

Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

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FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD SUNDAY 28TH MAY 2017 WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

Dear Father, Sister and Brother

Fear not, for I am with you (Is 43:5):

Communicating Hope and Trust in our Time

As we mark World Communications Day on Sunday 28th May, please promote the very valuable work being done on behalf of the Church by the communications office of the Bishops' Conference. In a world steeped in violence and conflict, we have a great opportunity to promote the values of the Gospel that speak of the dignity of the person and the priorities of building peace and prosperity, in justice, for all. Please encourage your communities to assist this crucial work by their generosity to the collection which is taken today, enabling the Church to continue this work of communication.

In his message for World Communications Day, Pope Francis says: "...we have to break the vicious circle of anxiety and stem the spiral of fear resulting from a constant focus on "bad news" (wars, terrorism, scandals and all sorts of human failure). This has nothing to do with spreading misinformation that would ignore the tragedy of human suffering, nor is it about a naive optimism blind to the scandal of evil." In our task as "Missionary Disciples" we all have our part to play and a mandate to both live and communicate the Gospel to all people using all the means at our disposal. In this digital age of immediate communication, never before has it been so necessary that we "...contribute to the search for an open and creative style of communication that never seeks to glamourise evil but instead to concentrate on solutions and to inspire a positive and responsible approach..."

The CCN website contains updated news and information on this mission. Please visit and encourage others to visit catholicnews.org.uk

With every blessing,

+John Arnold
Bishop of Salford

THY KINGDOM COME PRAYING FOR EVANGELISATION BETWEEN ASCENSION AND PENTECOST

It has been a long standing tradition in the Catholic Church to pray that those we love, those we meet and all people come to respond to Jesus who is knocking at the door of their hearts. This year Cardinal Nichols encourages the Catholic Church throughout England and Wales to pray particularly between the Ascension and Pentecost, for the Holy Spirit to inspire people to turn to God as we pray: "**Thy Kingdom Come**". During this time each person, prayer group and community is asked to pray for evangelisation.

A newsletter insert for the week preceding the Ascension, liturgical resources, Pentecost novena booklets and podcasts are available here:
catholicnews.org.uk/pentecost-novena

PARISH RESOURCES & INFORMATION

Please distribute these prayer cards to mark World Communications Day, asking for prayer for the work of the media and the CCN. Resources for parish newsletter inserts, homily notes and suggested bidding prayers are available at catholicnews.org.uk/wcd17



PARISH COLLECTION FOR WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

Parish collection monies should be sent to your Diocesan Finance Office, according to the procedures applicable in your diocese, for forwarding to CaTEW.

Individual donations by cheque should be made payable to your parish. These can then be paid-in and accounted for on your parish weekly income record as a donation to a second collection and incorporated within the total sum. There is also the possibility of donating online at catholicnews.org.uk/donate-wcd

For legacies left to benefit the work of CCN, please contact ccn@cbcew.org.uk

Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for World Communications Day 2017:
catholicnews.org.uk/wcd17-pope-message