

Home Mission 2012

2012

ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES

2012



*'Go make
disciples!'
Mt 28: 19*

'Fresh Wind In Our Sails'

Ongoing Legacy

The Catholic community in England and Wales is invited to contribute to the legacy of the Holy Father's visit to the UK. To assist your pastoral and mission planning please see the six themes outlined in the document 'Some Definite Purpose': <http://www.thepapalvisit.org.uk/Visit-Legacy/Six-Mission-Priorities>

The six themes (also described as Mission Priorities) are:

1. To know our purpose
2. To grow in confidence
3. To witness to our faith
4. To serve others
5. To seek and engage in dialogue
6. To point to the transcendent



These are offered as a framework for your next steps in service of mission in England and Wales.

New Focus for 2012

The Home Mission theme for 2012 is 'Fresh Wind In Our Sails' which is what the Holy Father said that his visit to the UK gave him – fresh wind and energy. We are all invited to look to the future similarly renewed to love and serve the Lord and our neighbours as ourselves.

Home Mission Desk

The Home Mission Desk of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales is resourcing the coming Home Mission year. The Desk exists to:

1. Be a point of reference for evangelisation in dioceses, movements and Catholic organisations in England and Wales
2. Develop and produce catechetical resources for the formation of adult faith pre and post the Papal Visit.
3. Manage the production of resources

for Home Mission Sunday, annually on the third Sunday in September.

4. Work as a member of the Catholic Communications Network team to

'How deep a thirst there is among the British people for the Good News of Jesus Christ. You have been chosen by God to offer them the living water of the Gospel.'

Benedict XVI, Oscott, 19 Sept. 2010

support engagement with the Media

5. Assist in the running and development of the Catholic Enquiry Office

Please don't hesitate to get in contact if you feel the staff can be of service.



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Timetable

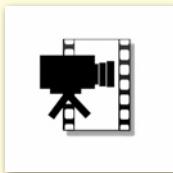
January 2012

'Faith card' launch

An item that every Catholic can carry with them wherever they go will be made available as a constant reminder of the call to holiness and evangelisation.

Home Mission Consultation Group

Meeting in London, 19 January
Representatives from a cross section of dioceses and groups meet to pray together, discuss and share mission perspectives and ideas. Chair: Bishop Kieran Conry, Arundel and Brighton.



Faith Nation

This video resource features faith stories to inspire you to reflect on when and how you've encountered the

Lord in your life. Just think of one moment and consider when and how you can share it with another person. See: <http://vimeo.com/channels/faithnation>

February and March

Lent small faith sharing group resources

These are being made available in partnership with the Diocese of Westminster.

'Crossing the Threshold': Birmingham

Non Churchgoing Catholics Provincial Resource Day, 4 February
It is estimated that two thirds of the Catholic community in England and Wales fall into this category. Everyone is welcome to come along to find out more and hear about the resources available to support parishes and families to reach out. Archbishop Bernard Longley will open the day. For more information please see: <http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk/Catholic-Church/Home-Mission/Non-Churchgoing-Catholics>

To book please email your name, address, parish name, telephone number and email address, indicating which day you wish to attend, to: missionvolunteer@cbcew.org.uk

Rite of Election: A time to celebrate and welcome

The Home Mission Desk works in partnership with the RCIA Network to collate the number of those being received into the Church and to source accompanying faith stories. If you know someone who is preparing to become a Catholic, do encourage them to email us their story – one side of A4 – answering what prompted them to begin RCIA, why, how did they go about it, when, where and who was significant in their journey of faith? Email: missionvolunteer@cbcew.org.uk

March

'Crossing the Threshold': Crawley

Non Churchgoing Catholics Provincial Resource Day, 3 March
Bishop Kieran Conry, Chair of the Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis will open the day. For more information please see: <http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk/Catholic-Church/Home-Mission/Non-Churchgoing-Catholics> To book please email your name, address, parish name, telephone number and email address, indicating which day you wish to attend, to: missionvolunteer@cbcew.org.uk

April

Verbum Domini, launch of a new study guide

This is an initiative of the Bishops' Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis to encourage people to read and deepen their understanding and knowledge of Scripture.

'Crossing the Threshold': Westminster

Non Churchgoing Catholics Provincial Resource Day, 28 April
For more information please see the web page above. To book please email your name, address, parish name, telephone number and email address, indicating which day you wish to attend, to: missionvolunteer@cbcew.org.uk

May

Home Mission Consultation Group meeting, London, 17 May

Representatives from a cross section of dioceses and groups meet to discuss and share mission perspectives and ideas. Chair: Bishop Kieran Conry, Arundel and Brighton

Pentecost (27) Novena Of Prayer

Prayers will be made available to encourage people to pray for the mission of the Church. A key emphasis will be to help people identify their gifts and talents and to grow in confidence.



June

International Eucharistic Congress, Ireland, 10 to 17 June

For more information see: <http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk/Catholic-Church/Events/International-Eucharist-Congress-2012>

'Crossing the Threshold': Cardiff

Non Churchgoing Catholics Provincial Resource Day, 23 June
Archbishop Stack will open the day. For more information please see the web page printed previously. To book please email your name, address, parish name, telephone number and email address, indicating which day you wish to attend, to: missionvolunteer@cbcew.org.uk

July

London Olympics, 27 July – 12 August

Please support the efforts of the ecumenical team working under the banner of 'More Than Gold'. See: http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk/Catholic-Church/Media-Centre/Press-Releases/press_releases_2009/christians_united_in_the_arena_for_more_than_gold

September

Paralympics, 29 August – 9 Sept.

Contact details for 'More than Gold' above.

Home Mission Sunday 2012, 16 September

Theme to be announced. This is a day of celebration and prayer for mission in England and Wales. The second collection supports the work done by the staff at the Catholic Bishops' Conference.

Monthly Free Resource

Each month a free Home Mission Briefing is sent out by email featuring the latest news and resources. To subscribe please email: mission.volunteer@cbcew.org.uk

Timetable

October

Little Way week, 6 - 12 October

Seven days of service inspired by the life and writings of the Patroness of Mission, St Thérèse of Lisieux. It's often the little things that we do and say that people notice most. See nearer the time: <http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk/Catholic-Church/Home-Mission>

Synod of Bishops, Rome, 7 - 28

The theme of this gathering is "The new evangelisation for the transmission of the Christian faith." Please hold it in prayer. For more information: <http://www.zenit.org/article-30749?l=english>

Newman Lecture, date to be confirmed

This is the second of three lectures that are being hosted by the Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis over a three year period. The Lecture series seeks to explore, inspired by his life and writings, what it means to be called to "definite service" today which has mission at its foundation (*Evangelii Nuntiandi* 14).

'Shine a light', 31 October

Promoted in partnership with the Cor et Lumen Christi community. On the vigil (beginning) of the Feast of All Saints you are invited to shine a light in your homes to witness to your faith. See: <http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk/Catholic-Church/Media-Centre/Press-Releases/Press-Releases-2010/Shine-A-Light-To-Witness-To-Christian-Faith> (Please receive the direction to observe the usual safety precautions if using a candle.)

December

Come Home for Christmas, Advent 2012

Resources are available to support outreach to non churchgoing Catholics. Nearer the time, for the latest information, see the web page of the Home Mission Desk.

Date for your diary 2011

Note that the first, '**Crossing the Threshold**' - non churchgoing Catholics provincial resource day - is happening in **York on 12 November 2011**. Bishop Drainey, Diocese of Middlesbrough, will be in attendance. Booking instructions as indicated on previous pages.

Prayer for Home Mission

Radiating Christ

by John Henry Cardinal Newman (1801-1890)

Dear Jesus,

help me to spread Thy fragrance everywhere I go.
Flood my soul with Thy spirit and life.

Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly
that all my life may only be a radiance of Thine.

Shine through me,

and be so in me that every soul I come in contact with
may feel Thy presence in my soul.

Let them look up and see no longer me but only Jesus!

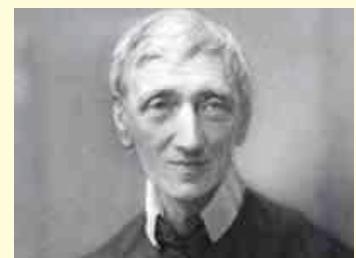
Stay with me, and then I shall begin to shine as Thou shinest,
so to shine as to be a light to others;

the light, O Jesus, will be all from Thee; none of it will be mine;
it will be Thou shining on others through me.

Let me thus praise Thee in the way Thou dost love best by shining on those around me.

Let me preach Thee without preaching, not by words but by my example,
by the catching force of the sympathetic influence of what I do,
the evident fullness of the love my heart bears to Thee.

Amen



Source: <http://www.thepapalvisit.org.uk/2010-Visit/Papal-Visit-Resources/Parish-Resources/Prayer/Itinerary-Prayer/Day-3/Radiating-Christ>

Timetable 2011

This resource is being prepared in July 2011 and a number of initiatives will be offered to cover the remainder of this year.

July and August

Pilgrim People

Individuals and parishes are invited to visit one of the Marian Shrines in the UK to pray for the intentions of Pope Benedict XVI and for Home Mission. They are also invited to support their diocesan pilgrimage which may happen another time in the year.

September

Home Mission Sunday, 18 September

This is an annual day of prayer for the work of evangelisation in England and Wales. Parishes will be invited to celebrate the first anniversary of the Papal Visit to the UK. See: <http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk/Catholic-Church/Media-Centre/Press-Releases/Press-Releases-2011/Fresh-Wind-In-Our-Sails-Call-to-celebrate-and-share-testimonies-of-grace-to-mark-the-Papal-Visit-anniversary>

October

Little Way Week, 1 - 7

Seven days of service in the footsteps of St Thérèse of Lisieux

Inaugural Newman Lecture, 28 October (invitation only)

November

A Year With The Holy Father

Publication of materials to help parishioners revisit and study his words.

December

Come Home For Christmas

An initiative to invite non-churchgoing Catholics to reconnect with their local Catholic community. Resources will be provided.

From the Lineamenta: Preparatory document for the Synod of Bishops 2012

"The pilgrim Church is missionary by her very nature."^[5] This statement from the Second Vatican Council summarizes the Church's Tradition in a simple and complete way. The Church is missionary, because she finds her origin in the mission of Jesus Christ and the mission of the Holy Spirit, according to the plan of God the Father.^[6] Furthermore, the Church is missionary, because she returns and relives her beginnings by proclaiming and witnessing to this revelation of God and by gathering together the scattered People of God, so that in this way she might fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah which the Church Fathers applied to her: "Spread your tent, extend the curtain of your dwelling without saying, lengthen the cord, strengthen your poles, so that you might be widened to the right and to the left and your descendants will possess nations, will populate once deserted cities" (Is 54:2, 3).^[7]

The words of St. Paul the Apostle, "For if I preach the Gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel!" (1 Cor 9:16) can refer and be applied to the Church as a whole.

Full text: http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/synod/documents/rc_synod_doc_20110202_lineamenta-xiii-assembly_en.html

The Mustard Seed: Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger on the New Evangelization (2000)



'The Kingdom of God always starts anew under this sign. New evangelization cannot mean: immediately attracting the large masses that have distanced themselves from the Church by using new and more refined methods. No—this is not what new evangelization promises.'

'New evangelization means: never being satisfied with the fact that from the grain of mustard seed, the great tree of the Universal Church grew; never thinking that the fact that different birds may find place among its branches can suffice—rather, it means to dare, once again and with the humility of the small grain, to leave up to God the when and how it will grow (Mark 4:26-29).'

'Large things always begin from the small seed, and the mass movements are always ephemeral. In his vision of the evolutionary process, Teilhard de Chardin mentions the "white of the origins" (le blanc des origines): The beginning of a new species is invisible and cannot be found by scientific research. The sources are hidden—they are too small. In other words: The large realities begin in humility.'

'An old proverb says: "Success is not one of the names of God." New evangelization must surrender to the mystery of the grain of mustard seed and not be so pretentious as to believe to immediately produce a large tree. We either live too much in the security of the already existing large tree or in the impatience of having a greater, more vital tree—instead we must accept the mystery that the Church is at the same time a large tree and a very small grain. In the history of salvation it is always Good Friday and Easter Sunday at the same time'

'The word of the announcement must always be drenched in an intense life of prayer. We must add another step. Jesus preached by day, by night he prayed—this is not all. His entire life was—as demonstrated in a beautiful way by the Gospel according to St. Luke—a path toward the cross, ascension toward Jerusalem. Jesus did not redeem the world with beautiful words but with his suffering and his death. His Passion is the inexhaustible source of life for the world; the Passion gives power to his words.'

Full text: http://www.ewtn.com/new_evangelization/Ratzinger.htm
Image: <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-rDGcbeX-PI/TdkY4vLU6I/AAAAAAAABUO/vfPAxwyThRM/s1600/MustardSeed.jpg>

For reflection



'...dare, once again and with the humility of the small grain, to leave up to God the when and how it will grow. (Mark 4:26-29).'
Cardinal Ratzinger, 2000

"...the eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them.

When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated.

Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.'

Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And look, I am with you always; yes, to the end of time."

Mt 28: 16 - 20

What is your response to these words?
How might you support mission in England and Wales in the year ahead?
Which of the initiatives in this document do you feel invited to support in a special way?

Is there something else that you feel the Lord is asking of you?