

Home Mission

Confident in Faith

“You are the Christ.” Mark 8: 27-35



The Home Mission theme for 2013 is ‘Confident in Faith’. Bishop Kieran Conry wrote recently:

“Everyone is invited to rediscover and be more confident in their faith. This is what St. Peter demonstrates so powerfully in the Gospel for Home Mission Sunday, proclaiming ‘You are the

Christ’ (Mark 8: 27 – 35). The more confidence we have in Jesus Christ as Our Lord and Saviour, the more ready and equipped we are to share the treasure of our Catholic Faith.”

Interested in finding out more about Home Mission Sunday then please see: <http://bit.ly/T64ViS>

National Mission Bishop

The Rt Rev Kieran Conry, Bishop of Arundel and Brighton Diocese, is the Chair of the Bishops’ Conference Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis. This Department is responsible nationally for the work of Home Mission which concerns the proclamation and sharing of the Catholic faith in England and Wales.



Rt Rev Kieran Conry

YEAR OF FAITH, 11 OCTOBER 2012 - 24 NOVEMBER 2013

In October 2011 Pope Benedict XVI announced a ‘Year of Faith’ inviting Catholics to rediscover the gift of faith and to seek new ways of proclaiming it.

The Year began on 11 October 2012 - the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council - and will conclude on 24 November 2013, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King. One of the key emphases of the



Year of Faith is to come to know better and deepen our understanding of our greatest treasure.

Everyone has been invited to participate in this Year of celebration and mission, mindful that faith is not meant to be private, but professed and shared. Please do support it and get involved as you can. More information and free resources are available from: www.yearoffaith.org.uk

EVANGELISATION SYNOD



Three hundred Catholic Bishops from around the world came together in Rome on October 2012 for the XIII Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, to reflect on the theme of "The New Evangelisation for the Transmission of the Christian Faith". Archbishop Bernard Longley (Birmingham), Bishop Michael Campbell (Lancaster) and Bishop Kieran Conry (Arundel and Brighton) participated. Dr Petroc Willey and Dr Caroline Farey from Maryvale Institute in Birmingham attended as lay consultants. A summary of what was shared is available on the

Bishops' Conference website at: <http://bit.ly/Vo6N8Q>
Accompanying photographs can be viewed at: <http://bit.ly/Rc7wBr>

At the end of the Synod, to summarise what had been discussed, 58 Propositions were published which may form part of a papal document. They cover a breadth of areas including inculturation, proclamation, witness, Sacred Scripture, Vatican II, religious liberty, amongst other themes. You are invited to read them, reflecting on how they might relate to evangelisation in your area. Please see: <http://bit.ly/Tg6UtZ>

Home Mission Desk

The Home Mission Desk is an instrument of the Bishops' Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis and coordinates and manages projects at the Department's request. It is manned by Clare Ward who is the Home Mission Advisor. The Advisor works in partnership to:



Clare Ward

- Serve as a point of contact for evangelisation in dioceses, movements and Catholic organisations in England and Wales
- Develop and produce catechetical resources for the formation of adult faith as instructed by the Department.
- Manage the production of resources for Home Mission Sunday, annually on the third Sunday in September.
- Is a member of the Catholic Communications Network team to support engagement with the Media.
- Assist in the running and development of the Catholic Enquiry Office as requested.

Please see the contact details for the Desk below.



Follow Home Mission news on Twitter: @Clarewardy

Evangelisation in Your Diocese



There is an excellent network of people in dioceses across England and Wales who are coordinating and / or are involved in evangelisation. Some dioceses have mission teams, others offer regular days and events related to reaching out to others. To find out more about what's happening in your area please see visit your diocesan website: <http://bit.ly/W9hbxD>

RECENT SNAPSHOTS OF EVANGELISATION INITIATIVES

Throughout the year the Home Mission Desk, with partners, is involved in a breadth of projects to support Home Mission in England and Wales. Some snapshots from 2012 include:

Bishop Faith Testimonies (Oct. 2012)



The Most Rev Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster, was the first to feature in a new series of bishops' video

testimonies to celebrate the Year of Faith which began on 11 October. <http://bit.ly/W9mNIu>

Little Way Week (Oct. 2012)

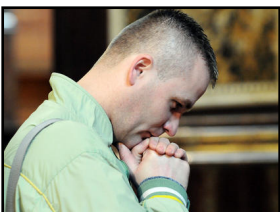


Every Catholic school in England and Wales was invited to begin the forthcoming Year of Faith by having a week of prayer and service inspired by a

young saint. <http://bit.ly/rovmtab>

Mission Bishop's call to public prayer

(Sept. 2012)



Catholics in England and Wales were invited to pause for a moment of prayer every first Friday of the month as an act of faith and public witness. <http://bit.ly/WQ3H6d>

Home Mission Sunday

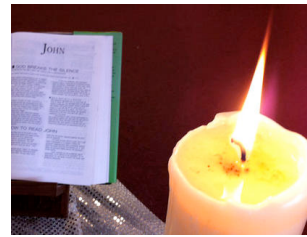
(Sept. 2012)



Home Mission Sunday is the day in the Church's calendar when the Catholic community in England and Wales is invited to pray for, celebrate and support the work of

evangelisation in England and Wales. <http://bit.ly/VGXcG9>

National conference to support ministry to faith enquirers (July 2012)



Around fifty diocesan and parish representatives gathered from across England and Wales to explore how best to support and

accompany people who are seeking meaning and purpose to their lives, and making enquiry as a first step in the process of becoming a Catholic. <http://bit.ly/SnsRwH>

Welsh Archbishop affirms call to engage in the New Evangelisation (June 2012)

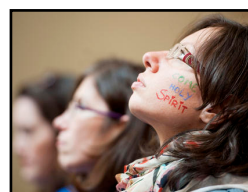


The Most Rev George Stack, Archbishop of Cardiff, spoke of the importance of embracing the call to engage in the New Evangelisation.

<http://bit.ly/UcASnQ>

Resources sent to every Catholic parish supporting the 'Year of Faith'

(June 2012)



Parishes across England and Wales were sent free resources to help them participate in a worldwide Catholic celebration of faith. <http://bit.ly/UIEQDJ>

European gathering - schools of evangelisation (May 2012)



Representatives from countries across Europe met in England for the twenty-third meeting of the European Association of Catholic Schools of Evangelisation. [http://](http://bit.ly/XqJdBH)

bit.ly/XqJdBH

For more information about Home Mission projects please see: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home-mission>

**YEAR OF FAITH:
EVENTS AND
RESOURCES 2013****JANUARY**

Home Mission Forums in partnership with Sion Community, 22 - 23 and 26 - 27, providing a unique space to explore the meaning of the new evangelisation and our response to it.

Ecumenism - please encourage and support local ecumenical celebrations.

FEBRUARY / MARCH

2 February - Crossing the Threshold, North West Dioceses - free resource day to support outreach and ministry to non churchgoing Catholics.

8 February - Newman Lecture delivered by Baroness Scotland of Asthal. Lecture title: *A Thinking Catholic: Some Definite Purpose*. A recording will be made available on the Bishops' Conference website.

Easter outreach posters available in partnership with the Knights of St Columba.

Small faith sharing groups - publication of a new online resource for parishes.

APRIL

Rediscovering Scripture Conference, 24 - 26 April in Durham. For more information

and to book please contact contactus@biblesociety.org.uk, or call 01793 418222, ensuring that you reference 'Word of the Lord Conference'.

MAY

Courtyard of the Gentiles - digital evangelisation event.
Pentecost Novena - downloadable materials will be made available.

JUNE

Processions - we invite you to organise a Blessed Sacrament procession in your area.

JULY AND AUGUST

Pilgrimages - during the Year the Pope is encouraging pilgrimages to the Holy Land, Rome and Marian Shrines. You are also encouraged to support parish and diocesan pilgrimages to local and national shrines, as well as celebrate the feast day of diocesan patrons.

World Youth Day 2013, 23-28 July, Brazil.

SEPTEMBER

Home Mission Sunday, 15 September 2013

OCTOBER

Rosary project launch

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER

Local celebrations to end the Year of Faith.

Usual **Come Home for Christmas** materials available online to support outreach to non churchgoing Catholics.

Pope Benedict XVI

Reflecting on the miracle of the healing of blind Bartimaeus in Saint Mark's Gospel, the Holy Father said:

"Bartimaeus could represent those who live in regions that were evangelised long ago, where the light of faith has grown dim and people have drifted away from God, no longer considering him relevant for their lives... They [those who have drifted away] are the many in need of a new evangelisation, that is, a new encounter with Jesus, the Christ, the Son of God (cf. Mk 1:1), who can open their eyes afresh and teach them the path."

<http://bit.ly/Svrr2a>

Regular Resources

E-BRIEFING: Sign up for our free and regular Home Mission Briefing sent direct to your email inbox. To subscribe please send a request to the Home Mission Desk.

PODCASTS: For the Year of Faith we're offering a selection of podcasts to support reflection about art and faith. See: <http://bit.ly/VhIRPl>

VIDEOS: We make available each month video recordings of testimonies of faith featuring lay people as well as bishops. <http://bit.ly/W9mNIu>

PRAYER: Please do pray for the mission of the Church and



ask the Lord how he'd like you to contribute to the work of evangelisation.