

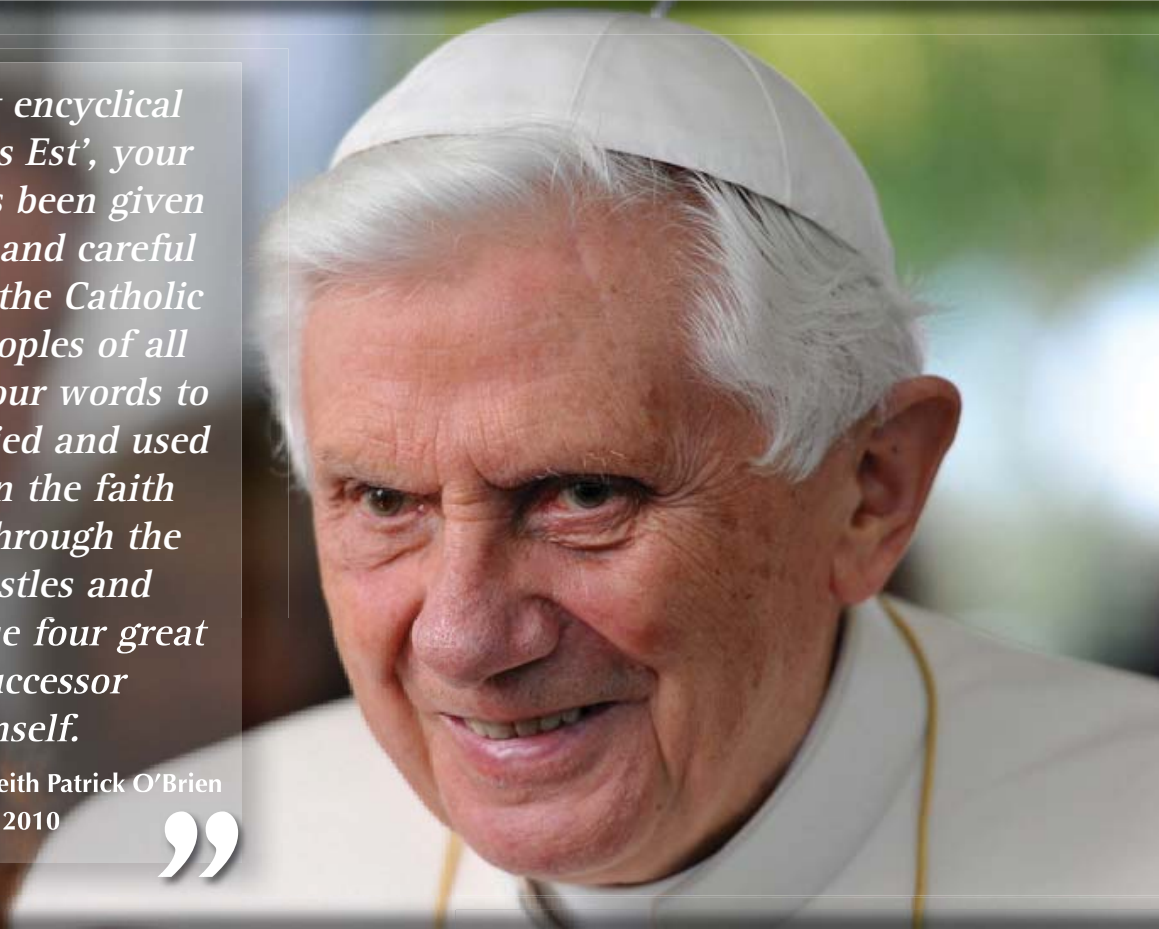
# “Strive to be worthy of this great tradition.”

planning to sustain the legacy of the 2010 UK Papal Visit  
for Catholic education in Scotland



“ *From your first encyclical letter ‘Deus Caritas Est’, your words have always been given detailed attention and careful study not only by the Catholic faithful but by peoples of all faiths and none. Your words to us . . . will be studied and used to fortify us all in the faith passed on to us through the ages by the apostles and delivered over these four great days by the successor of Peter himself.*

Farewell address of Cardinal Keith Patrick O’Brien  
19th September 2010



Reflections on Pope Benedict XVI’s UK visit in September 2010 have dwelt on the many powerful images of bright sunshine, large cheering crowds, joyful young people, beautiful celebrations of faith and the humble eloquence of the Holy Father’s unfailing witness to Jesus Christ.

Once these images and memories have faded, what will remain? How will each of us respond to the encouragement and challenges offered to us in the Holy Father’s words? How can we work together to sustain the powerful impression which the Pope made on young people?

This document highlights six themes which the Holy Father addressed to young people and to all who share responsibility for their education and formation. It outlines the plans of groups who are responsible for Catholic education in Scotland. Above all, it is designed to stimulate your own thinking on the contribution which you can make to the flourishing of education and faith in our country.

*How will you strive to be worthy of this “great tradition” of handing down the faith to young people?*

**THEME 1** “Grow in holiness and become saints of the 21st century.”

**THEME 2** “Search for Jesus, know him and love him.”

**THEME 3** “We were made for love.”

**THEME 4** “Be examples of faith in public.”

**THEME 5** “Scotland’s Catholic schools are a sign of great hope for the Church.”

**THEME 6** “You form new generations.”



*I urge you to lead lives worthy of the Lord and of yourselves. . . Put aside what is worthless and learn of your own dignity as children of God.*

Homily during Mass at Bellahouston Park Glasgow, 16th September 2010

*I hope that among those of you listening to me today there are some of the future saints of the twenty-first century. . . When I invite you to become saints of the 21st century, I am asking you not to settle for second best.*

The Big Assembly, Twickenham, 17th September 2010

*My dear young catholics of Scotland, this is the challenge which the Lord now gives you: the Church now belongs to you!*

Homily during Mass at Bellahouston Park Glasgow 16th September 2010



The Holy Father spoke with great warmth and sincerity to children and young people throughout his UK visit. He set them a number of challenges which he expressed as invitations - to grow in holiness, to search for and become close to Jesus, to behave like Jesus in caring for those in need and, in these ways, to become tomorrow's saints. He urged us all to accept the challenge which the Lord gives us - to become more engaged with the Church, to take responsibility for it and to shape its development. He also asked us to pray for the Church and to pray for him.

*Lord, we pray that we can all grow closer to you and closer to your Church throughout our lives.*

**HOW WE PLAN TO ADDRESS THIS THEME**

WHAT WE CAN DO	WHO	WHEN
1a. Develop appropriate theme and resources for Catholic Education Week 2011.	SCES	completed
1b. For Catholic Education Week in 2012 & 2013, develop themes and resources which promote understandings of "holiness."	CEC/SCES	select theme June 2011
1c. Continue to encourage young people to grow in holiness in a variety of ways: participation in Sacraments, prayer & devotion in school and parish, providing opportunities for faith witness in schools and parishes.	Pri. & Sec. schools, Chaplains, Parishes, SCES/CEC	ongoing



*There is only one thing which lasts: the love of Jesus Christ personally for each one of you. Search for him, know him and love him, and he will set you free. . .*

Homily during Mass at Bellahouston Park Glasgow, 16th September 2010

*I ask you to look into your hearts each day to find the source of all true love. Jesus is always there, quietly waiting for us to be still with him and to hear his voice. Deep within your heart, he is calling you to spend time with him in prayer. But this kind of prayer, real prayer, requires discipline; it requires making time for moments of silence every day.*

Address to young people, outside Westminster Cathedral, 18th September 2010



Among the most memorable moments experienced by participants and spectators during the events of the Papal Visit were those occasions when the Holy Father led us towards stillness, silent prayer and reflection, in contemplation and adoration of Almighty God. At Mass in Bellahouston Park, the huge congregation was hushed for a considerable time when they were asked to reflect on the Scripture readings and on the Pope’s homily. At the Big Assembly in Twickenham, he reminded us that happiness can only be found in God, that God loves each of us and invites us to respond to that love. On the steps of Westminster Cathedral, he urged us to give time each day to make “space for silence” where we can find God and where Jesus waits for us to spend time with him in prayer and to discover our true self. During the Prayer Vigil at Hyde Park, with 80,000 participants and many more watching on television, he demonstrated the power of silent adoration in the presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

*Lord, help me to learn the discipline of daily prayer and to appreciate the power of silence as I try to know you and love you, as you love me.*

**HOW WE PLAN TO ADDRESS THIS THEME**

WHAT WE CAN DO	WHO	WHEN
2a. Develop school resources which promote deep experiences of prayer in schools.	SCES	2012-13
2b. Encourage the provision of teachers’ CPD opportunities on ways of providing deep experiences of prayer and silence for young people.	Diocesan R.E. Advisers	Plan May 2011 & ongoing
2c. Provide a CPD Study Guide and other resources which focus on the impact of the UK Papal Visit and on the teachings of Pope Benedict XVI.	LTS & SCES	June 2011
2d. Provide support for parents to promote the habit of family prayer.	CEC Parents’ group	2011-12 and beyond
2e. Develop religious education in line with ‘This is Our Faith’, new Church guidance.	Teachers in Pri. & Sec. schools, Head Teachers, Diocesan R.E. Advisers	2011-12 and onwards



*Think of all the love that your heart was made to receive, and all the love it is meant to give. After all, we were made for love. . . We were also made to give love, to make love the inspiration for all we do and the most enduring thing in our lives.*

Address to young people, on the steps of Westminster Cathedral, 18th September 2010

*You begin to feel compassion for people in difficulties and you are eager to do something to help them. You want to come to the aid of the poor and the hungry, you want to comfort the sorrowful, you want to be kind and generous.*

*And once these things begin to matter to you, you are well on the way to becoming saints.*

The Big Assembly, Twickenham, 17th September 2010



The theme of the Papal Visit - "Heart speaks unto heart" - was addressed directly by the Holy Father on various occasions. Speaking in very human terms, he reminded us that love should be the inspiration for all that we do. He taught us that, when we show love for others by caring for them and supporting them in their need, we are showing God's love in our hearts. His message offered an alternative vision to the notions which are often propounded in the words and images of our modern world. In our family homes, schools and parishes, young people can learn that committing to such actions is an act of love, inspired by God's love.

*Lord, help us to grow in your love and to show our love for you in ways which improve the lives of others.*

HOW WE PLAN TO ADDRESS THIS THEME

WHAT WE CAN DO	WHO	WHEN
3a. Establish Pope Benedict XVI 'Caritas' Award for secondary pupils engaged in parish ministry and loving service to communities, highlighting the Gospel imperative for these actions.	CEC Knights of St Columba CHAS & Sec. schools Parishes SCES	Pilot in 2011-12 ongoing
3b. Promote parish awareness of work done in schools to serve the common good.		ongoing
3c. Identify opportunities for pupils to work with parish & Diocesan groups.		
3d. Develop Pope Benedict XVI 'Caritas' Certificate for primary pupils engaged in parish ministry and loving service to communities.	CHAPS & Primary schools	Pilot in 2012-13

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*Each of us has a mission, each of us is called to change the world . . . our light must shine out in the sight of all. . . Be examples of faith in public.*

Homily at Prayer Vigil in Hyde Park London, 18th September 2010

*Truth is passed on not merely by formal teaching, important as that is, but also by the witness of lives lived in integrity, fidelity and holiness.*

Homily at Prayer Vigil in Hyde Park London, 18th September 2010

*Teachers should use their talents in the service of the faith and engage contemporary Scottish culture at every level. . . Promote faith’s wisdom and vision in the public forum.*

Homily, Bellahouston Park Glasgow, 16th September 2010

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An abiding memory of many people who attended various events during the Papal Visit was the joy of experiencing faith in a public setting, being able to share prayer and to sing hymns together with many thousands of others, without fear of ridicule or objection from others. This was one form of giving “public witness to faith”. However, the Holy Father called us to step up to the challenge of giving public witness to faith in other ways. He reminded us that the witness of our own lives - lived in integrity, fidelity and holiness - is a powerful example, particularly to young people. At the State Reception in Edinburgh he warned British society of the dangers of aggressive forms of secularism which try to exclude God and religion from public life. In Glasgow he went on to encourage the Catholic laity not only to be “examples of faith” but to promote “faith’s wisdom and vision” in public life by speaking out clearly on issues which affect the welfare of all citizens.

*Lord, help us to be strong and confident in our faith when we express our Christian vision and values which protect the welfare of our fellow citizens.*

### HOW WE PLAN TO ADDRESS THIS THEME

WHAT WE CAN DO	WHO	WHEN
4a. Organise anniversary events on or near to the Feast of St Ninian - 16th September:		
4ai. Diocesan Masses for schools	Bishops	Sept 2011
4a.ii. School clusters to take Papal Visit as a focus point for Masses / liturgical services during P7 visits to secondary schools	CHAS, CHAPS, Schools	June 2011
4b. Encourage schools to involve individuals (from parishes and parish organisations) who are witnesses to “integrity, fidelity and holiness” to contribute to school assemblies, and classroom activities.	Head Teachers, R.E. Teachers, Chaplains, Parish organisations	ongoing
4c. Ensure that young people are informed about Catholic social teaching on relevant social, moral and ethical issues	Teachers in Pr. & Sec. schools	ongoing



*In Catholic schools there is always a bigger picture over and above the individual subjects . . .  
Every subject you study is part of a bigger picture. . .*

The Big Assembly, Twickenham, 17th September 2010

*Catholic ethos . . . means that the life of faith needs to be the driving force behind every activity in the school, so that the Church’s mission may be served effectively, and the young people may discover the joy of entering into Christ’s being for others.*

Address to teachers and religious, Twickenham, 17th September 2010

*As you encourage Catholic teachers in their work, place special emphasis on the quality and depth of religious education, so as to prepare an articulate and well-informed Catholic laity, able and willing to carry out its mission.*

Speaking to Bishops of Scotland, Rome, February 2010



The Holy Father took the opportunity to deliver a number of key messages about Catholic schools. In Glasgow he expressed appreciation for the ways in which Catholic schools, with the assistance of the civil authorities, have educated significant numbers of young people, helping them to prosper spiritually and materially. He described this achievement as “a sign of great hope for the Church”. At Twickenham, he reminded us that the true purpose of education is to impart wisdom - “and true wisdom is inseparable from knowledge of the Creator”. He challenged those responsible for Catholic schools to ensure that faith is the “driving force” behind every activity in the school. Speaking then to young people, he explained the distinctive characteristic of Catholic schools as “the bigger picture” to which all learning is connected - the opportunity to grow closer to God.

*Lord, bless the students and staff of all schools and help them to know the benefits of a rounded education which encourages the practice of virtue and knowledge of God. Inspire Catholic schools to be centres of excellence which shine the light of Christ in all they do.*

### HOW WE PLAN TO ADDRESS THIS THEME

WHAT WE CAN DO	WHO	WHEN
5a. Develop further guidance on curriculum planning for primary and secondary schools, to emphasise the central importance of faith in school planning, not only in religious education but in all aspects of school provision.	SCES RE Development Group	June 2011
5b. Continue to promote the effective use of ‘Shining the Light of Christ in the Catholic School’ as the key tool for school improvement planning.	CEC / SCES	2011-12
5c. Audit schools’ engagement with ‘Shining the Light of Christ’ and with RERC.	SCES	2011-12
5d. Launch and support the implementation of ‘This Is Our Faith’ in all Dioceses to guide and support the highest quality teaching of religious education in all Catholic schools. Involve teachers, parents and clergy.	CEC / SCES Diocesan R.E. Advisers	Launch 2011 Support 2011-15
5e. Plan the teaching of religious education at school and classroom level in line with Church guidance and in partnership with local schools and parishes.	Head Teachers, RE Teachers, Parish clergy	ongoing



*...many men and women have laboured over many centuries to hand down the faith to you.  
Strive to be worthy of this great tradition.*

Homily, Bellahouston Park Glasgow, 16th September 2010

*To all the dedicated men and women who devote their lives to teaching the young, I want to express sentiments of deep appreciation. You form new generations not only in knowledge of the faith but in every aspect of what it means to live as mature and responsible citizens in today's world.*

Address to teachers and religious, Twickenham, 17th September 2010

*I pray that . . . all who are engaged in the task of teaching and catechesis will be inspired to greater effort by the vision Blessed John Henry Newman sets before us: “I want a laity not arrogant, not rash in speech, not disputatious, but people who know their religion, who enter into it.”*

Homily, Beatification Mass, Cofton Park Birmingham, 19th September 2010



As a teacher of University students, Pope Benedict XVI is very appreciative of the value of good teaching and of the need to affirm teachers in their work. Speaking at Twickenham, he expressed his “deep appreciation” for teachers and for their important work in “forming” new generations both as citizens and as disciples. Some months earlier, he had urged the Bishops to encourage teachers in their work, particularly in the field of religious education. In the UK he reminded teachers that they were following a great tradition of men and women who have handed down the faith over the centuries. He challenged them to be “worthy of this great tradition”. In calling for an educational vision which integrates intellectual training, moral discipline and religious commitment, he challenged teachers and catechists to form “well-instructed” young adults of faith who know what they believe and can explain these beliefs.

*Lord, bless all teachers and inspire them in their work of forming new generations. Help Catholic teachers to dedicate themselves to providing an education in faith which will serve the needs of young people to grow closer to you and to become more engaged in the life of your Church.*

HOW WE PLAN TO ADDRESS THIS THEME

WHAT WE CAN DO	WHO	WHEN
6a. Engage at a deep, sustained level with teachers to promote quality religious education teaching in all schools.	Bishops Diocesan R.E. Advisers	2011 and ongoing
6b. Support Diocesan RE Advisers in the organisation of meetings with local Bishop, regular CPD sessions and development of appropriate resources.	Diocesan R.E. Advisers SCES	2011-12 and ongoing
6c. Support development of appropriate religious education for students in Teacher Education courses.	Univ. of Glasgow School of Education	2011-12 and ongoing
6d. Promote opportunities for teachers to acquire further qualifications and professional recognition in religious education	Univ. of Glasgow School of Education	ongoing
6e. Encourage sharing of best practice in training of parish catechists.	Diocesan Catechists	2011-12 and ongoing
6f. Establish annual Don Bosco Teaching Awards for research/ writing/classroom innovation on aspects of Catholic Education, including Religious Education.	Working group Bishops CHAS & CHAPS CEC / SCES	establish group 2011-12 offer awards in 2012-13



*Holy Father, it was a particular joy for us in Scotland to realise that you would arrive in our country to begin your visit on the 16th of September, the Feast of St Ninian. Ninian was of course a bishop, ordained in Rome and sent back to his homeland to spread the Christian message. Your words and your very presence brought to our minds our ancient Christian heritage.*

*The welcoming cavalcade along Princes Street in Edinburgh reminded a worldwide audience of the Christian roots of our land. Like Ninian before you, you too moved across our countries, strengthening us in that same Christian faith whose seed had been first sown over 1600 years ago.*

Farewell address of Cardinal Keith Patrick O'Brien, 19th September 2010



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