



Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales Department of International Affairs

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HEADLINE LINKS

- [Apostleship of the Sea GB](#)
- [Apostleship of the Sea Worldwide](#)
- [International Christian Maritime Association \(ICMA\)](#)

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UPCOMING EVENTS

July:

- [NJPN Annual Conference](#)

September:

- [National Environment Conference \(Clifton Diocese\)](#)



Supporting Seafarers Worldwide



© AOS

[Read about Our Lady Stella Maris - Star of the Sea](#)

SEA SUNDAY: Sunday 8th July

The sea is vital to us all. 95% of UK exports and imports are transported by sea. Although 150,000 merchant ships arrive in British ports every year, the grueling conditions faced by seafarers are largely unknown.

Typically recruited from poorer countries where wages are lower, seafarers spend up to a year away from home experiencing loneliness, separation from family and community, spiritual deprivation and even exploitation.

[Apostleship of the Sea \(AOS\)](#) is the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church in Great Britain. It works in solidarity with all those whose lives depend on the sea. AOS deploys port chaplains and ship visitors who offer hospitality, spiritual support and practical care to the many thousands of seafarers who visit British ports each year.

AOS is wholly reliant on voluntary donations in order to sustain its ministry as it receives no statutory funding from the Church or government.

Supporting AOS through the **second collections** on [Sea Sunday](#) is vital in bringing the hope and light of Christ to those who work at sea to bring us 95% of the goods we use and consume every day.

[Read how MPs have urged support for AOS](#)

Archbishop Kelly's message to the Christian community in Gaza

21st June — Archbishop Patrick Kelly of Liverpool, Vice-President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference, has sent a message of prayerful support to the Christian community in Gaza.

[Click here to read it](#)

Bishop Hollis' statement on violence against Christians in Iraq

12th June — Bishop Crispian Hollis of Portsmouth, Chairman of the Department of International Affairs, has issued a statement in response to the escalating violence against Christians in Iraq.

[Click here to read it](#)

Cardinal Murphy-O'Connor's address to Muslim students in Cardiff

9th June — H.E. Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference, gave a talk at the University of Cardiff at the invitation of the Muslim Council of Wales.

[Click here to read it](#)

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