



Marriage & Family Life E-Bulletin No 29 September/October 2008

Marriage & Family Life Project Office,
Department of Christian Responsibility & Citizenship,
Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

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Project websites

www.celebratingfamily.org.uk

www.everybodyswelcome.org.uk

www.homeisaholyplace.org.uk

www.passingonthefaith.org.uk

Resource Pack Launch Dates

Oct 15th: Enfield

Oct 15th: Aigburth

Oct 18th: Scunthorpe

Oct 23rd: Liverpool Area 10

Nov 1st: Crawley

Nov 12th: Liverpool Area 14

Nov 16th: Life Centre, West Derby

Nov 22nd: Aylesford Priory

Jan 31st: Tooting

Diary Dates

Marriage Encounter Weekends

Four weekends between now and
the end of the year. [Check the](#)

Home is a Holy Place: Feedback

We are starting to receive some great responses via the postcards that form part of the Home is a Holy Place Resource Pack. A parish catechist wrote this to Bishop Hine: *"Thank you to you all for a wonderful pack. I felt very excited when I read through it. It's just what we need! I plan to bring it into use in our parish, either in Advent or Lent. God bless you all!"* *"We think it's the best DVD we've seen as a resource and feel very encouraged to encourage others to use it. We think potential facilitators will be enthused by and keen to use it,"* wrote a diocesan department head. Packs are now totally out of stock at Eccleston Square (You can still get a free copy for your parish by contacting your local distributor - [check here for details of who has the packs in your area](#)) However, we still have plenty of postcards and prayercards that can be used as part of your Home is a Holy Place strategy. All other materials, including four of the five video clips on the DVD are now [online here](#). If you would like to embed the clips in your own website [contact the project office](#) for the html code.

Home is a Holy Place: Diocesan News

Diocesan plans to launch Home is a Holy Place locally are growing fast.

- **Arundel & Brighton** launches the resource pack on November 1st at St Francis School Hall, Crawley from 9.30am to 1.00pm. Guest speaker: Elizabeth Davies.
- **Leeds** is planning a series of events in various locations around the diocese in November 2008, January and February 2009. Contact [Breda Theakston](#) for more information.
- In **Liverpool**, a planning meeting for pastoral area launches took place on September 6th, followed on September 17th by two taster sessions to introduce Home is a Holy Place to department and agency leaders. It is aimed to launch Home is a Holy Place in 10 Pastoral Areas by Christmas and to evaluate these before further launches take place in the remaining pastoral areas during the Easter season 2009. [View dates and contact details](#).
- **Nottingham** is holding another launch event on Saturday October 18th in St. Bernadette's Parish Centre, Ashby Road, Scunthorpe 10.30 am – 3.30 pm, Cost: £5. [More information](#)
- In **Salford**, Bishop Terry Brain has written a [pastoral letter](#) for Home is a Holy Place: "Home is where we all learn the lessons that make us into the people we are; we learn our values, how to behave. We also learn our first lessons about God at home; our first prayers. Home is the safe place from which we set out into the world; if we have come to know God at home, we will be able to recognise his presence in the world outside, and will not get lost; and will be able to help others to find and recognise him."

[website for details.](#)

Parents Week 2008

October 20-26th. Theme: Getting it right for families. [More info.](#)

Engage Conferences: churches and family issues. Oct 4th and Nov 8th. [More details.](#)

Celebrating Family New Project Workers National Induction: November 6-9th. Cheltenham.

Parent Child 2008 - Getting it right for families?

13-14 November 2008
Church House, Dean's Yard,
Westminster, London SW1P 3NZ
[More info](#)

Project Resources available:

Home is a Holy Place: Resource Pack. Now available [Further details](#)

What is Life Like? A set of 7 leaflets to support welcoming families in challenging circumstances. £2 each from the project office or free [online](#).

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Please feel free to reproduce anything in this bulletin and to forward it to anyone you think would be interested.

The letter, which was published last July, was accompanied by a diocesan wide distribution of icons and prayers to the Sacred Heart.

- **Southwark** has two launch events planned: November 22nd at Aylesford Priory and January 31st at the Christian Education Centre, Tooting. Both are morning-only, 9:30 till 1pm and booking is required. [Download a flyer.](#)
- **Westminster** has an event planned in Enfield Deanery on October 15th which features the Resource Pack. Virtues for Life: Raising our Children in Christ, takes place at Our Lady of Mt Carmel and St Georges Parish Centre, Enfield. [More details.](#)

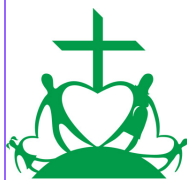
FAMILIAS launched



Marriage and family life ministry in the Catholic Church in England and Wales has come of age with the launch of FAMILIAS, the Association for Catholic Diocesan Marriage and Family Life Ministry. Established by the national network of diocesan family ministry coordinators,

FAMILIAS aims to promote and highlight marriage and family life ministry by sharing good practice and resources, providing peer support and training and advocating for families and family ministry. FAMILIAS was formally inaugurated during a concelebrated Mass at Hinsley Hall in Leeds on Wednesday, September 10th attended by diocesan coordinators past and present, and representatives of marriage and family life organizations and movements. You can read more and [hear the inaugural FAMILIAS lecture here](#). A Friends membership is available for those who support the aims of FAMILIAS.

Sixth World Meeting of Families: Mexico City 2009



VI ENCUENTRO
MUNDIAL DE
LAS FAMILIAS
MÉXICO 2009

The website for the next World Meeting of Families from 16th -18th January in Mexico City has just been translated into [English](#). The theme of the Meeting and the Theological-Pastoral Congress that precedes it (January 13th-16th) is: The family, teacher of human and Christian values. Those registering for the Congress before October 15th this year will enjoy a 20% discount. Previous experience suggests that additional, separate registration is required for the Meeting itself and other festive events.

The Marriage and Family Life Project Office has recently moved house and the usual telephone number no longer works. You can contact Elizabeth only on 07817 479694 until a new landline is organised.

Finally, special congratulations go to Anne Ballard who was recently created a Dame of the Order of St Gregory, in part for her persevering work on the Cardiff Archdiocesan Marriage and Family Life Commission. Anne received her insignia from Archbishop Peter Smith on the occasion of her and husband Jim's 47th wedding anniversary.

