

May 2009

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Please find enclosed this year's poster for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, which is celebrated on Sunday 3rd May. Rather than send printed materials, this year you can download these directly from our website [www.ukvocation.org/vocations2009.html](http://www.ukvocation.org/vocations2009.html). Please circulate this web address to all your colleagues who may wish to use these resources. Hopefully, some of the resources will be suitable for your own establishment and can be used throughout the year.

In addition to classroom exercises and assemblies, there is also a poster focusing on the vocation of St. Therese, 'The Little Flower'. This can be downloaded from our website and coloured in by younger children for whom the main poster may be less suitable. This September, the relics of Saint Therese will be visiting England and Wales and this is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on her life. Saint Therese defined her doctrine of 'the little way' as one of spiritual childhood. The little way of trusting in Jesus to make us holy is an idea still relevant today, to people of all ages. If the relics are visiting a location near your establishment, you may wish to take some of your young people or encourage them to get involved in the event.

I would also like to draw to your attention to our new "Virtual Seminary" feature. This takes you on a virtual tour through Oscott College in Birmingham, showing the life and work of the seminary including interviews with students and staff. It will be launched to coincide with Vocations Sunday when it will be live on the [www.ukpriest.org](http://www.ukpriest.org) website. We hope that it will become a helpful teaching resource as well as stimulating young people to think about their own vocations.

This year, the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, in his letter for Vocations Sunday reminds us to be constant and trusting in our prayer for vocations. May this steadfast prayer nourish all that you do in your work as you continue to help young people discern their vocation through their encounter with Christ.

Yours in Christ,



Rt. Rev. George Stack  
Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Westminster