Caritas Calling! – **May/June 2020**

News and Dates of interest in *May*

News just in from the **CAFOD campaigns team** news@reply.cafod.net - 30/04/2020 14:02

1. Time to act: we can help the poorest and most vulnerable affected by coronavirus

Coronavirus has now spread worldwide, with confirmed cases in many countries where CAFOD works. The spread of this virus throughout countries with poor health systems will be devastating, and the threat to people's livelihoods is grave. Out of love for our brothers and sisters, ask the UK government to ensure that the most vulnerable and marginalised people are the priority in the UK's international efforts as well as at home. **Sign our petition now**

We must never forget that we are one global family, united in this struggle. Now is not the time to build barriers, but for the world to unite in love and compassion.

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'The God Who Speaks: The Year of the Word' - *Timeline May 2020*

In the Archdiocese of Cardiff our two Scripture Champions, Kate Duffin and Madeleine Walters, continue to promote the '**Year of The God Who Speaks**' and issue regular Newsletters. They are in regular contact with Fleur Dorrell, the Catholic Scripture Engagement Manager on the Bishops' Conference. To receive the Newsletter, contact Madeleine at madeleine.walters@rcadc.org.

Fr. Jerome Ituah OCD has the same role for the Diocese of Menevia; contact: pkr@menevia.org

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2. The Pope's Prayer intention for evangelization - *For Deacons*
We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church. The Pope's Video: https://thepopevideo.org/

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3. The Cycle of Prayer: *During Easter (May)*
Human Work
Opportunities and Challenges E.g. Bishops' Conference document on *'The Spirituality of Work*': Download
Vocations Especially on *World Day of Prayer for Vocations* — 4th Sunday of Easter (**3 May**)
Background The World Day of Prayer for Vocations is held each year on the Fourth Sunday of Easter. In the Gospel of John read on this Sunday, in each of the three years, Jesus speaks of himself as the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd who has come so that people may have life to the full, the one who lays down his life for his sheep, the one who knows his sheep — they recognise his voice.

Right Use of the Media Especially on *World Communications day* — 7th Sunday of Easter (**24 May**)
Opportunities and Challenges
- Review how the parish newsletter and noticeboards are effective means of communication.
- Develop, or review, a parish website. Does it contain basic information such as Mass times? Is it regularly updated? Is it accessible to the visually impaired and other people with disabilities?

Message of Pope Francis for the **54th World Communications Day:**
"That you may tell your children and grandchildren" (Ex 10:2) Life becomes history [English]

The Church Especially on Pentecost *(31 May)*
Background Throughout the Season of Easter the first reading at Mass is taken from the Acts of the Apostles. Luke tells the story of the early Church from the Ascension and Pentecost to the early missions of the apostles. *When the work which the Father gave the Son to do on earth was accomplished, the Holy Spirit was sent on the day of Pentecost in order that he might continually sanctify the Church."* Then "the

Church was openly displayed to the crowds and the spread of the Gospel among the nations, through preaching, was begun." As the "convocation" of all men for salvation, the Church in her very nature is missionary, sent by Christ to all the nations to make disciples of them. **Catechism 767**

Those who with God's help have welcomed Christ's call and freely responded to it are urged on by love of Christ to proclaim the Good News everywhere in the world. This treasure, received from the apostles, has been faithfully guarded by their successors. All Christ's faithful are called to hand it on from generation to generation, by professing the faith, by living it in fraternal sharing, and by celebrating it in liturgy and prayer. **Catechism 3**

Opportunities and Challenges

- Explore how the Eucharistic Prayers express the communion of the Church.
- How might the links between the local parish and the wider Church, diocese and universal, be expressed and understood.
- How does the church building express the nature of the Church - write a guide for visitors
- What opportunities are there for people to get know Church teaching? A book stall or service, a reading group, extracts in the Newsletter, reference in homilies might all be ways of helping people.

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News and Dates of interest in *June*

4. 'The God Who Speaks: The Year of the Word' – *Timeline June 2020*

5. The Pope's Prayer intention for evangelization - *The Way of the Heart*

"We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus."

6. The Cycle of Prayer:

Throughout Ordinary Time: Summer we are asked to pray for the following intentions:

(Visit: http://www.liturgyoffice.org/Calendar/Cycle/SummerCP.shtml#Rights)

A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews

Those Who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights: The intention is inspired by the Feast of St John Fisher and St Thomas More (**22 June**).

Human Life: especially on the Day for Life (**3rd Sunday in June**)

Background

The origins of the Day for Life are found in St John Paul II's encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*. Preparation for the day is shared with the Bishops' Conferences of Ireland and of Scotland — though each marks the day on a different date. Since its inception it has focussed on a wide range of life issues.

Europe

Background

Pope John Paul II dedicated 6 patron saints to Europe:

St Cyril and St Methodius (14 February); St Catherine of Siena (29 April); St Benedict (11 July); St Bridget of Sweden; St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross.

They reflect the rich spiritual history of the Continent from East to West and across the centuries. In the *Cycle of Prayer* Europe is remembered in the Summer when a number of the Feasts days occur.

Seafarers

Links - Apostleship of the Sea

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