

2012 Issue no. 9 Portsmouth Diocese

KIT NEWSLETTER



YEAR OF FAITH/NEW EVANGELISATION

a reflection

Today we live in a secular, pluralist society. Of course God, being everywhere, is woven into the fabric of our society, but goes unrecognised by so many.

As Archbishop Fisichella, president of the council to promote the New Evangelisation says, *"God is not denied in the modern world but unknown. Looking at us, probably no one would recognise we are Christian because our style of life is the same as non-believers"*.

As we go about our daily lives, how aware of God are we? Perhaps, during this Year of Faith, we ourselves could become more aware that God is:

In my eyes when I see beauty in unexpected places
 In my ears when I am moved by someone's story
 In my hands when I reach out to welcome or care for someone
 On my tongue when I eat life-giving bread
 In my feet when I go the extra mile
 In my sleep, healing and restoring my weary, broken body
 In my heart when I love and feel loved
 In the emptiness I spend my life trying to fill

Lord, help us to reflect in our lives the hope and joy and freedom and love of who we are as Easter people so that we are real and effective witnesses of our faith in Jesus Christ. Amen.

WELCOME to our 2012 Newsletter. We hope you enjoy it.

Have you visited our Facebook? Or our web site?

Your comments on these and anything here are eagerly awaited.

If you have any photos of interest to KIT we would love to put them in the next issue and on the internet.



ARE YOU HESITANT? Many of those reading this Newsletter, may have attended one of the Crossing the Threshold National Days, but still be nervous about starting a Ministry to Non church-going Catholics in their own parish? Be brave! God will be with you reaching out to his lost and loved ones through your hands, especially in this Year of Faith. Tell us the name of your parish so we can support you in prayer.

CALLING ALL KIT GROUPS !!

If you would like to add your parish group's link to our website please send it to enquiries@kit4catholics.org.uk

O Lady of Mental Peace, Mother of Tranquility and Mother of Hope, look upon me in this time of my weakness and unrest.

Teach my searching heart to know that God's Love for me is unchanging and unchangeable;
 and, that true human love can only begin and grow by touching His Love.

A KIT Group Visiting

'Thank you so much for giving up your time to visit me.'

'We weren't sure where we fitted into the church community once our children grew up but now we know we haven't been forgotten.'

These are just two comments recalled from visits since our KIT programme began at St. Edward's in Chandlers Ford.

We launched the scheme in January 2011, after preliminary training meetings and pairing of volunteers. Letters are sent to a small group of families at a time, explaining the visits and giving an opportunity to opt out of receiving a visit if they wish.

Visits vary in length and ambience: people relax and enjoy talking once it has been established that we are not 'checking up' but are making a social call. One visit has been enough to encourage a return to Sunday Mass in at least one instance, with the support of a 'friend' to ease walking in and re-joining the community.

We have listened to anxieties, gripes and enthusiasm about faith matters, have always been welcomed and often walk away feeling uplifted and moved.



the KIT stand at
"Crossing the Threshold"

Please do CONTACT US

- to order KIT manual, CD or Welcome Pack, including postage and packing:

Manual £6.50 (only 100 copies left)

CD £8.00

Welcome pack £15.00

Order from enquiries@kit4catholics.org.uk

Cheques made payable to PRCDTR-KIT

- for your nearest KIT group
- if you are considering starting a KIT group
- for any questions or comments

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD



KIT goes national!

In 2010 a representative from KIT became a member of a National core group set up by the Catholic Bishops Conference (CBC), to co-ordinate outreach to non-churchgoing Catholics. Other representatives came from Alpha, CaFE, Caritas, Landings, Maryvale Institute, National Board of Catholic Women, R.C.I.A and several dioceses.

Together we planned a series of initiatives across England and Wales, called 'Crossing the Threshold', to equip parishes and dioceses with the resources, training and enthusiasm for this outreach ministry.

Since that time 5 regional conferences have taken place, in York, Birmingham, Crawley, Westminster and Cardiff, with a 6th planned in Liverpool on February 2nd 2013. Up to 200 people have attended each of these conferences, including 4 archbishops and several bishops. KIT has been a presence at each conference, presenting workshops and distributing KIT resources to parishes.

The feedback from these conferences has been extremely positive. For details, visit the CBC website:

www.cbcew.org.uk/crossingthethreshold

As a follow up to the conferences:

- An e-manual is being prepared as a reference point for all those wishing to promote this ministry.
- A training programme is being prepared, exploring ways of being Church in today's world.

Ministry to our non churchgoing Catholic family:

Susan was 'found' during a home visit and confessed that she had stopped going to church when she fell ill, and was now unable to sit through a long Mass.

A KIT team member arranged to take her to a weekday Mass.

That Mass is now the highlight of her week and she is so happy to be back in touch.



A useful book for your parish:

"A Community of disciples - Making your parish all it can be" written by Des Robertson, a pastoral leader in the Archdiocese of Cardiff.