

## Meeting God in Friend and Stranger

Meeting God in Friend and Stranger: Fostering mutual respect and understanding between the religions is the new teaching document on interreligious dialogue from the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. It reminds all Catholics that they are called by their Baptism to engage in dialogue with others, and specifically with people of other religions. This is part of the Church's task of continuing the dialogue that God engages with His Church, and of reading the signs of His will in our times.

The document stresses that this dialogue is not restricted to academics, but takes place where everyday life is shared in an atmosphere of respect and openness. Shared experiences of worship - where the worship takes the form not of coming to pray together, but of coming together to pray, is also a valuable aspect of dialogue, and one which meets appropriately the desire to share occasions of grief, joy and remembrance.

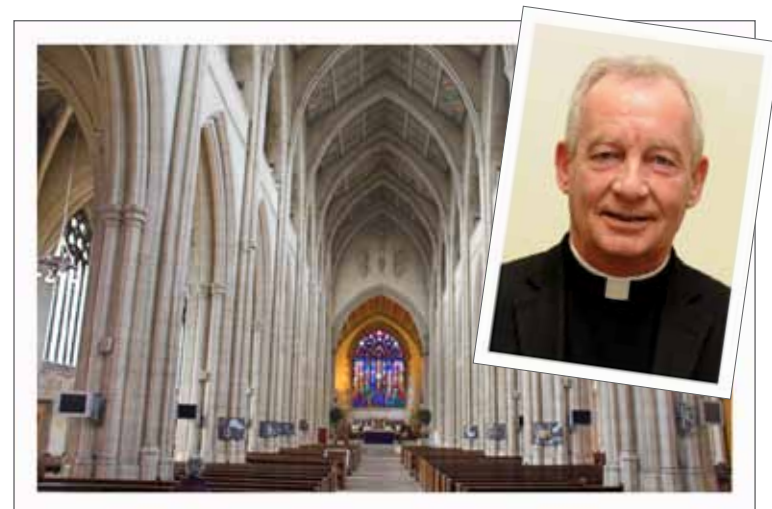
The Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI has appointed the Most Reverend Peter Smith, until now Archbishop of Cardiff, as the new Archbishop of Southwark

Archbishop Smith was named the tenth Archbishop of Southwark on 30 April 2010. He succeeds the Most Reverend Kevin McDonald (2003-2009).

Archbishop Smith was born on 21 October 1943, ordained priest on 15 July 1972, ordained Bishop of East Anglia on 27 May 1995, transferred to Cardiff on 26 October 2001. The new Archbishop of Southwark will be Installed at St George's Cathedral, Southwark on 10 June 2010.

**Read more online: [www.catholicchurch.org.uk](http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk)**

## New Archbishop of Southwark



## Home Mission Desk...Latest Briefing...April/May Available Now

The reason that the Church exists is to evangelise (Evangelii Nuntiandi 14) and to further the work of mission in England and Wales.

The recently created Home Mission Desk is offering a Home Mission Briefing. Circulated monthly through this newsletter, the Briefing will provide a variety of materials and information in support of evangelisation.

HOME

MISSION  
BRIEF

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**The Home Mission Desk** has been created to support the excellent work that is already being done across England and Wales and ensures that there is a point of contact at the Bishops' Conference for all those involved and/or interested in evangelisation. Other core tasks are to support the running and development of the Catholic Enquiry Office and, with partners, to develop a number of evangelistic initiatives in service of the Bishops of England and Wales.

For more information please call: 020 7901 4818; email: [clare.ward@cbcew.org.uk](mailto:clare.ward@cbcew.org.uk). Do feel free to send your news, information about mission initiatives, new resource details and prayer requests, so that these can be shared, as appropriate, in the monthly Briefing.

[www.catholicchurch.org.uk](http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk)

In the first edition you'll find

1. Inspiration from Pope Benedict XVI: To proclaim Christ is to know Him
2. The Passion of Jesus in Trafalgar Square
3. Northampton Diocese's 'Walk Humbly With Our God'
4. Faith Sense: Audio reflection about why God allows suffering and natural disasters to happen?
5. Resources: 'What is a Catholic?' PowerPoint and accompanying leaflet
6. The Papal Visit: An opportunity to evangelise

# heart speaks to heart



The theme for Pope Benedict XVI's 2010 visit to the UK is Cor ad cor loquitur - heart speaks to heart. Cardinal John Henry Newman chose the words as the motto to go on his coat of arms. Heart speaks to heart is a fitting choice for this papal visit as, on the final day of his Apostolic Journey, the Holy Father will beatify Cardinal Newman - the much-loved Victorian theologian [www.thepapalvisit.org.uk](http://www.thepapalvisit.org.uk)



## **PRAYER** Fridays in May

The bishops have invited parishes in England and Wales to make the four Fridays in May 2010 special days of prayer. Parishoners are invited join with them in offering prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for reparation and atonement.

[www.liturgyoffice.org.uk](http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk)



This year's **World Communications Day** was on Sunday 16 May 2009.

The theme was **The Priest and Pastoral Ministry in a Digital World: New Media at the Service of the Word**. This theme ties in with the Church's "Year for Priests", that runs until June 2010.

On our **World Communications Day 2010** page, you can download the Holy Father's message marking the occasion and listen to Archbishop Nichols' communications lecture entitled **Good communications build community - "Why the media matters"**. You can also read Fr Stephen Wang's homily given at the Church of Our Most Holy Redeemer and St Thomas More.

Parish resources are available online, for example homily notes, a downloadable pdf newsletter, inserts for parish newsletters and more.

## Online Resources

Fr Tom Smith: Alternative homily notes for World Communications Day

Insert for parish newsletters

World Communications Day newsletter

Fr Stephen Wang's communications sermon

Archbishop Nichols' World Communications Day Lecture 2010 (mp3)

Archbishop Nichols' Q&A - Part ONE (mp3)

Archbishop Nichols' Q&A - Part TWO (mp3)

**The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales**  
[www.catholicchurch.org.uk](http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk)

**CAFOD**  
[www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)

**Catholic Association for Racial Justice (CARJ)**  
[www.carj.co.uk](http://www.carj.co.uk)

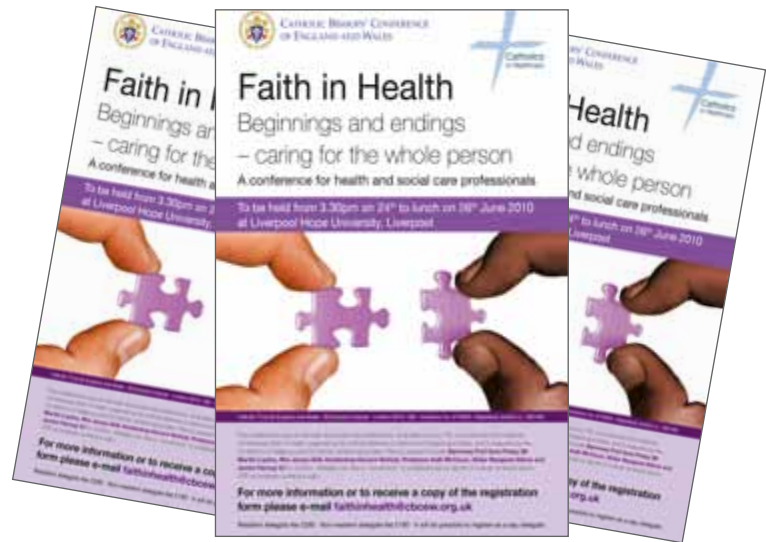
**National Board of Catholic Woman**  
[www.nbcw.org](http://www.nbcw.org)

**Catholic Education Service**  
[www.cesew.org.uk](http://www.cesew.org.uk)

**Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service (CSAS)**  
[www.csas.uk.net](http://www.csas.uk.net)



Distribution of DVDs to all parishes



Faith in Health

CSAN is pleased to report that its film on dementia and spirituality, 'It's still ME, Lord...' has received a great deal of interest from a variety of audiences as have the related training workshops which have been organised. CSAN has been asked by the Catholic Bishops' Conference to distribute copies of the film to all parishes in England and Wales. The St Vincent de Paul Society has kindly agreed to assist CSAN with this by distributing around 1,300 copies of the DVD via their network of parish conferences across the regions.

CSAN would like to request the assistance of those parishes not served by an SVP conference in order to help us ensure that the DVD reaches those within parish groups and organisations who will find it most useful. CSAN would be grateful therefore if these parishes will contact Chris Driscoll directly on 0207 901 4877 or email [chris.driscoll@cbcew.org.uk](mailto:chris.driscoll@cbcew.org.uk) with the name and contact details of the relevant person. For more information on CSAN and up-coming events visit: [www.caritas-socialaction.org.uk](http://www.caritas-socialaction.org.uk)

**Beginnings and endings - caring for the whole person**  
A conference to be held at Liverpool Hope University From 3.30pm on Thursday 24 June to lunchtime on Saturday 26 June 2010

Following the success of the Faith in Health conference in 2008, a second conference has been organised for 2010 in Liverpool. The conference is open to all health and social care professionals, of all faiths or none.

This Conference will bring together health and social care professionals to explore issues of transition and change for the care giver and the care receiver, with particular reference to the quality of care and meeting spiritual needs. Delegates will have the opportunity to explore the basis of their vocation to work in health or social care, and to be renewed and affirmed in it.

There will be plenary and parallel sessions and a conference dinner.

**More event information visit:**  
[www.catholicchurch.org.uk](http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk)

**Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN)**  
[www.caritas-socialaction.org.uk](http://www.caritas-socialaction.org.uk)

**UK Vocation**  
[www.ukvocation.org](http://www.ukvocation.org)

**Liturgy Office of England and Wales**  
[www.liturgyoffice.org.uk](http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk)

**Day for Life**  
[www.dayforlife.org.uk](http://www.dayforlife.org.uk)

**Home is a Holy Place**  
[www.homeisaholyplace.org.uk](http://www.homeisaholyplace.org.uk)

**CASE Resources**  
[www.caseresources.org.uk](http://www.caseresources.org.uk)

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# Statement by the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales

At the Easter 2010 meeting of the Bishops' Conference the bishops made a statement on the abuse of children:

Child abuse in the Catholic Church has been such a focus of public attention recently, that we, the Bishops of England and Wales, wish to address this issue directly and unambiguously.

Catholics are members of a single universal body. These terrible crimes, and the inadequate response by some church leaders, grieve us all.

Our first thoughts are for all who have suffered from the horror of these crimes, which inflict such severe and lasting wounds. They are uppermost in our prayer. The distress we feel at what has happened is nothing in comparison with the suffering of those who have been abused.

The criminal offences committed by some priests and religious are a profound scandal. They bring deep shame to the whole church. But shame is not enough. The abuse of children is a grievous sin against God. Therefore we focus not on shame but on our sorrow for these sins. They are the personal sins of only a very few. But we are bound together in the Body of Christ and, therefore, their sins touch us all.

We express our heartfelt apology and deep sorrow to those who have suffered abuse, those who have felt ignored, disbelieved or betrayed. We ask their pardon, and the pardon of God for these terrible deeds done in our midst. There can be no excuses.

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## Contact Information

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Tel: 020 7901 4800.  
Email: [ccn@cbcew.org.uk](mailto:ccn@cbcew.org.uk).

For all non-media related enquiries relating  
to the Papal Visit. email: [papalvisit@cbcew.org.uk](mailto:papalvisit@cbcew.org.uk)

## Prayers for Reparation & Atonement

Almighty and merciful God,  
you have brought us together in the name of your Son  
to receive your mercy and grace in our time of need.  
Open our eyes to see the evil we have done.  
Touch our hearts and convert us to yourself.  
Where sin has divided and scattered,  
may your love make one again;  
where sin has brought weakness,  
may your power heal and strengthen;  
where sin has brought death,  
may your Spirit raise to new life.  
Give us a new heart to love you,  
so that our lives may reflect the image of your Son.  
May the world see the glory of Christ  
and come to know  
that he is the one whom you sent,  
Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

± **Amen.**