSWERS:**
1. It shows two stories from Jesus' ministry—the three years when Jesus was ministering to people.
 2. The loaves and fishes/feeding of the 5000.
 - 3 Each is wearing a 'mitre' - headwear worn by bishops in church.
 4. The Last Supper
 5. Sentir con la iglesia
 6. The zucchetto or skull cap worn by Romero each day; a small piece of Romero's robe.

The Saint Oscar Romero shrine

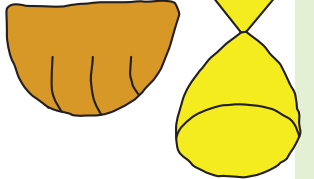
Enjoy testing your detective skills as you explore the shrine and the life story of the amazing person remembered here >>



Find the sun symbol and the rho, which represent capital letters O and R in Oscar Romero's name.



>>2 Which Gospel miracle depicted on the cross reminds us of Romero helping hungry people?



>>4 Which Gospel scene depicted on the cross reminds us of the importance of the Mass for Romero?

Oscar Arnulfo Romero was born into a family of ten in El Salvador, Central America in 1917. He sometimes helped at his father's telegraph office by delivering telegrams - a quick way to send messages. Later, he learnt to be a carpenter.

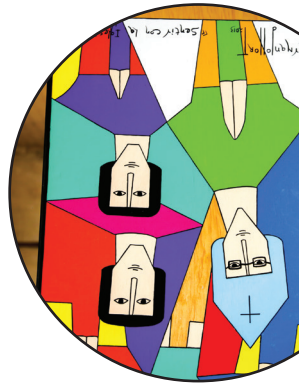
At 14, Oscar wanted to be a Catholic priest. He left home to study. When his mother was ill and needed money for medicine, Oscar came home for three months to work in a gold mine, earning about 4p a day.

Later, Oscar studied in Rome and was ordained a priest. Fr Romero returned to El Salvador, where he did a lot of parish work like visiting prisons, organising catechism classes and working with others in the Church to provide help and food for the poor.

In 1970, Romero was made a bishop. By the mid-1970s, the rich and powerful were using the army to drive poor people from their land, torturing and killing those who stood up for their basic rights.

>>1 One side of the cross is called 'The cross of ministry'; Work out which side, and why it is called this.

>>3 Find the two bishops pictured on the cross - Romero and Bishop Michael Evans, who helped to establish this shrine. What in the pictures shows that they are bishops?



rine at Southmark Cathedral

When Romero became Archbishop in 1977, some rich people were happy, thinking he would stop priests from helping the poor. But a few weeks later, his friend Fr Rutilio Grande was shot and killed, along with two companions. That Sunday, Romero allowed only one Mass in the whole diocese - at the Cathedral - where he spoke out against the murders.

The violence continued. Every week Romero's radio station broadcast his sermon, naming people who had been persecuted, and calling for justice and peace. The whole country listened. Romero's life was often threatened. When his radio station was bombed, CAFOD helped to rebuild it.

In Romero's sermon on 23 March 1980, he told the army to stop killing people: "...I order you, in the name of God, stop the repression!" The next day, a shot killed Romero as he said Mass.

In 2018, Pope Francis declared Romero a saint. His feast day is 24 March, the day he was killed for speaking up for the poor. Now, as Saint Oscar Romero, his life challenges people worldwide to follow his example and speak out for justice.



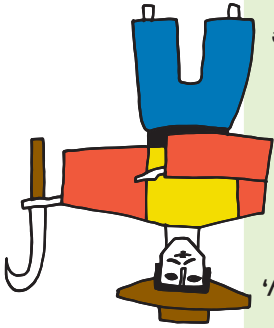
>>5 The Church is God's people. Romero's motto was, "To feel ('be at one with') the Church". It is written in Spanish on the cross. Find it and copy it below:



>>6 A shrine is a place where someone holy is remembered and where objects linked to that person ('relics') are kept. Which relics of Romero are kept here?

Answers to questions on back cover >>

Find the image of a machete, which farmers in poor communities used to harvest their crops



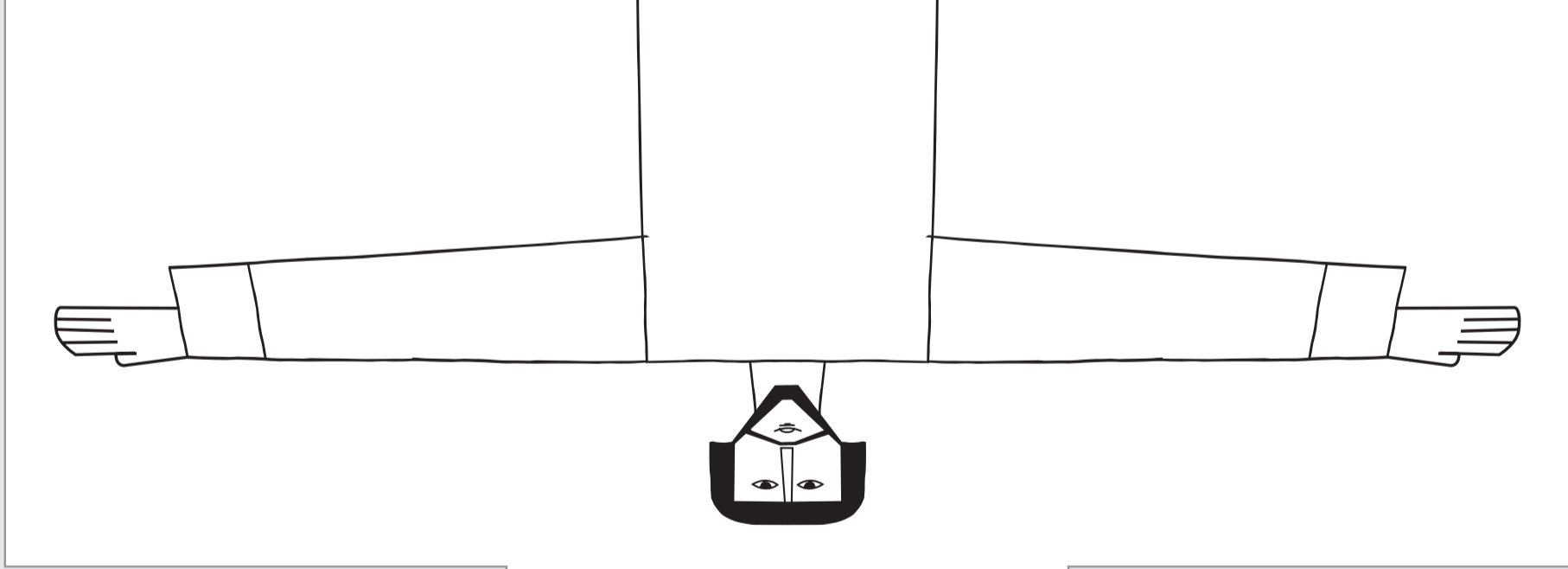
CREATE YOUR OWN

The artist Fernando Llorca used a style, colours and symbols from El Salvador to represent aspects of Romero's life and the daily lives of the Salvadoran people defended by him.

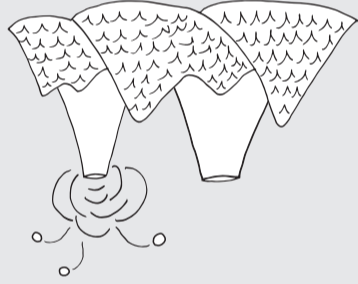
How would you use symbols from your own country and culture to decorate this cross?

- > Decide which aspects of Romero's life you want to include.
- > Decide a symbol for each.
- > Add them to the cross.

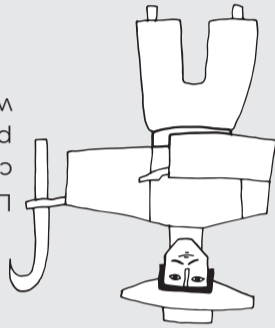
As you work, pray for people around the world who are treated unjustly.



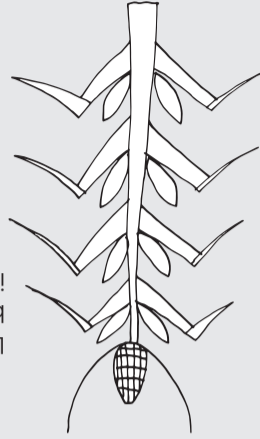
Llorca's decoration of the cross reflects that Romero often travelled around El Salvador's mountains and volcanoes to visit his people.



Llorca included a tool for cutting crops, because many of the people Romero worked with were farmers.



Llorca painted maize (corn) because it is an important crop in El Salvador.



Across: 3. Francis / 7. radio / 8. Arnulfo / 10. maize / 11. Mitre / 13. fish / 14. ten

Down: 1. CAFOD / 2. Zucchetto / 4. sentir / 5. Grande / 6. Rutilio / 7. Relics / 9. Rome / 12. eye

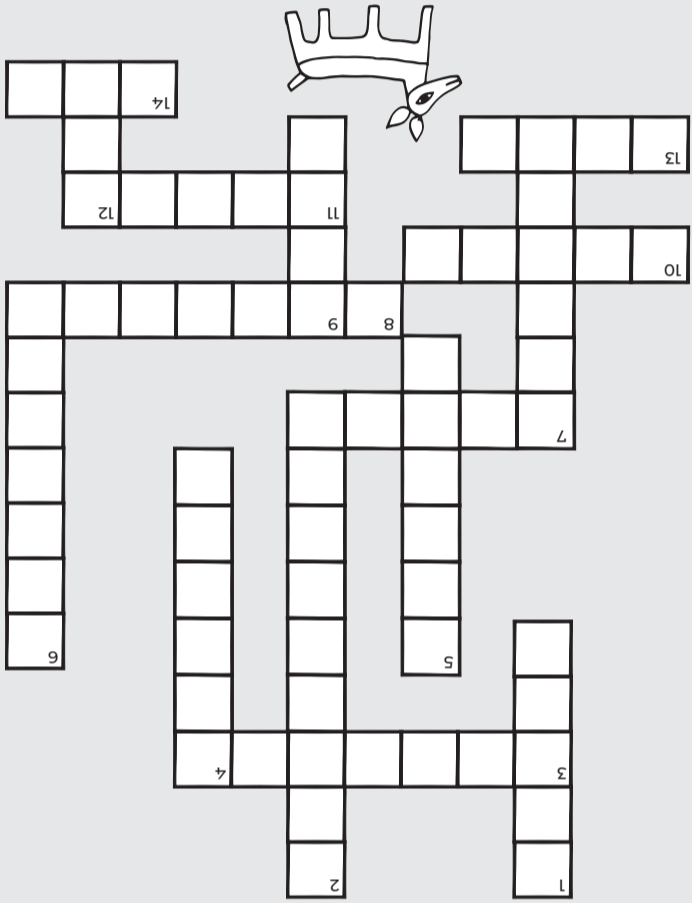
Crossword solutions

Across

- 3. Pope who declared Romero a saint.
- 7. A mode of communication used by Romero.
- 8. Romero's middle name.
- 10. An important crop in El Salvador.
- 11. Flame-shaped hat worn by bishops.
- 13. Two of these appear on one side of the cross.
- 14. Number of people in Romero's family.

Down

- 1. Development agency that helped Romero to communicate with his people.
- 2. Skull cap worn by bishops.
- 4. First word of Romero's motto.
- 5. Surname of Romero's priest friend who was killed.
- 6. Forename of Romero's priest friend who was killed.
- 7. Items linked to a saint, for example, clothing.
- 9. City where Romero was ordained a priest.
- 12. Symbol used by Llorca for God the Father.



El Salvador is a small country on a strip of land that joins North and South America, called Central America.

