

Follow Up to the Visit of Pope Benedict XVI to England and Scotland

Dear All

Following the hugely successful Papal Visit I want to write to you with some follow up to the visit with information that may be of interest to you. I thought I would first of all offer, having heard the majority of the them what I think are some of the key themes from the Pope's speeches and homilies. These speeches and homilies are all available on the Papal Visit website (www.thepapalvisit.org.uk). I would suggest the key themes are :

1. Tackling the issue of Child Abuse in the Catholic Church
2. Continuing dialogue with other Christians, other Faiths and Secular Society
3. The important role of the Laity in the Church in the vision of Blessed John Henry Newman
4. The call to Holiness and especially for the young to find true happiness in God
5. Deep and profound commitment to the poor of the world
6. Opposing extreme Secularism

You may have found other themes and ideas from your listening and reading of the speeches and homilies. In future Papal Visit Follow Up' emails I will offer some quotes from them that reflect on the above and other themes.

Diocesan Pictures and Reflections on the Papal Visit

Please follow the Diocesan Blog on <http://aandbblog.blogspot.com> and on the Website www.dabnet.org for personal reflections and pictures following the visit.

Papal Visit Legacy: 3000 images blessed by the Pope to be distributed across England and Wales

Every Catholic parish in England and Wales will receive an image and candle blessed by the Pope to support them in their ongoing journey of faith. Also as a legacy of Pope Benedict XVI's visit, 3000 copies of the Pre-Raphaelite painter William Holman Hunt's, 'Light of the World' will be distributed, with 145 being sent to prison chaplains. The image and candles were blessed during the Prayer Vigil at Hyde Park on the evening of 18th September.

It is suggested that the framed images are used in prayer groups, schools, prisons, hospitals, hospices, schools and are made available through Catholic parishes to all those who desire to speak to God 'Heart to heart', to encourage prayer and witness. The image has been reproduced through the permission of Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral, London.

The Home Mission Desk of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has made available a guidance sheet to support prayerful use of the blessed image and candle. The guidance sheet can be downloaded from: <http://www.thepapalvisit.org.uk/2010-Visit/Papal-Visit-Resources/Parish-Resources/Prayer/The-Legacy-Heart-speaks-unto-Heart>

The Papal Visit Website

Here you will continue to find a fund of information and items about the visit. All the speeches, pictures, videos are available to view and download. Go to <http://www.thepapalvisit.org.uk/>

Books on the Papal Visit

CTS will shortly publish a book of the Pope's speeches and homilies. You can pre-order your copy by contacting the Diocesan Bookshop on bookshop@dabnet.org.

I am sure other books and reflections will also be available from the Bookshop

Music and Reflections for Newan

The key moment of the visit, for English Catholics anyway, will be the beatification of John Henry Newman. There are a couple of CDs that have been produced including 'Heart Speaks to Heart', a Spiritual Day with Blessed John Henry Newman in words and music which is narrated by former priest of this diocese and now Archbishop of Birmingham, Bernard Longley. It can be obtained from The Music Makers (www.themusicmakers.org).

The other is 'Lead Kindly Light' Boyce & Stanley's new 6 track EP CD of contemporary music songs. The CD Single is priced at £5.99 and is available from the CJM Music website now - copies can also be purchased from McCrimmons or St Paul's bookshops. *For further information go to the website* www.cjmmusic.com

Art Exhibition

You might like to visit the exhibition at the V&A in London of the Raphael Cartons and Tapestries he created for the Sistine Chapel. The exhibition runs to 17 October. The exhibition is free but you can pre-book tickets by going to www.vam.ac.uk/