



## Primary Schools Newsletter June 2006

*Life giving Spirit, we open our hearts to receive you,  
That we may learn how deeply you are present to us.  
Bring us your love, peace and joy.  
Complete the work you have begun in us.  
Your activity is beyond all human words.  
You are the love that unites us together  
You are the strength that gives us hope to endure everything  
You have recreated us in the image of Christ.  
Continue to renew us today and everyday of our lives*

If you are looking for useful websites to support your ICT programme or ideas for liturgy you may find the following websites helpful for the season of Pentecost.

- <http://www.cafod.org.uk/resources/worship> then follow the link to prayers, then prayers in the church's year
- <http://cowo.culham.ac.uk/assemblies/> The Cullam site in general has some very good assemblies for all ages.
- [www.caseresources.org](http://www.caseresources.org) This site has links to a number of ideas for Pentecost, if you are trying to download the PowerPoint on the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit even with broadband it may take a few minutes.

### Useful dates for next year:

First Sunday of Advent: 3rd December 06  
Gaudate 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

## News in Brief

### 1. **The Primary Schools Mass:**

Thank you to schools making a prompt reply to the invitation to come to the Primary Schools' Mass. Because of the decision to set a limit on numbers in the Cathedral some schools this year are not able to take part in the Mass. Our apologies. We are aware of the distress this has caused and are seeking to rectify the situation next year. Unfortunately there is nothing we can do to change the physical limits of the Cathedral and safety is an issue. We are asking schools to check their numbers carefully and make sure only year six pupils are included and that you haven't overestimated numbers. Even a small reduction might allow some other schools to take part.

### 2. **Attainment levels in RE.**

The information from schools across the country who trialled the new levels has now been received. There is a meeting of NIBRA in June to finalise the levels. Trisha will be arranging inset on this for everyone and exemplar material should be produced to support the introduction of the new levels. If any school is also using P Levels, material is also available for these.

### 3. **Primary Modules**

A reminder that the last two modules for the Primary Certificate in Religious Education take place on June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Anyone wishing to apply for next year's course should contact Jenny on 0117 9025593.

### 4. **Heads Conference**

This will be held in Bath in October on the theme of "On the Way to Life" our main speakers are Bishop Declan and Tina Beattie. Details should already have been sent out separately to heads and are available from our website.

### 5. **Faith Alive**

We would welcome support from schools who are able to get to Taunton for the following event: *On July 18<sup>th</sup> there will be an **ecumenical** celebration for young people by young people exploring the meaning of faith today* At **7pm St George's Church Taunton. Everyone is welcome.**

Students will be asked to explore in words, music, art, drama, mime and poetry their reflections on the world around them and the influence their faith has on their lives.

**Categories will be:**

**Creation** - the good things (praise)

**Creation-** what went wrong (penitential)

**How Jesus asks us to live-**his teaching / parables

**What Jesus means to me in my life-**discipleship/praise/awe/wonder

The target age range is 9-14 year olds. Bishop Declan will be leading the celebration. The aim is that young people themselves will create the liturgy, using

their own ideas and reflections. For those expressing their ideas in art there will be an opportunity to display their work.

I realise that Taunton is too far for many of you, but if you do have chaplaincy or worship groups it would be wonderful if you could bring a group to support this event.

**Finally**

Trisha is making good progress and hopes to return in the near future. Please include her in your prayers.