



NORES NEWS

January 2018 – The month dedicated to The Holy Name and Childhood of Jesus

Diocese of Northampton, Office for RE, Evangelisation, Catechesis & Schools

SUPPORTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND FORMATION

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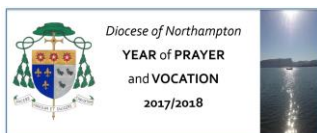
From the Episcopal Vicar *Mgr Kevin*

We return from the Christmas holidays, refreshed and enthused hopefully, and are still in the period of **Great Christmas**, which finishes with the feast of the Baptism of Jesus, this year 8 January. **Little Christmas** continues until the feast of the **Presentation of Jesus in the Temple**, February 2, also known as *Candlemas*. The **Epiphany** tradition of blessing our homes remembering the three wise people who visit Jesus is described on the websites for the Year of Prayer and Vocation. We use chalk [or make a card] on the lintel of our doors [homes/classes/schools] to mark * the year – 2018 * the names of three “kings” Caspar, Melchior, Balthasar give us three initials – CMB - for the phrase * *Christus Mansionem Benedicat – May Christ Bless this House.*

It is great to see so many schools beginning the new year asking God’s blessing in this way.

20 + C + M + B + 18
Christus Mansionem Benedicat
May Christ Bless this Home

You can use the well known carol, *We three kings*, and verses from *The First Nowell*, the passage from Matthew’s gospel, and this prayer
Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house/class/school and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN
Don’t forget to keep Little Christmas going too!!!!



Bishop Peter launched the **Year of Prayer and Vocation** [YoPaV] for us in the diocese in December. As you know everyone across the diocese received a prayer bookmark

with the Prayer for the Year. We hope that it has become part of your daily prayer life. In some places it is the concluding prayer at the end of the Intercessions at Mass said by everyone. In schools it could easily be a daily prayer in class or assembly. Some schools have made a feature of the Prayer Batons that were there at the Schools’ Mass, and have made contact with the school whose baton they have.

It would be good to emphasise this Year by using the logo on your literature and emails. We have the last of the banners [inside and outside] and the fridge magnets available from the NORES Office! We will not be ordering more so if you have not ordered yours yet, do so quickly! A few places are using the fridge magnet on each classroom door! A simple but effective remainder of the Year we are celebrating!!!

For each month you will find the following resources on the diocesan and NORES websites which you may find helpful, as well as the Calendar for the Year –

- personal prayer sheet
- parish resource
- schools resource

We would welcome any suggestions or news of anything you are doing in your school or community to mark the year. Please let *The Vine* know of how you are celebrating this special year in your own way.

WORLD MEETING of FAMILIES

Pope Francis chose Dublin to host the next World Meeting of Families, 21-26 August 2018, with the theme “The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World”.

Held every three years, this major international event brings together families from across the world to celebrate, pray and reflect upon the central importance of marriage and the family as the cornerstone of our lives, of society and of the Church. We hope Pope Francis will attend for some of the time. Bishop Peter is the lead bishop in England and Wales for this work and will be there too with a group from the diocese.

There are great resources for you at worldmeeting2018.ie – especially for the Irish Catholic Schools week. Its theme is Catholic schools called to be a family of families – in all media forms – and details of how the prayer card below was designed and executed. Sign up for their newsletter.

A special PRAYER CARD, Amoris Laetitia [the Delight of Love] is included for every school, sent from Ireland. Use its prayers and images during the coming months

The event has at its heart the following key moments:

- National Opening - across all the dioceses of Ireland.
- a three-day Congress - keynote speakers, workshops, talks, testimonies and discussions; an engaging and exciting programme for young people as well as fun activities for children, daily celebration of the Eucharist, prayerful activities, exhibitions, cultural events and musical performances.

Saturday 25 August 2018, a Festival of Families,.

Sunday 26 August 2018, WMOF2018 will close with a solemn Eucharistic Celebration, that will gather thousands of people from Ireland and all over the world.

SCHOOLS' COMMISSION

Collette Curtis

'It's tough to make social mobility happen' Geoff Barton, general secretary of the Association of School and College Leaders. He tweets @RealGeoffBarton

"This is the obdurate nature of social mobility. It's grindingly, frustratingly, unyieldingly tough to make happen. That's because it's a deep-rooted issue. These communities need us to restore local faith that a local school is more than just a local school; that its curriculum, enrichment opportunities and, most of all, its values signal a route to a life you didn't think could be yours. They need that, plus home-grown role models to convert a new aspiration into a palpable reality." This is an interesting view from Geoff Barton which fits the ethos of our schools with a focus on the disadvantaged. In the Head teacher and Deputy Head teacher association meetings we will continue to share effective strategies on closing the gap for disadvantaged pupils in our schools.

Geoff Barton also identified the following:

"What they (schools) really need is to be able to attract and retain more great teachers and leaders; more professionals who are on a long-term mission to rejuvenate communities, serving families who see success as something that belongs to others."

Through the Dun Scotus meetings of schools and Academies and the Head teacher group we will continue to work together to develop strategies across the Diocese to support the recruitment and development of teachers and leaders for our schools,

Justine Greening unveils strategy to increase poor children's opportunities

Education secretary attacks Labour's 'money and slogans' as she launches plan including £50m for school nursery places

One of the ambitions set out in the new strategy is to close the "language gap" that means some children arrive at school less prepared for education.

"We know some children turn up at reception, they're already behind, and they can't make the best of their school years," Greening said. "They can't understand as well and they can't articulate as well when they want to communicate with their teacher. And we know that they go on to do far worse in their GCSEs because of that. They go on to have lower opportunities post-16 because of that; they go on to have much more restrictive and worse career options because of that."

Alongside the nursery funding, policies to be announced by Greening include £23m for a "future talent fund", targeted at bright students from poorer backgrounds, and closer cooperation with businesses in providing apprenticeships and drawing up technical qualifications.

Update to the Drafting Note on Apprenticeship Agreements

Please note that the CES have recently updated the Drafting Note on Apprenticeship Agreements in line with current ESFA rules set out in Apprenticeship funding: rules and guidance for employers May 2017 to March 2018 Volume 2 which state as follows:

E26. When the apprenticeship is achieved the apprentice should remain with you, where a job opportunity continues to exist and where the apprentice wishes to remain with you. Where this is not possible, you and the provider must support the apprentice to seek alternative opportunities.

E27. The SFA will monitor apprentice destination data and HMRC data to ensure that job roles are genuine and are not created purely for the purposes of the apprenticeship programme. We will take action if employer recruitment practice is detrimental either to the apprentice or to the apprenticeship brand.

The updated Drafting Note is available on our website for immediate use.

The link to this document is

<http://www.catholiceducation.org.uk/employment-documents/guidance-on-contracts>

SCHOOLS' COMMISSION

Debbie Main

Academies Business Planner can be downloaded from:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/630148/Academies_business_cycle_wallplanner.pdf Here are your highlights for January.

January 2018	ESFA makes the third quarterly pupil premium payment for the 2017-18 financial year 18 January - complete spring school census 19 January – deadline for submitting your 2016-17 accounts return 31 January – deadline for publishing your 2016/17 audited financial statements on your website
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School Websites: What do you have to publish about your Governing Body?

The governing body is required to publish certain information about its members. This includes a register of interests covering:

- The Head Teacher (in maintained schools and academies)
- Governors of maintained schools
- Members, trustees, and local governors in academies
- The senior staff in a multi-academy trust (MAT)

This information must be in a "readily accessible form" on a webpage without the need to open or download a separate document.

GOVERNANCE APPOINTMENTS

. Our thanks to all who have accepted this ministry and service
Duns Scotus Trust

Hugh Davies has resigned as a Director. We thank him for his service there and support for our schools generally

CAFOD NEWS

Deborah Purfield

New Year's Resolution – Pass on our message to students !



Making New Year's resolution? Why not do something rewarding and amazing by going into our schools to deliver assemblies and workshops about CAFOD's work? We provide all training and resources. Do what you love and do it for CAFOD. Please get in touch if you feel called to this role.

School Visits

In the previous academic year, CAFOD volunteers made over 44 school visits in our diocese which has been very welcomed. Thank you to all the schools who have invited us in. We are looking forward to delivering more assemblies and workshops over the Lenten period. Please book your visit.

Supporters' Days

Our Supporters' Days are a wonderful way of hearing about CAFOD's work and to meet other people. I would love to share experiences of my trip to El Salvador with you. Days are from 10:15am – 2.30pm.

Saturday 27 January - St Teresa's Hall, 40 Warwick Road, Beaconsfield, HP9 2PL

Saturday 3 February - St Mary's Hall, Aspley Hill, Woburn Sands MK17 8NN

This is a great session for teachers, families and CAFOD group members. Please get in touch to book a place.

For more details or to get in touch : dpurfield@cafod.org.uk, 01844 274 723

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

for England and Wales in Liverpool - 7 - 9 September 2018

Eucharistic Congresses are gatherings of clergy, religious and laity which promote an awareness of the central place of the Eucharist in the life and mission of the Church.

The last International Eucharistic Congress in England was held in 1908 when permission for a public procession of the Blessed Sacrament was refused by the government.

On the first day of the Congress, there will be a Theological Symposium, with workshops for parish catechists, (especially for those involved in First Holy Communion programs), RE teachers, Hospital and Prison Chaplains, Seminary Communities and Extraordinary Ministers. The sessions will focus on:

* Scripture *Ecclesiology *Eucharistic Language and Catechesis *Rites and Music for Eucharistic Adoration

The second day of the Congress, which will include a Congress Mass, keynote speakers and a drama highlighting the beauty of reverence and devotion. The day will conclude with Adoration.

On the final day of the Pilgrimage and Congress, Sunday, there will be pilgrimage Masses and a street procession - open to all.

In his Pastoral Letter to the Diocese of Westminster for the solemnity of Corpus Christi, Cardinal Nichols wrote:

"We seek to rejuvenate Eucharistic adoration in our parishes as the source of strength for our lives and for our mission, that of making present the love and compassion of Jesus in our society."



Our Cathedral in Northampton is the Mother Church of our Diocese. If you have ever visited it you will be aware of its beauty but also its limitations in not being able to offer hospitality or in accommodating special events and groups. Exciting plans have been developed for the future of the Cathedral and the fundraising campaign is underway. For further information about the project and how you can lend your support, please visit the Cathedral website at <http://northamptoncathedral.org/the-cathedral/cathedral-centre> where you can watch a video presentation about the proposed Cathedral Centre. The Campaign Office is based in Bishop's House and Angela Madge, the Campaign Administrator, will be happy to hear from you on 01604 712065 cathedralcampaign@northamptondiocese.com

WEEK of PRAYER for CHRISTIAN UNITY – 18 to 25 January

The international theme this year is *That All May Be Free* – produced by Christians of the Caribbean where there are 1.4million Christians.

See the resources on ctbi.org.uk.

The prayer for the Week is –

Barrier-breaking God,

You embrace all cultures and lands,

keep a special place in your heart for the stranger, the widow and the orphan.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit that we may become as You are, welcoming all as brothers and sisters, Your cherished children, citizens together in Christ's kingdom of justice and peace. Amen

What are your contacts with other local Christian churches? Do you invite local clergy into school, to meet with staff and children? In many of our schools there are staff and students who belong to other Christian denominations. Often they have chosen our schools because of our Catholic Christian ethos. Many support us very strongly, so to make links with their own churches would be a positive move. There are Church of England schools across the diocese, and the ecumenical primary school in Milton Keynes. Have we links with them?

COURSE NEWS -

Preparing for Senior Leadership – 28 February 2018

Venue: NORES, Luton. This ran very successfully in 2017 and is a one day course helping people see what it means to move into senior leadership in a Catholic school. Forms have been sent out.

Head Teacher Conference: March 1,2, 2018. Venue: Hothorpe Hall. With Dr Anna Rowlands and Canon Luiz Ruscillo. Cost £280 Applications from Debbie Main main@nores.org.uk

ADULT FAITH FORMATION, CATECHESIS and CHAPLAINCY

Alex Heath

School Chaplaincy Training Days On Wednesday 7 February Rachel Warwick will help us explore creative and innovative Prayer Spaces in Schools and on Friday 22 June Fr David O' Malley the well known Salesian priest who will be leading us in a joint RE and Chaplaincy Conference. We look forward to working with schools during the year to help support and develop school chaplaincies. Please follow the IN THE CLASSROOM section and then select CHAPLAINCY for a copy of the booking form on the NORES website or contact the NORES office.

Passover Supper Are you interested in holding an authentic Jewish Passover Supper in your parish? If so, this could be an ideal Lenten preparation for the Easter Triduum. A convert to Catholicism from Orthodox Judaism, Martyn Furman has led over 100 Passover celebrations both within and outside Northampton diocese over the last 20 years. As a child, the Passover was Martyn's favourite festival and this love of and enthusiasm for this great feast radiates through the evening. Drawing on the studies of acclaimed Catholic writers, he provides expert exposition on how, to the finest detail, the sacrifice of Our Lord at Easter perfectly fulfils the Jewish Passover festival and its prophecies. This is a festival which Jesus, His family and apostles, as faithful Jews, would have celebrated each year in Jerusalem. In ministry with his wife Fiona, the celebration is informative, prayerful, joyful and very sociable - especially as it incorporates a shared meal. If you are interested in finding out more, please feel free to contact Martyn on 07788811831 / at martynfurman@sky.com.

Passing on the Faith - A Day Looking at Some Resources On Saturday 17 March 2018 (10am-4pm) David Wills from the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton will help us explore some new resources to help us in our mission of passing on the faith. This day will take place at St Teresa's RC Church hall in Beaconsfield. All are welcome especially catechists, members of Bible Timeline groups, members of evangelisation teams and anyone interested in passing on the faith. The morning will focus on the RELIT DVD programme and be based around the RELIT evangelisation DVD course which is a perfectly suited resource for parishes, parish evangelisation teams and the Bible Timeline groups (there's a website address below where you can see more). The afternoon is on First Reconciliation & Holy Communion catechetical material that enables us to coach parents in their role as the first and best educators of their children in faith. You are welcome to come to either the morning or afternoon sessions or both! Booking forms will be sent out this month.

Helping our Parishes Pass On the Faith, led by David Wills from the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton, Saturday 17 March 2018 at St Teresa's RC Church Hall Beaconsfield
10.00am Arrivals: Tea & Coffee
10.20am Welcome & Opening Prayer
10.30am Exploring the Evangelisation Resource RELIT

12.30pm Lunch (please bring a packed lunch tea and coffee will be provided)

1.15pm Exploring the GROWING UP CATHOLIC resources for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

3.15pm Opportunity for questions

3.45pm Closing Prayer

4.00pm Depart

Relit Evangelisation Course Michael Dopp STL, the founder of RELIT has spent the last eight years transforming parishes across Canada and the USA through his revolutionary training programme RELIT. Bishop David Malloy of Rockford, commented, "We don't need a new message. The message is there. It just isn't being heard. RELIT can help with that." Many priests have observed a renewal in their parishes after implementing minor changes motivated by RELIT training. His material has been recorded and used as a DVD based training resource www.relittraining.com

Growing Up Catholic Catechetical Resources is a set of parish resources that coaches and empowers parents to form their own children in faith. It emphasises the fact that "parents are the first and best teachers in the faith." Growing Up Catholic resources have been used effectively in the USA and in the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton. David Wills will share his experience of how these resources have been used by parishes in his Diocese. For more information please see www.growingupcatholic.com

SECONDARY RE AND THEOLOGY

Paul McHugh

Following last term's busy end, here's wishing you all a happy, New Year. You'll know that the Diocese's Year of Prayer and Vocation began with this Advent and that resources for each month are available (Diocesan website - a bespoke resource for schools, parishes and personal spiritual reflection). I hope that the schools resource has been a leaven for your school's reflections in this Year of Prayer and Vocation. Looking ahead, I hope in this new year to liaise with the Primary Adviser, Anne-Marie McIntosh, in planning some visits to selected primary schools with a view to enhancing the Year 6 to Year 7 transition for RE. More on that on due course.

PRAYING WITH OUR SCHOOLS

PRAYER INTENTIONS – *ask the school to pray with the Pope for his intentions for January.* - Evangelization: **Religious Minorities in Asia** That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practise their faith in full freedom.

FEAST DAYS - pray for the schools which celebrate their feast day this month.

28 January St Thomas Aquinas Primary, Milton Keynes