



NORES NEWS

July 2020 – The month dedicated to The Precious Blood

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

SUPPORTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND FORMATION

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From the Episcopal Vicar *Mgr Kevin*

I can only express **our thanks and admiration** for all in our schools who have done so much since the CoVid19 crisis began to care for our young people and their families as well as to continue their education. Just watching what was required when we prepared the church to open for private prayer was demanding enough, and it is ongoing. How that was multiplied in meeting all the requirements as to schools opened to more and more students was definitely more than could have ever been expected or imagined. we are continuing to live with these uncertain and challenging times, praying especially that there is not another spike in the crisis. I recommend that to your constant prayer remembering how many people continue to suffer from new infections and from the aftermath of the illness.

Our hope is that the summer brings some respite and relief for you all.

Bishop David is very much aware of the life of our schools and their place in his ministry and mission. He has written to those leaving our schools in years 11 and 13. A letter for all our Y6 pupils is on its way. Before the end of term a special YouTube assembly with Bishop David will be made available to all schools. It is a great way of him introducing himself to you all as he has not been able to visit you yet, and to offer you his prayers and blessing. As we come to the end of another year **we offer our prayers and thanks to all leaving our schools** as students, families, staff, governors and directors. It has been a remarkable finale to this academic year, and certainly very challenging. The crosses for **TwentyFive Years Service to Catholic Education** will find their way to the recipients and letters of thanks have or are being sent. May God bless you all in whatever future lies before you.

SCHOOL SERVICE CONTRIBUTIONS *The total received to date amounts to £69,510 from 33 schools. The diocese is very grateful for your cooperation in such challenging times. The contributions cover about a third of the costs of NORES while the remainder is funded from the diocesan levy on parishes.*

RACIAL JUSTICE – our bishops’ statement

We stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in the USA as they challenge the evil of racism and the brutal killing of George Floyd. As the US Bishops made clear: “we cannot turn a blind eye to these atrocities and yet still try to profess to respect every human life. We serve a God of love, mercy, and justice.”

“Systemic racism is embedded in our own society. The disproportionate harm suffered by BAME people throughout the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted profound inequalities, marginalisation and injustice here in the UK. The peaceful Black Lives Matter protests taking place in our towns and cities this week reflect the understandable anger that so many people feel about this.

“As Catholics we recognise that racism is an evil which must be opposed; we all have a responsibility for actively promoting racial justice. Whenever we ignore racism or dismiss BAME people’s experience of it, we are complicit in violations of human dignity. We pray for God’s help to overcome racism in all its forms and that we might protect everyone who suffers its consequences. We are all made in God’s image.”

Bishop Declan Lang

Lead Bishop for International Affairs

Bishop Paul McAleenan

Lead Bishop for Racial Justice

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishops-solidarity-with-sisters-and-brothers-in-usa-over-evil-of-racism-and-killing-of-george-floyd/>

PRAYING WITH OUR SCHOOLS

PRAYER INTENTIONS – *ask the school to pray with the Pope. We pray that today’s families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance*

FEAST DAYS

11 July St Bernard’s Preparatory, Slough

22 July St Mary Magdalene Primary, Milton Keynes

THE VINE & DIOCESAN E NEWSLETTER. *Please send all news items to Communications Manager, Neil Roseman communications@northamptondiocese.com*

The following columns are not available during the CoVid19 crisis

SECONDARY RE AND THEOLOGY Paul McHugh

PRIMARY RE

Anne Marie McIntosh

ADULT FAITH FORMATION,

CATECHESIS & CHAPLAINCY

Alex Heath

They will return from September

LITANIES and our PRAYER LIFE

Something for you to think about for the future

We often speak of life as a journey, a procession from womb to tomb. Some will be accustomed to processions for Corpus Christ, for May – perhaps also for Palm Sunday, for the Presentation feast.

“From a theological perspective it is important to emphasise that a procession is a sign of the Church’s condition, the pilgrimage of the People of God, with Christ and after Christ, aware that in this world it has no lasting dwelling. Through the streets of the earth it moves toward the heavenly Jerusalem. It is also a sign of witness to the faith that every Christian community is obliged to give to the Lord in the structures of civil society. It is also a sign of the Church’s missionary task which reaches back to her origins and the Lord’s command which sent her to proclaim the Gospel message of salvation.”

[Directory on Popular Piety and Liturgy n247 Rome 2001]

Processions are difficult to organise and to keep together.

Litanies, those repetitive call and response, especially when sung have often been a way of keeping a procession in order. Primarily they are a form of prayer reflecting on the purpose of the procession.

They are worth considering in depth – firstly for their content. You can see this in the Litany of the Precious Blood, appropriate for July the month s dedicated to Christ under that title. With our young people or anyone taking a few titles and exploring them is worthwhile, and while some may seem far from our experience they have their origin in people’s prayers.

Secondly I wonder whether we can explore more how processions of any form can be part of our prayer life.

They can be public parish moments – here in Luton when we walk through a Muslim area with the Blessed Sacrament the people watching understand a religious procession because it is part of their tradition, and are respectful. A procession can be within your own grounds or buildings. You can make a prayerful procession around your church, which also has then a catechetical spin off. School buildings and grounds lend themselves to processions too. It just takes some thinking and imagination..... Have a go and let us know.

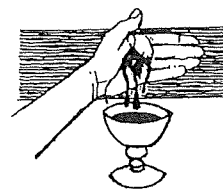
News from Rome : LITANY of LORETO

Christians have been using innumerable invocations and titles to call upon the Virgin Mary as the privileged and sure way to an encounter with Christ. These have been brought together over the centuries in the Litany of Loreto [qv] which is often prayed in our Catholic tradition following the Rosary. In these present times, marked by feelings of uncertainty and trepidation, the People of God devoutly recourse to her, full of affection and trust. Discerning this sentiment and welcoming the desires expressed the Supreme Pontiff, Pope Francis, wishes to provide that in the formulary of the litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary, called ‘The Litany of Loreto’, the invocations ‘Mater misericordiae’, ‘Mater spei’ and ‘Solacium migrantium’ should be inserted.”

According to directions, the invocation, “Mother of mercy” is to be inserted after “Mother of the Church”, “Mother of hope” after “Mother of Divine Grace” and “Solace of migrants” after “Refuge of sinners”.

A full copy of the LITANY of LORETO is available on the NORES WEBSITE

LITANY of the PRECIOUS BLOOD of JESUS



Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

God our Father in heaven *have mercy on us*
God the Son, Redeemer of the world
God the Holy Spirit
Holy Trinity, one God

Blood of Christ, only Son of the Father *be our salvation*
Blood of Christ, incarnate Word
Blood of Christ, of the new and eternal covenant
Blood of Christ, that spilled to the ground
Blood of Christ, that flowed at the scourging
Blood of Christ, dripping from the thorns
Blood of Christ, shed on the cross
Blood of Christ, the price of our redemption
Blood of Christ, our only claim to pardon
Blood of Christ, our blessing cup
Blood of Christ, in which we are washed
Blood of Christ, torrent of mercy
Blood of Christ, that overcomes evil
Blood of Christ, strength of the martyrs
Blood of Christ, endurance of the saints
Blood of Christ, that makes the barren fruitful
Blood of Christ, protection of the threatened
Blood of Christ, comfort of the weary
Blood of Christ, solace of the mourner
Blood of Christ, hope of the repentant
Blood of Christ, consolation of the dying
Blood of Christ, our peace and refreshment
Blood of Christ, our pledge of life
Blood of Christ, by which we pass to glory
Blood of Christ, most worthy of honour

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
graciously hear us, O Lord
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
spare us, O Lord
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us

V. Lord, you redeemed us by your love

R. You have made us a kingdom to serve our God

Let us pray

Father, by the blood of your Son, you have set us free and saved us from death. Continue your work of love within us that by constantly celebrating the mystery of our salvation we may reach the eternal life it promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord, AMEN.

*This litany was approved for the universal Church by
Pope St John XXIII in 1960*

THANKS and BEST WISHES to Mrs Jean O’Brien as she retires as head teacher of Our Lady of Peace Primary and Nursery School, and to **Mrs Jan Holden** appointed to the post as her successor. **Bishop David** has issued the Mandate and her induction will take place in the Advent term when circumstances permit.

From the DIRECTOR of SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT

Collette Curtis

A big thank you to all the Headteachers, Leaders and Governors of our schools across the diocese who have worked tirelessly throughout the lockdown to support the children and families within their communities. There are many examples of our schools playing an active part in reaching out to the most vulnerable ensuring they were receiving food boxes and food vouchers. When the virus was at its peak our schools were supporting the NHS with PPE equipment. All of our maintained schools have opened more widely to pupils in reception, year 1 and year 6 and Secondaries are seeing year 10 and 12 pupils for face to face contact with teachers. Planning for the wider opening of schools has required detailed planning by school and Trust leaders and huge commitment from governors in each of our schools and Trusts. I know that many Heads and Senior Leaders have not been able to have any break since the lockdown as a result of keeping the schools open throughout school holidays for the children of key workers and vulnerable children. Many have been involved in online meetings across schools in partnership areas and within the Trusts to support one another and share experience and expertise. Please be aware that Bishop David and the Trustees of the Diocese are aware of the work you are doing in very difficult circumstances.

Recruitment

In April 2019 the *Teaching Vacancies* website was launched in an attempt to reduce up to £75 million that schools spend each year to advertise teaching posts. This service is run by the Department of Education. After discussion with the CES the search function has been adapted to enable those using the service to search for jobs specifically in the Catholic sector. This can be accessed via this [link](#).

It is important to note that you search by inputting "Catholic" in to the "Keyword" search bar, rather than there being an advanced search option with titled options. This will then bring up any teaching roles within the specified geographical area of a Catholic school.

St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust have been working with an online recruitment firm in Luton mynewterm. As part of the development of this service I have been working with Wayne Cartmel, the Founder as they adapt their online application forms to mirror the CES application forms. This should be available soon.

Governor recruitment

As we get to the end of an Academic year, I know that there will be governors ready to move on and vacancies which will need to be filled. This is difficult with parishes still largely closed. Please remember that the website inspiring governance

<https://www.inspiringgovernance.org/> provides a platform for those willing to consider governance a

vehicle to register their interest, identify that they are Catholic and for those recruiting to look at who may be interested in their local area. It is a useful starting place to follow up any additional leads, talking to potential governors with a view to suitable applicants completing the usual application form through NORES. If you need support with recruitment you will find materials on the NORES website.

Updated employment policies

The updated capability policies are now available to download from the CES website. The policies can be accessed by following the link below:

<http://catholiceducation.org.uk/employment-documents/model-policies-and-procedures>

Schools should ensure that they inform their HR provider. I appreciate that many schools are under pressure dealing with re-opening at the moment, but it is hoped that they will be able to consult on the revised policies in time to implement them for the 20/21 academic year. In the 2 MATs this consultation will be run centrally. I have a list of key changes in the policy which I will be posted on the NORES website.

Relationships, sex and Health Education (RSHE)

Online training is available through the following link <https://rsetraining.catholiceducation.org.uk/> This is useful for all Leaders and governors preparing for the changes and for teachers delivering it. The curriculum was due to become statutory in September 2020 but as a result of the coronavirus outbreak this is being put back. Many of our schools will know that much of the content is already being covered. The training provides useful guidance for consultation with parents and case studies of how schools have been proactive in engaging parents.

The RSHE Mental Wellbeing teacher training module has been published as part of the Department for Education's wider package of support offered to support pupil and teacher mental health and wellbeing. The module can be accessed here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/teaching-about-mental-wellbeing>

The CES has also produced a list of resources for Catholic schools on the topic of Mental Health and Wellbeing which can be found here: <https://www.catholiceducation.org.uk/schools/mental-health-resources>

Best Practice NPQML and NPSL courses this academic year

I am acutely aware of the position of a number of colleagues across the Diocese who signed up for the NPQML and NPQSL courses at the start of the year. A number of colleagues deferred their face to face sessions in order to meet as a cohort of leaders working in Catholic schools. These face to face sessions have subsequently been replaced by online sessions. Best Practice administrators are communicating with you directly but to ensure the school is not charged at a

higher rate please note your partner as the Catholic Diocese of Northampton.

Vulnerable Children National Charities Strategic Relief Fund - The Government has published information about funding to support charities working with vulnerable children. Details of the £7.6 million fund and how to apply can be found here: [Vulnerable Children National Charities Strategic Relief Fund](#)

An **International Formation Program** is to be offered at St Mary's Twickenham from Thursday 11 to Saturday evening, 13 July 2019. It will be run in partnership between ACU and St Mary's Twickenham. The flyer which is now live on the St Mary's website. The unit we are offering in the LNE is called Creating Centres of the New Evangelisation: Catholic Schools, Parishes and Church Ministries. There will be a focus on the CSYMA four phase model of implementation.

MISSIO NEWS

Fr Wayne Coughlin



In a book I purchased several years ago I read : "Rosie lived in small village with a rather impressive Church. Rosie knew it was a special place. It was where her parents got married and where she and her sister were Baptised. It was a place that she liked to visit. ... When Rosie was at the Sunday service she noticed that the Church was full and that there were many different people there. Some were much older than her and some were as young as she was." However, it was this bit which amused me: "All the people, Rosie marvelled, listened very intently to what was being said by the man at the front. Well, perhaps not all the people were listening that intently, he did speak for a rather long time!" There is much in that extract that fills me with hope. Not least of which are the people listening intently to the man at the front! Seriously, it was the fact that the Church was full of people of various backgrounds and ages. The Church - the Body of Christ - is only fully herself when she contains this rich diversity of peoples. Anything less and she is no longer the Church founded by Christ, for no one is excluded from our fellowship. As members of the Body of Christ through Holy Baptism our shared endeavour is to build-up the Kingdom of God; this is the joint mission of the local parish and the Catholic school. Such missionary endeavour is only possible when Christ is at the centre of our lives. Such a life, remarks one biblical scholar, will be infinitely richer and happier. I have personally found this to be true! Therefore, what the Church needs more than ever are intentional disciples who can evoke within other people a desire to know the saving power and joy of the Gospel. It is for this reason that we exist as the Church. It for this reason that I passionately believe in the missionary endeavour of the Church and which, through my work with this great papal charity, brings real joy to my vocation as a Priest. To learn more about the work of Missio please visit our website or contact me directly - I would love to hear from you!

Fr Wayne



CAFOD NEWS

Deborah Purfield

We want to say a huge "thank you" to all our schools and parishes for their support, both financial and spiritual, this academic year. We couldn't do our great work without you! Over these last months, CAFOD has highlighted the way that Covid19 is disproportionately affecting the poorest communities around the world and have needed your support to fund projects to deliver change. "In little over a month, the Catholic community of England and Wales have raised nearly £1m for CAFOD's Coronavirus Appeal. It's now over to our local experts and volunteers who have the knowledge and experience to help stop coronavirus from devastating the most vulnerable communities in the world. Your donations will ensure that these workers can put our global, three-part plan into place so that we can save lives now, protect the progress we've made together towards ending poverty, and build a world that is kinder, healthier and more ready to deal with the future." Geoff O'Donoghue, CAFOD's Director of Operations, This three-part plan is called "Survive, Rebuild and Heal". Its ideals are ones which are just as relevant to us here in the UK as we begin to rebuild our own lives and communities. Have a look at [the CAFOD website](#) and please share it.

Summer of Hope

You are invited to recreate at home the events you will miss this summer and have fun transforming them into a sign of hope through raising money for [CAFOD's Coronavirus-appeal](#). Great to see what you have all been up to so far! See link: cafod.org.uk/summerofhope

Sign our petition

Please sign our petition asking the PM to ensure that the most vulnerable people are the priority in the UK's international efforts as well as at home. So far we have had over 4700 petitions signed online which is the highest number ever for online signatures! However, our petition signatures usually number 30k in total and we would like to be as ambitious as possible even in lockdown, so do please keep sharing with all your networks : [SIGN the online campaign petition](#)
*Lord, You are a light that shines in the darkest times,
You comfort and console us in times of fear,
May we comfort each other, even as we keep apart.
May we follow the light of your love and spread hope.*

Amen

JULY ends with the feast of ST IGNATIUS of LOYOLA, the founder of the Jesuits, an order heavily invoked in education. His motto, AMDG - AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM, [FOR THE GREATER GLORY of GOD] used to be written t the top of every piece of work in some schools. It's a good thought to remember.