



# NORES NEWS

April 2018 – The month dedicated  
to The Blessed Sacrament

Diocese of Northampton, Office for RE, Evangelisation, Catechesis & Schools

SUPPORTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND FORMATION

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## From the Episcopal Vicar *Mgr Kevin*

Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation on holiness, *Gaudete et Exsultate* [Rejoice and Be Glad], with the subtitle "On the call to holiness in the contemporary world," was published on April 9, 2018. It is his third following *Evangelii Gaudium* [The Joy of the Gospel – 2013], and *Amoris Laetitia* [The Joy of Love -2016]. This edition of NORES NEWS went to press before it was available, but we hope to let you have at least a summary as soon as possible. Joy has been a dominant feature of Pope Francis' teaching. It links with all he has also taught about our God as a God of tenderness, compassion and forgiveness.

In 1965 Second Vatican Council issued its Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World is entitled *Gaudium et Spes* [Joy and Hope- 1965]. This built on the Church's deep concern to work for the world in which we live. Pope Leo XIII had written about the Industrial Society in 1890. Pope John XXIII addressed issues of peace, economic underdevelopment and nuclear disarmament. Pope Paul VI followed this up as the first Pope to speak to the United Nations, challenging the world to bring about an end war and poverty. In this context the opening words of *Gaudium et Spes* challenge us again today for the Church to bring joy and hope to the world :

*The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the men of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ. Indeed, nothing genuinely human fails to raise an echo in their hearts. For theirs is a community composed of men. United in Christ, they are led by the Holy Spirit in their journey to the Kingdom of their Father and they have welcomed the news of salvation which is meant for every man. That is why this community realizes that it is truly linked with mankind and its history by the deepest of bonds.*

Eastertime is given to us as 50 Days of rejoicing [Alleluia is our Song!]. It is vital that we engage with Pope Francis' call to be a people of real joy, a joy that we share with the world in all its needs. How can we help our young people to live and reflect that Easter joy in our schools, parishes, and communities? It comes back to how that joy of the Risen Saviour is an integral part of our own lives. Therein lies the challenge of us!

## DIOCESAN COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

*Neil Roseman*

Our Diocese would like to keep you up to date with the latest news and information from Bishop Peter, the curial departments, our Catholic Cathedral in Northampton and our whole diocese. Each month you can receive this information through an e-newsletter. To subscribe simply visit the diocesan website, [www.northamptondiocese.org](http://www.northamptondiocese.org) and enter your email address in the box in the top right hand corner of the page.

- That you would feel free to send any information/news you feel would benefit the whole/some diocese from your parish or pastoral area. We try to direct readers through to a link webpage or social media site. I would ask only for a paragraph, a picture and a couple of links. I am happy to edit it for continuation of style etc.
- That you would promote the newsletter in your parish newsletters to encourage subscribers. You can use the first paragraph above as a suggested text.

### DON'T LOSE SIGHT OF

#### 1 - NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS for England and Wales in Liverpool - 7 - 9 September

Go to [cbcew.org.uk](http://cbcew.org.uk) and see what is available under "Adoremus". A series of podcasts has been produced, and the Spirituality Committee will have a series of leaflets available soon. The Liturgy Office has resources available on its website and NBRIA is preparing materials. This is an opportunity for us all to consider what we mean by Eucharistic adoration in schools and parishes, having its source in the celebration of Eucharist.

2 - **WORLD MEETING of FAMILIES** with Pope Francis Dublin 21-26 August 2018, with the theme "The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World". NYMO are organising a group, and Bishop Peter is there as the led bishop for Marriage and Family Life in England and Wales. See [worldmeeting2018.ie](http://worldmeeting2018.ie). The site has great resources at all levels – look out for schools' material.

### PREPARING for SENIOR LEADERSHIP in a CATHOLIC SCHOOL – 18 June 2018.

This day course has been rearranged having been postponed due to the snow! If anyone else wants to join you are very welcome. Details on the website, and through your head teacher.

[www.thinkingfaith.org](http://www.thinkingfaith.org) is the online journal of the British Jesuits. Subscribe and see how it can help you think more about your faith.

## SCHOOLS' COMMISSION

Director of School Development - Collette Curtis

### Follow up from the Bishops' Conference Symposium -

**March 2017** to discuss the future of Catholic Education in England and Wales. The key outcomes were:

- The letter of support from the Bishops for Catholic Education and the high value they place on the work being done in our schools
- The establishment of 4 regional hubs across England to develop leadership and governance training and support for the recruitment and retention of teachers/leaders/Directors/governors in our schools

On 15 March the first conference of FORMATIO the national body working on Leadership and Governance of our Catholic schools was held in London. Dioceses, Catholic University representatives and Teaching schools attended to review the Mission of Catholic Leadership and share strategies and resources.

At the moment this group is looking to tender a contract to develop online training for Foundation Governors and Directors from induction to the legal accountability and strategic direction for Directors of Multi Academy Trusts. The content is being developed internally but they are seeking schools/firms with the technical ability to adapt this material to an online, interactive resource. If you are interested or could recommend a firm for developing this national resource, please contact me in the first instance [curtis@nores.org.uk](mailto:curtis@nores.org.uk)

Next week I will be meeting with representatives of Diocese in the South East region and the Leadership development team for the Church of England to look at a faith based licensed NPQ leadership development suite.

**Governance Development Training for Leadership and Clerks** The DfE has recently procured training for those involved in governance leadership and clerking. Please find below web links to published details about the Governance Leadership Development Programme and the Governance Clerking Development Programme:

Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/school-governors-professional-development>

Providers: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/licences-professional-development-for-school-governors>

**Who can apply?** The programme is suitable for those in governance leadership roles, eg chairs, vice chairs or committee chairs. **What's involved?** The governance leadership development programme offers you support and development as a governor, as you work with your board to increase the effectiveness of its governance. It aims for:

- increased capacity to improve the effectiveness of governing boards in line with the 'Competency framework for governance' (particularly boards' ability to provide strategic leadership and data-driven accountability for educational standards and financial performance)
- greater involvement of governance leaders in sustainable and relevant peer-to-peer support networks that enable encouragement, support and sharing good practice with one another

**Cost:** The DfE is funding this programme with up to £500 available for each eligible participant board. Some may be eligible for a higher level of support, with up to £2,000 available to boards or local governing bodies (LGBs) that are either:

- governing 2 or more schools (including multi-academy trusts (MATs) or federations)
- governing a school which is located in an *opportunity area* and which is either rated by Ofsted as requires improvement or is rated good or outstanding but is identified as coasting

In most cases, there will be no, or minimal, cost to individual schools undertaking the leadership

**Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse Concerns** - In 2016, the government consulted on whether there should be a professional or criminal consequence for teachers, and other professionals. This week the DfE issued their response and have not implemented their proposal. Less than 12% of those responding said they supported mandatory reporting. The DfE said, 'Feedback suggests that these additional measures could risk creating unnecessary burdens, divert attention from the most serious cases, hamper professional judgement, and potentially jeopardise the vital relationships between social workers and vulnerable families in their care.'

We are in the process of confirming that all chairs of governors/ school committees and Chairs of Trusts have been on recent training which covers managing safeguarding allegations against a head teacher. For those who have not free training, including lunch, is offered through the Diocesan safeguarding team in Woburn Sands on April 24. All chairs and clerks have received a flyer for this training. Contact [safeguardingadmin@northamptondiocese.com](mailto:safeguardingadmin@northamptondiocese.com) Please note that in accordance with the Governance handbook the named person on the governing body for safeguarding should include Prevent.

**Prevent toolkit for schools** (London Borough of Ealing) This toolkit includes ideas, resources and practical approaches to support primary and secondary school practitioners to understand the principles of the Prevent strategy and implement the Prevent duty as part of a whole school approach. Download the toolkit here:

[www.egfl.org.uk/services-children/safeguarding/anti-radicalisation-prevent-duty](http://www.egfl.org.uk/services-children/safeguarding/anti-radicalisation-prevent-duty)

**Finally a challenge** for all involved in our schools from Canon John Udris – Spiritual Director at St Mary's College, Oscott, Birmingham. "If your school is teaching the Gospel values – when was the last time you read a Gospel?"

## SCHOOLS' COMMISSION Debbie Main

Appointments are:

### Foundation Representatives:

St Anthony's Primary Slough : Sarah Phelon & Maclon D'Souza

St Mary's Primary Northampton: Sara Hanna:

Good Shepherd Primary School, Northampton :Kerry Peterson:

### Foundation Governors:

St Joseph's, Aylesbury: Charles Okonkwo, Jacqueline Dunford

Our Lady's Primary School, Amersham: Jaume Vilar Hall

St Bernadette's Catholic PSchool, M. Keynes: Darren Johnson

Our Lady of Peace Primary, Slough: Amy Day

St Thomas Aquinas Primary Bletchley: Vijay Fernando

## PRAYING WITH OUR SCHOOLS

**PRAYER INTENTIONS** – *ask the school to pray with the Pope for his intentions for April* - That economists may have the courage to reject any economy of exclusion and know how to open new paths.

**FEAST DAYS** - pray for the schools which celebrate their feast day this month - 16 April – St Bernadette's, Milton Keynes

*Are we prepared to celebrate the STATIONS of LIGHT [Via Lucis] which celebrate his Resurrection through Christ's appearances to his followers.*

## INSPECTION & CCRS

Steve O'Brien

You will be aware that I sent copies of the new S48 inspection Schedule and SEF-RE to schools some weeks ago. Since then we have had a number of discussions and delivered SEF-RE training to schools. As a result of this I have made a number of small, but I hope, useful changes to the two documents. In the schedule I have numbered what the 'inspectors will evaluate' in each section so that they match the equivalent sections in the SEF-RE. This will make cross-referencing the two documents significantly easier. In the SEF-RE itself, the boxes previously titled 'Evidence' are now called 'Action and Evidence' to allow for a statement that covers both the thing that the school has done and the evidence to support the action. From the training it became clear that delineating between 'evidence' and 'impact' is the real art of completing the SEF-RE. So often evidence appears in the impact box! Copies of the new version of the Schedule and SEF-RE can be found in the relevant section of the NORES website. We are hoping that all schools will have populated the new SEF-RE by the end of this year in readiness for the new S48 inspection process from September 2018.

Finally, could I remind all schools that it is a firm Ofsted requirement that Section 48 reports, once published, appear on school websites alongside Section 5 reports. This is a legal requirement. Please check that your current S48 report is in place. Thank you.

**The current CCRS courses** are running well in various parts of the diocese. Congratulations to those students who are coming to the end of their course and to others who continue to work hard on attending units and completing assignments. I will be entering into discussion with school leaders in Milton Keynes soon over the possibility of a new course beginning in September 2018. Incidentally, in a recent substantial research project by Liverpool Hope University, 89% of successful CCRS student felt that the training had been highly relevant in today's world and made a significant contribution to their work in school. Worth thinking about if you haven't yet considered CCRS!

## SECONDARY RE AND THEOLOGY

Paul McHugh

The blessings of this Easter Season to you all.

With our recent meeting in mind, please do let me know if you have any further thoughts about the use of the *Catholic Basics* resource (you all took a sample copy of the first part) within your school settings. It was initially envisaged as a simple, holistic primer in the Catholic Faith. It could be used in a number of settings and for different purposes (e.g. helping non-Catholic staff understand Catholic schools better or giving a refresher course to those who feel in need of it). Between now and the next academic year, I am keen to offer taster sessions around the Diocese to help me fine-tune its delivery. If you feel there is a suitable cohort at your school for such a taster session, please get in touch.

As you also know, I am planning summer visits to each of your schools in order to get an accurate picture of how things are in each school regarding RE (including attainment, challenges, opportunities, plans, and so on). This will also be a good chance for you to complete the RE section of the new SEF. In due course, I shall give you an update about the timing and shape of the planned visit.

There are one or two dates for your attention:

- Primary, Secondary and Chaplaincy Conference is at the NORES centre from 10am to 4pm, Friday, June 22.

- St Paul's in Milton Keynes are hosting a *Faith in Action* Day on Thursday, July 5.

In the meantime, may you find time after a hectic term to experience the peace of the risen Christ.

## PRIMARY RE AND THEOLOGY

Anne Marie McIntosh

**New Standards in RE** Thank you very much to those of you who are trialling the new materials for assessment. Please check the hard copy of the questionnaire (your RE Subject Leader has this) as this will give you the questions that you will be asked to give feedback on. Look out for the email from the CES with the online version of the questionnaire for you to give your feedback and in doing so shape the future of the assessment document.

**RE Subject Leader Meetings.** Please let me know the dates of these meetings in advance as I really want to attend to work alongside you and support you in your role. Thank you.

**RE Subject Leaders Day** Our joint day with the Secondary Heads of RE and Chaplains, in the Pentecost Term, will take place on **Friday 22 June, 2018**. This will be led by Fr David O'Malley sdb. Depending on the outcome of the feedback on the new standards we may have an additional day in the Pentecost term so that we are ready for a September launch. However, if the new materials are not ready by then we will cover this in our usual Advent Term meeting and begin using the new materials in January. Watch this space!

**Inset** The Come and See day this term was well received. Fr Kevin and I will be running another day on **Wednesday 6 June**.

This will be preparing for the Advent Term. These days are open to anyone teaching RE in the Primary School. Booking forms have been sent out with NORES News and by email **Just a thought.....** 'Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies.' *Mother Teresa*

**And finally** ...Don't forget if there is anything I can do to support you please do get in touch. Wishing you a happy and holy Easter and a well-deserved break

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION, CATECHESIS and CHAPLAINCY

Alex Heath

**Youth Mental Health First Aid Course** On Tuesday 3 July & Wednesday 4 July 2018 (9am-5pm) at the Bridgettine Guesthouse there will be a YMHFA course for anyone who teaches, works, lives with or cares for 8 to 18-year-olds. We are specifically offering this course for our Diocesan schools and parishes to support all who work with young people whether laity, clergy or religious. The course would be particularly suitable for members of SLTs, teachers, school chaplains/ chaplaincy co-ordinators, members of staff with pastoral roles and catechists among others. The training is designed to fit into four manageable sections:

– *What is mental health?* – *Depression and anxiety*

– *Suicide and psychosis* – *Self-harm and eating disorders*

Within each section there is clear focus on the issues faced by young people today, including bullying/ cyber bullying and substance misuse. The course also teaches the importance of promoting protective factors and good parenting. Everyone will receive a copy of the Youth MHFA manual which is an excellent support resource. When you have completed the course you will be a Youth Mental Health First Aider. The course will: give a deeper understanding around the issues that relate to young people's mental health and teach

practical skills that can be used every day, including being able to spot the signs and symptoms of mental health issues. Research and evaluation shows that taking part in an MHFA course raises awareness and promotes mental health literacy, reduces stigma around mental ill health, boosts knowledge and confidence in dealing with mental health issues, encourages people to start a conversation with a person who may be experiencing a mental health issue and promotes early intervention which enables recovery. Places are limited. For full details and to book a place on this course please contact the NORES office. [admin@nores.org.uk](mailto:admin@nores.org.uk)

**School Chaplaincy** - On behalf of our Diocese I will be attending, a national School Chaplaincy meeting in the Pentecost term where key issues will be reported on and explored. It will be interesting to see how this important area of the life of the Church is developing and to share common hopes and concerns. In terms of our Diocese our next joint Chaplaincy and RE Day will be with the Salesian priest, Fr David O' Malley, who has much experience, knowledge and wisdom to share about School Chaplaincy. This will take place on Friday 22 June

**Passing on the Faith Day** - On Saturday 17 March approximately 50 people gathered to hear David Wills who helped us explore some new resources in our mission of passing on the faith. The day took place at St Teresa's, Beaconsfield. Catechists, members of Bible Timeline groups, members of evangelisation teams and others interested in passing on the faith heard about the RELIT DVD programme and the GROWING UP CATHOLIC resources for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Thanks to David and all who helped and attended for making it such a good day. We pray that it will bear much fruit as our parishes and groups explore and use the resources profiled on the day.

**Preparing for Ascension & Pentecost** Finally, the Pentecost Novena resources, including a new Act of Worship (No 4) with the song [Come Holy Spirit Reign in Me] and a link to the *Thy Kingdom Come* initiative are now available. We hope you enjoy using them in your parishes, homes and schools. Go to: [www.northamptondiocese.org](http://www.northamptondiocese.org) /FAITH then EVANGELISATION and PENTECOST NOVENA 2018.

## NYMO

*Olivia Rzadkiewicz*

Youth takes centre stage at this year's Synod of Bishops, who are meeting in October to debate the topic: "Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment". The Synod was called by Pope Francis, who said in his introduction to the topic:

"The Church also wishes to listen to your voice, your sensitivities and your faith; even your doubts and your criticism. Make your voice heard, let it resonate in communities and let it be heard by your shepherds of souls." To find out more about the Synod, and its themes, NYMO has created a website where you will find resources, testimonies and more: <https://www.synod18.co.uk>

Also coming up is the Life Teen summer camp at Alton Castle in Staffordshire, open to young people aged 11-18. Summer camp is a high-adrenaline outdoor adventure including archery, mountain biking, climbing, raft-building and much more, including a full day out at Alton Towers. The fun wouldn't be complete without Mass, Reconciliation, Eucharistic adoration and inspiring talks from international speakers! Costs and further details can be found on NYMO website: <http://www.nymo.org/YoungPeople/Retreats/SummerCamp2018/tabid/154/Default.aspx>

## CAFOD NEWS

*Deborah Purfield*

**CAFOD**  
Just one world

It's not too late to make double the difference. The UK government will double all donations up to £5m until **12 May**. What opportunities that the extra £5 million will bring! Any fundraising that can be done in this period will have twice the impact. Thank you for all your support!

### Help us walk around the world

Pope Francis has launched *Share the Journey*, a new global campaign for the rights of people on the move. We are asking parishes and schools to organise walks and add the miles walked to our total

so that together we can walk the distance around the whole world - 24,900 miles. We will send a message to world leaders that they must step up too. We have resource and prayers to help and a petition to sign.

### School Resources

- Assemblies and prayer resources for primary and secondary schools
- Assemblies, prayers etc.. on Bl Oscar Romero (we are delighted that Pope Francis has approved his canonisation)

### Book your School Visits for Summer

This summer our CAFOD speakers will be visiting schools to run sessions on *Share the Journey*, Come and See Universal Church Units and other workshops. Do get in touch to book a visit. For more details or to get in touch :

[dpurfield@cafod.org.uk](mailto:dpurfield@cafod.org.uk), 01844 274 723

## MISSIO NEWS - Fr Wayne Coughlin

### GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN BEDFORD!



Students of St Thomas More Catholic School recently shared a wonderful morning of informative and prayerful Missio assemblies and workshops! **The activities of this papal charity are varied and are available to all our schools and parishes!** For more details please contact Fr Wayne Coughlin (01234 352607).

**MISSIO** Please pray for the work of Missio!

**MISSIO**

The Star of the New Evangelisation! For many years my personal devotion to Mary, the Mother of God found its greatest expression under her title "*Our Lady of Walsingham*". I did not imagine that my recent move to Bedford would change that. How wrong I was, for now I am a Guardian of Our

*Lady of Guadalupe!* Wonderfully this fits with my role as Diocesan Director of *Missio*, for our Blessed Mother of Guadalupe was described by Saint Pope John Paul II as the "star" and thus patroness of the New Evangelisation. In Mary's apparition to Juan Diego she became a guiding star for the millions of people who converted to the Catholic Faith. To that end, both Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis have invoked the prayers of Our Lady as the "Star of the New Evangelisation". I therefore hope that Our Lady of Guadalupe and St Juan Diego will be my patrons in promoting the work of *Missio*, the Pope's official charity for overseas mission! If you would like *Missio* to visit your school (just like in the photograph) and provide a fun, informative and prayerful assembly and/or workshop please contact me!