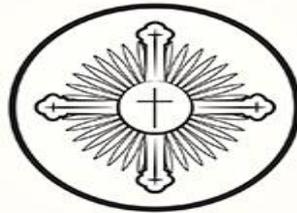


Proclaim'15

building missionary parishes



Proclaim '15 - A National Evangelisation Initiative

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster, introduced this key evangelisation initiative to the Diocese.

A project of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, it is designed to affirm the good work that is already being done by the Catholic community, and to provide resources and events to profile and develop new expressions of Catholic joy and missionary outreach. It is inspired by Pope Francis' writings.



“This pioneering initiative, inspired by Pope Francis’ *Evangelii Gaudium*, is for all clergy, religious and lay people. Why? Because we all share the one mission –

to PROCLAIM the joy of the Gospel.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster

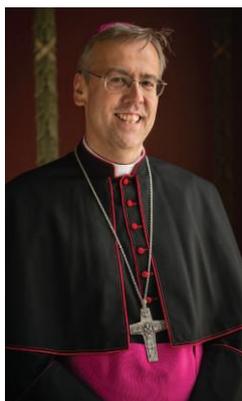
Evangelii Gaudium 28



“The parish is the presence of the Church in given territory, an environment for hearing God’s word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration. In all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be evangelisers. It is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a centre of constant missionary outreach. We must admit, though, that the call to review and renew our parishes has not yet sufficed to bring them nearer to people, to make them environments of living communion and participation, and to make them completely mission-oriented.”

Rt Rev Nicholas Hudson, Westminster

Bishop with oversight of the National Catholic Evangelisation Conference



“Inspired by Pope Francis, **Proclaim ’15** invites the Catholic community confidently and simply to share the joy of its faith. The first Christians provoked questions in the hearts and minds of those who had not yet encountered Jesus through their love, generosity and joy. Pope Francis invites us to rekindle this ‘Joy in the Gospel’

in the hearts of believers and non-believers alike. Please do get involved in **Proclaim '15**, a parish-based initiative of Christ-centred joy, so as to make our communities signposts to Jesus Christ, the Lord of Life.”

What can we do in our Parish?

Each parish has been asked to choose three Evangelising Initiatives thinking about what we already do well in Evangelisation and what more might we do in the light of *Evangelii Gaudium*?

Some parishioners gathered together with Father John (you will probably have seen the invitations to attend the meetings in the parish newsletter) and took the decision to focus on the following three areas:

1. To deepen further our prayer life through looking at the variety of opportunities for prayer available and endeavouring to extend these.
2. To extend and develop the social action work in our parish.
3. To endeavour to deepen the sense of belonging of non-churchgoing Catholics in our parish.

Intercessors

A network of people has pledged to pray for the success of the *Proclaim '15* initiative.

Could you commit to pray for the organising team and all those involved in the project?

Please will you support all of the Proclaim ventures with your prayer and your penance?

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church we read: "Intercession is a prayer of petition which leads us to pray as Jesus did." (2634) "...Christian intercession participates in Christ's, as an expression of the communion of saints." (2635)

Your prayers are needed to ensure this initiative will bear the fruit that it has the potential to bear.

Will you start straight away?

FOR INSPIRATION: POPE FRANCIS

“One form of prayer moves us particularly to take up the task of evangelisation and to seek the good of others: it is the prayer of intercession.” [*Evangelii Gaudium 281*](#)

Prayer for Evangelisation



PROCLAIM '15 PRAYER

Loving Father,

***You so loved the world that you sent us your only Son,
that we might believe in him and have eternal life.***

***May we encounter Jesus Christ anew this day
and live the Good News with joy.***

***Through the power of your Holy Spirit,
help us to "go out to the whole world and proclaim"
our faith with confidence.***

***Give us the courage to witness to the Joy of the Gospel
by our words and actions.***

Help our parish to become more welcoming and missionary,

so that you may be known and loved by all people.

***We make this prayer through Our Lord Jesus Christ Your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,***

one God forever and ever,

Amen.

Our Lady, Star of the New Evangelisation, Pray for us.

Blessed John Henry Newman, Pray for us.

St Therese of Lisieux, Pray for us.

Where can I find out more?

www.catholicnews.org.uk

www.rcdow.org.uk/faith/proclaim-westminster

www.catholicscomehome.org

kit4catholics.org.uk

FOR	INSPIRATION:	POPE	FRANCIS
<p>"We cannot forget that evangelisation is first and foremost about preaching the Gospel to those who do not know Jesus Christ or who have always rejected him. Many of them are quietly seeking God, led by a yearning to see his face." <i>Evangelii Gaudium 15</i></p>			