



Pastoral Resources E-bulletin – December 2013 - Issue No: 1

A WORD FROM ARCHBISHOP LEO CUSHLEY



My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Warm fraternal greetings to you as 2013 draws to a close and as we begin a new liturgical year.

Although I have only recently arrived in Edinburgh, I have already been impressed by the heroic amount of work being achieved by the comparatively small number of priests and religious here, and by the laity - men, women and young people – who cheerfully give of their time and talent to proclaim the kingdom of God in the world through their prayer and action in this very spread-out diocese. I have now met most of the clergy and religious and I have greeted hundreds of people. Though there

are tens of thousands more of you still to meet (!), I have been very touched by the welcome I have received. I only hope to serve you as well as you deserve, with the gentle but firm hand that our Holy Father Pope Francis has asked me to use in your regard.

The Archdiocese has not been without its troubles this year and this has tested the goodwill and charity of many of us, especially those engaged in a special way in the pastoral action of the Archdiocese, clergy and people alike. As I thank each one of you for your perseverance and courage, let me encourage you to continue to work together for the healing of our church at every level. As St Paul gently reminds us, **“Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God has forgiven you in Christ”** (Eph 4:32).

As the Christian New Year begins and as we prepare for the Lord’s Advent among us, consider if, when Christ returns, he will find charity in your heart. If not, let me ask you to leave your pride at the door and to enter the church forgiven and purified in your conscience, especially through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This is surely the best way for us all to be reunited in charity, and to be ready to embrace the Lord at his appearing, with humble and loving hearts.

May God bless you and your loved abundantly, this Christmas and in 2014.

+Leo Cushley
Archbishop of St Andrews & Edinburgh

SOWING SEEDS – Children’s Liturgy Workshops

As we begin the ‘YEAR OF MATTHEW’ we will explore the new diocesan resource for Children’s Prayer with the Sunday Gospels.

Starting **2nd December** - Gillis Centre, Edinburgh, at 7.00pm

2nd December - The Gillis Centre, 7.00pm

4th December - St Francis Xavier, Falkirk, 7.00pm

9th December - St Martin of Tours, Tranent, 7.30pm

To register email: patricia.carroll@staned.org.uk Or telephone 0131 623 8942

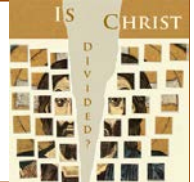


Celebrating the Week of prayer for Christian Unity 2014 with Archbishop Leo Cushley

Wednesday 22nd January, 7.30pm, St Margaret’s Chapel, Gillis Centre

For more information on this please go to the website: www.ctbi.org.uk

For printed resources and a pamphlet in English please [click here](#)



New session sheets for leading **CHILDREN’S LITURGY** in the parish.

Click here to see attached sample sheet:

Children’s Liturgy 1st Sunday of Advent

RCIA NEWCAT

– A resource with session sheets for discussion connecting the Catechism of the Catholic Church and **YOUCAT**, as we now move into a time of more intense teaching in the Catechumenate Please click here to see a sample – [NEWCat1- Baptism](#)

REFLECTION EVENING ON CONFIRMATION

Gillis Centre, Edinburgh

13th January 2014

7.00 pm

St Andrew’s, Livingston

22nd January 2014

7.00 pm

Available from 3rd February - RITE of ELECTION preparation booklet available for **RCIA groups** – If you are an RCIA group leader you can request this online.

27th March - RETREAT EVENING, for Catechumens and Candidates 7.00 pm venue to be decided

Marriage and Family Life

sally.mcelroy@staned.org.uk

The preparatory document for the **Extraordinary Synod of Bishops on Marriage and the Family** is available on the Archdiocesan website. Responses to the consultation questionnaire should be sent to the email below by **15th December 2013**.

International Marriage week is 9th to 16th February 2014. This event gives parishes or deaneries an opportunity to recognise Christian married life, to extend an invitation to those who are preparing for marriage to be blessed at this stage of their lives or for couples celebrating a special anniversary to renew their vows. Support and resources for all of this are available from Sally McElroy in the **Marriage and Family Life Agency**.

Contact sally.mcelroy@staned.org.uk

Parish Marriage Preparation Day, Sacred Heart, Lauriston	Saturday 11th January 2014
Mass to celebrate international marriage week in St Francis Xavier's Parish, Falkirk	Sunday 16th February 2014
Parish Marriage Preparation Day, St Peter's, Morningside	Saturday 1st March 2014



WWW Weekly Wednesday Witness for Young Adults

18 – 40+ year olds

Every Wednesday at The Gillis Centre, 7.30 - 9.00 pm

- Share your Faith**
- Grow in Faith**
- Celebrate your Faith**

Time for reflection, sharing and prayer followed by a chance to chat and have some refreshments.

Beginning Wednesday 15th January 2014, 'WHY' DVD Series by Fr Marcus Holden & Fr Andrew Pinsent. Sharing the richness of the Catholic Faith – Why God? Why Christ? Why The Church?

Why not come along and meet new people, learn more about and share your faith and develop new insights and friendships. It is **YOUR** group. **YOU** can make a difference and it can make a difference to **YOU!**

Come and see and hear and share.....and bring a friend.

For more information, contact

anne.mcevoy@staned.org.uk

EXPO – EUCHARISTIC ADORATION for Young People

A monthly Archdiocesan celebration at a different Parish/Deanery, particularly for those between **16 and 40 years**. The half hour of prayer, Scripture, reflection, silence and music in the presence of the **Blessed Sacrament** follows celebration of the Eucharist. There are refreshments and a chance to meet new people and spend time together afterwards. **Why not come along, even if it is your first time and enjoy the company of other young people.**

St Kentigern's, Barnton, Edinburgh, EH26 8NE	Sunday 15 th Dec 2013	Mass at 10.15am
St Mary Star of the Sea, Leith Edinburgh, EH6 6AW	Sunday 26 th Jan 2014	Mass at 11.30am
Sacred Heart, Lauriston St, Edinburgh, EH 7QR	Sunday 23 rd Feb 2014	Before Mass at 8pm

Café Gospel Series

Last Tuesday of each month, from 7-9pm at CAFÉ CAMINO—St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh.

A new faith sharing experience for those aged 18 - 40+, in a relaxed formal atmosphere with guest speakers and an opportunity for discussion on relevant issues pertinent to young Christians adults today!

17th Dec - 'I Thirst' - Sr. Caritas (Missionaries of Charity)

28th Jan 2014 - 'The Camino Experience' - Andrew Cassidy - OMI Youth Worker, St Mary Star of the Sea, Leith

DATES for 2014: 25th Feb, 25th Mar, 29th April, 27th May, 24th June



Other dates for your Diary:

'Stations of the Nativity' - **Sunday 8th December** – 6.00 pm at St Patrick's, Cowgate EH1 1TQ

Young Adult J&P Retreat - '**Blessed are the Peacemakers**'

Saturday 8th March 2014 10.00 am – 5.00 pm at St John Vianney's, Gilmerton EH17 7HN

Youth Ministry Training Course - **Module 8 'Evangelisation and Catechesis'**

Sat/Sun **15th/16th March** at St Francis Xavier's, Falkirk FK1 5AT

YOUTH for LOURDES, Information Meeting

Sunday 8th December 2013, St. Joseph's Convent, 43 Gilmore Place Edinburgh EH3 9NG

If you are interested in finding out more about the **2014 Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes**, come along to our meeting. Information about the Pilgrimage including Price and Travel Arrangements will be given.

Annual Lourdes Carol Service at 3.00pm

YFL Meeting at 4.00pm

For those who can't make the Carol Service, please feel free to come along for the short meeting at 4.00pm.

For more information contact: youthforlourdes@hotmail.co.uk or call Kris on 07747867003.



24th January: **Edinburgh Catholic Schools Community Mass: St. Catherine's Convent**, 7.00 pm.
This is open to all those who work in Catholic Schools in Edinburgh and also to retired member of staff.

27th January: **Preparing Children for the Sacraments: Using the new 'On the Way' Programme.**
Led by Brid O'Brien and Patricia Carroll. The Gillis Centre, Edinburgh. 3.30 - 5pm.

23rd February – Sunday 2nd March, **Catholic Education Week.** This year's theme: **'Shining the Light of Faith'**

7th March **'Values for Leadership'**, A day for all those interested in exploring Leadership in Catholic Education.
Conforti Institute.

Further details on any of the above from irene.furlong@staned.org.uk

Justice and Peace

19th January, *World Day for Migrants and Refugees* (Theme; Towards a better world)

This is the day the Catholic Church celebrates the contribution of migrants to the communities they are part of and draws attention to the plight of refugees around the world.

To mark this day, our **Archbishop +Leo Cushley** is inviting members of migrant communities across the archdiocese to celebrate with him the contribution of the migrant communities to the life of the Church in Scotland.

The celebration will be held at **11.30am, on Sunday 19th January, in St Mary's Metropolitan Cathedral Edinburgh**, followed by a reception and keynote address in Cathedral Hall.

Parishes will be receiving a letter in the near future, with further details and invitation to send two delegates.

25th January - 2nd February, *Poverty & Homelessness Action Week.* See www.actionweek.org.uk

Fairtrade Fortnight: 24th Feb-9th March

Fairtrade Fortnight will take place between **Monday 24th February and Sunday 9th March 2014**. This is a fantastic opportunity to promote Fairtrade in your parish as a very practical way to support and empower the poor, and make a personal commitment to work for Justice and Peace. If you have a Fairtrade rep in the parish they may have already ordered materials for Fairtrade Fortnight. If you don't have a rep, or they would like some help, I can order material ordered for your parish. **Please let me know, by email, by Monday 6th January** if you would like me to do this for you.

Independence Referendum groups

Next spring the **Justice & Peace** office is encouraging parishes across our archdiocese to participate in reflection groups in advance of the Independence referendum.

The aim of the groups is to encourage parishioners to reflect on the referendum through the prism of faith; in particular to consider what their hopes are for our nation, what values we wish to foster etc., whatever the outcome of the vote in September.

Miriam McHardy (J&P coordinator) will be providing training for individuals willing to lead the groups in each deanery as follows:

TRAINING IN FEBRUARY - All sessions will start at 7.30pm and finish by 9.30pm.		
St David's/ Mid/East Lothian Deanery	St Martin's Tranent	Tuesday 4 th February
St Mary's/ West Lothian Deanery	St Peter's Livingston	Thursday 6 th February
St Margaret's & St Andrew's/ Fife deanery	St Marie's Kirkcaldy	Tuesday 11 th February
St Giles/ Edinburgh Deanery	St Albert's, Edinburgh	Thursday 13 th February
St Mungo & St Ninian's/ Falkirk/ Stirling Deanery	St Francis Xavier's, Falkirk	Tuesday 18 th February
St Cuthbert's/ Borders deanery	St Cuthbert's Melrose	Thursday 20 th February

We hope that one or two individuals will participate in the training, then lead a group in their own parish over a 5 week period, either in Lent or after Easter.

Training evenings will include group facilitation and group materials.

Saturday 8th March

Young Adult retreat

Saturday 15th March

Justice & Peace retreat, led by Br Stephen Smyth, General Sec of ACTS

"One body in Christ – Many the gifts"

Times to be confirmed