

**Invitation - Home Mission Forum For Lay People
26 – 27 January 2013**



Rt Rev Kieran Conry
Chair, Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis
Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales,
39 Eccleston Square,
London,
SW1V 1BX

Date as postmark

Dear *Friend*,

Across England and Wales there are formal and informal networks of people who are working tirelessly in support of evangelisation. The Year of Faith presents everyone with a wonderful opportunity to be renewed, affirmed and strengthened in his or her efforts to proclaim the Gospel message. To that end, this letter is sent to invite you to the first Home Mission Forum For Lay People, hosted by the Sion Community for Evangelism, offered in partnership with the Bishops' Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis.

The purpose of the gathering is three-fold, aiming to provide a unique space for lay people engaged in home mission:

- To connect with each other to share experiences and ideas
- Be renewed through times of prayer and reflection
- Be enthused to take new steps, as co-workers, in support of the new evangelisation in their parish and diocese.

This particular Forum, being held 26 – 27 January 2013, is for people who are interested in and / or already involved in evangelisation in their local area. The programme (overleaf) will provide an opportunity for snapshots to be shared of methods of evangelisation that have worked in England and Wales, and there will also be a market place for Forum attendees to display resources.

I am delighted that **Rt Rev Seamus Cunningham, Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle Diocese** and member of the Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis, will be in attendance for part of the event. He has pioneered a number of excellent evangelisation initiatives in his own diocese and we are very grateful to him for his support.

Places will be allocated on a first-come-first served basis: The Sion Community can accommodate up to 40 people. During these times of economic austerity we have kept the attendance fee as low as possible - £95 all inclusive* - and hope that for one night only, you won't mind sharing a room. Some single rooms are available for those with a special need. I appreciate that sharing a room is a sacrifice, but this will mean that we will be able to offer places to as many people as possible. A booking form is below. I do very much hope that you'll be able to attend so that together we can learn, be inspired and renewed for the ongoing work of evangelisation.

If you have any questions about the gathering please don't hesitate to contact Clare Ward on the Home Mission Desk by emailing mission.volunteer@cbcew.org.uk or tel. 020 7901 4818.

When Pope Benedict XVI visited the UK in 2010 he said: "...it has become clear to me 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." (Address at Oscott College, 19 September 2010). Thank you for all that you are already doing in response to these words and thank you in advance for support of this event.

Yours sincerely and God bless you,

Kieran Conry

Rt Rev Kieran Conry
Bishop of Arundel and Brighton, Chair of the Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis

**£70 will be given to Sion to cover your accommodation and meals, £25 will help to cover each speaker's room, meals, transport, a small gift and administration costs. It is a non profit-making event.*

Home Mission Forum For Lay People – 26 – 27 January 2013

Saturday 26 January

12.30pm	Arrivals
1pm	Lunch
2pm	Welcome and opening prayer
2.20pm	Talk One: Fr Gerard Kelly, STL (<i>In the New Evangelisation</i>) Title: ‘How can lay people respond to the New Evangelisation?’ <i>Former Sion Community President</i>
3pm	Feedback / discussion
3.30pm	Tea and coffee
4pm	Talk Two: Dr Caroline Farey B.A. (Hons), M.Phil (Cantab), M.A. (Theol), STB, Ph.L, S.T.L, Ph.D (Lateran) Title: ‘A new perspective on the New Evangelisation’ <i>Attendee of the recent Synod on the New Evangelisation in Rome (October 2012) and Head of Catechetical Formation at the Maryvale Institute in Birmingham</i>
4.30pm	Feedback / discussion
5pm	Mass of Saturday followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
6.30pm	Supper
7.30pm	Small groups (30 mins) and plenary (30 mins) <i>Each attendee will be invited to share stories about what they do /have done in service of home mission. This can be something very small or you might have been involved in something more substantial.</i>
8.30pm	Night Prayer
9pm	Optional silent adoration of the Blessed Sacrament or social time (feel free to ‘bring a bottle’)

Sunday 27 January

8am	Breakfast
9am	Morning Prayer
9.30am	Talk One: Sr Brenda Matterson DC, Title: ‘Planning for Evangelisation: From Inspiration to Incarnation!’ <i>Hull Evangelisation Project Coordinator</i>
10.15am	Feedback and discussion
10.45am	Coffee
11am	Final Plenary: Fr Simon Penhalagon, <i>President of the Sion Community for Evangelism</i>
11.40am	Concluding input: Clare Ward, <i>Home Mission Advisor, Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales</i>
12pm	Mass
1pm	Lunch followed by departures

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(Pope Benedict XVI, Address at Oscott College, 19 September 2010)

Venue and Directions

‘HOME MISSION FORUM FOR LAY PEOPLE

26 – 27 January 2013

Sion Community, S.E.N.T. Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 9BX.

Phone: 01277 215 011 Fax: 01277 234 401 Email: admin@sioncommunity.org.uk

A map can be found at:

<http://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?x=559532&y=194541&z=0&sv=CM15+9BX&st=2&pc=CM15+9BX&mapp=map.srf&searchp=ids.srf>

Parking: Some parking is available at Sion and in nearby streets.

Disabled parking and access: For more information please don't hesitate to contact the team at Sion.

Reply Slip – Home Mission Forum For Lay People – 26 – 27 January 2013

Sion Community, S.E.N.T. Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 9BX.

Please fill in the below and send it by email to: admin@sioncommunity.org.uk, alternatively by post to: ‘HOME MISSION FORUM – LAY’, Sion Community, S.E.N.T. Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 9BX.

Preferred title..... Full name.....

Postal address.....

Landline tel. no..... Mobile tel. no.....

Email address..... (Please insert clearly)

Parish / Diocese / Network / Organisation you represent.....

Special dietary requirements please indicate what they are here.....

Please make cheques payable to ‘Sion Community’.....

The Sion Community and the Home Mission Desk look forward to welcoming you on 26 – 27 January 2013.