



Secondary Schools Newsletter June 2006

*Whirlwind Spirit
Whirlwind Spirit of God,
Roar through our timidities and fears,
Shake the foundations of our ill-placed securities,
Sweep away the cobwebs of our apathy,
Blow down the walls that separate us, one from another.
Then into all our empty spaces, breathe
re-strengthened courage to challenge injustice,
renewed belief in the urgency of our vocation,
revitalised passion to change our lifestyles,
re-dedication to speak only words that build and unite.
Let gentle breeze and still small voice
become in us today
mighty wind and loud proclamation.
Make of us a Pentecost people!
Amen*

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Hopefully you managed to have a peaceful half term. The prayer above was taken from <http://www.cafod.org.uk/resources/worship/prayers> There are many other examples of useful material for liturgy on this site. Also useful is www.caseresources.org though be warned some of the material takes a while to download.

Thank you

For all your help in the planning and preparation of the Secondary Schools' Mass. The Bishop also wishes to extend his thanks to those of you who worked so hard to make it a success. There are some pictures available on the main Clifton web site but we took more on the day. If you would like to see these or use any of them for your own newsletters please contact the department. St Augustine's did a wonderful job with the music this year. If any other school would like to volunteer to take on this responsibility for next year (or for any other part of the Mass) please let me know.

News in Brief

Attainment levels in RE.

Comments and examples have now been received. NIBRA is meeting in June to make the final revisions and the levels will be in use from September. We expect to provide training on these levels in the new academic year. If any secondary school, (except St Rose's) is using P Levels could they please contact me as soon as possible.

World Youth Day 2008

Tuesday 15 July - Sunday 20 July 2008. These are the official dates although the pilgrimage from England will start at least a week earlier. The Theme will be "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses." Acts 1:8 Preparations for this event start now; those students who will be 18 or over in July 2008 will be eligible to register. If you would like a presentation on World Youth Day please contact me to arrange this.

Useful dates for next year.

First Sunday of Advent: 3rd December 06
Gaudete Sunday: 18th December 06
The Epiphany: Sunday 7th January 07
The Baptism of the Lord: Monday 8th January 07
Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas): Friday 2nd February 07
Shrove Tuesday: 20th February 07
Ash Wednesday: 21st February 07
Palm Sunday: 1st April 07
Good Friday: 6th April 07
Easter Sunday: 8th April 07
Ascension: Thursday 17th May 07
Pentecost: Sunday 27th May 07
The Body and Blood of Christ: Thursday 7th June 07

Dates for your Diary

1. Chaplaincy Day And Heads of RE Day Friday 16th June 2006

This will be a joint day for heads of RE and Chaplains and will be run by CAFOD. 2007 will see the anniversary of "Populorum Progressio". CAFOD will be producing a range of materials to help schools get the most out of this document. This session will be an awareness raising day. Cafod will present examples of projects that can be undertaken in schools, share their resources, and explain how their work can be used across the curriculum to support the distinctiveness of Catholic Schools. Remember Cafod have great resources on their website www.cafod.org.uk A poster advertising this event is attached to the end of the newsletter.

2. Challenging RE 11-16 For Bristol and Swindon Schools

Course Leader: **LAT BLAYCOCK**

Venue: Kingsweston House, Kingsweston, Bristol

Date: **Monday 3 July 2006**, Time: 9.30 am – 3.30 pm

The Aims of this course are:

- to review your RE and make it even more inspiring and creative
- to investigate ways to raise pupil motivation and achievement
- to explore practical activities to take back to the classroom alongside theoretical background
- to meet with other secondary colleagues in the field of RE

Please apply **by 21 June 2006** to: Carolyn Manuel, Clerk to SACRE, Bristol Education Centre, Sheridan Road, Horfield, Bristol, BS7 0PU.
Telephone: 0117 903 1254 or Email: gds@bristol-city.gov.uk

3. **GCSE Exams.**

If you have any comments or concerns to make about the RE papers your students sat, which may be of benefit to all then please e mail them in as soon as possible.

4. **Dates for the New Academic year**

At present we are waiting for final confirmation from the Bishop for the date of the annual mass for all who work in Catholic Education. As soon as we have this we will send an update round with all the dates for next term included.

5. **Vocations**

A DVD called "Fishers of Men" has been produced by the American Vocations office. A couple of schools have used this and found that the material provokes discussion in class. The DVD is being distributed by TV Access, whose information is below.

TV Access

641 North Avenue

Glendale Heights, IL 60139

Phone: 1-800-944-9134

Website: <http://www.tvaccess.com/>

Email: orders@tvaccess.com

Finally

May I take this opportunity to thank you for all your work this year. I hope you have a well deserved rest this summer.

Ann Fowler

Secondary Schools Adviser

CAFOD

just one world

Education for Global Justice in the Secondary Curriculum

“I have come that they may have life and have it to the full” (John 10.10)

A day to be held in Alexander House on **Friday 16th June** and led by Frank Sudlow from CAFOD

Aims of the day:

- Understand more about the Catholic tradition of Education for Justice in the Global Context
- Learn more about the resources and support available from CAFOD, including ideas for class and whole school activities, drawing on our mission and ethos.
- Understand the philosophy behind **Populorum Progressio** and how it applies to us today as we prepare to celebrate the 40th anniversary of this document.
- To make links with the key elements of the citizenship programme.

This day is suitable for all those involved in Chaplaincy, Religious Education and Citizenship within the secondary school.

Cost £30 per person including lunch.

Day begins at **9.45am** with Tea and coffee for a **10.00am** start.

We are called to respond to the challenge of the Gospel to bring good news to the poor, to set prisoners free, to bring sight to the blind, to instil in our students and colleagues a passion for justice.

*If not now, when?
If not us, then who?
If not together, then how?
There will never be a better time.*

The challenge is for us today

