

What is CASE?

CASE is an Agency of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. Through a wide variety of resources and training, its remit is to enthuse, engage and equip all tiers of the Church in the urgent task of evangelisation.



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What have the Bishops asked CASE to do?

- To promote and evaluate methods and means of evangelisation.
- To be a point of reference for new movements and organisations in the Catholic Church in England and Wales.
- To be a resource for parishes, dioceses and local communities in understanding and responding to the current cultural situation.
- To develop the Catholic Enquiry Office, especially using new technology including the Internet.
- To promote intellectual dialogue between the Church and contemporary culture.
- To relate to other Churches on issues of Evangelisation and Mission, including representation on the relevant ecumenical bodies.



What are our values in CASE?

- We are passionate about the Gospel and believe that the present times call for a 'New Evangelisation' which demands a renewed proclamation.
- We believe in the effectiveness of ordinary people sharing their faith with others, and equip them to do so. We alert people to their calling to be evangelisers and to the urgency of the task.
- We have confidence in the 'mustard seed' principle of growth through God's grace.
- We see all the activities of the Church as contributing to her evangelising mission.
- We adapt our approach to the needs of each diocese, parish and situation, believing that there are many valid ways of evangelising, while valuing research into evidences of fruitful practice.
- We respect the beliefs and freedom of others, never imposing our faith on them, while conscious of the obligation to propose it.
- Where possible we work ecumenically and in dialogue with other religions.
- We seek to discern and affirm what is open to the Gospel in culture, and to challenge what is resistant to it.
- We are open to examining and encouraging cutting edge experiments in evangelisation.
- We celebrate what others are already doing in the field of evangelisation, and by recognising and naming it, intend to help them deepen and widen their work.

This folder and most of the contents have been printed on recycled paper.

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My dear friends, I urge you to take part in this initiative.
All of us know someone who no longer attends
Mass. This is a great sorrow for so many of us...
...As the Body of Christ, let's go out with a message
of love, acceptance, welcome and reconciliation.'
Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

'Rejoice with Me, the lost are found!'

Lk 15:6



Resource Pack

produced by

CASE

HOME MISSION SUNDAY

September 16th 2007

*A Day of Prayer for Evangelisation in
England and Wales*

Catholic Agency to Support Evangelisation



Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I write to offer you some materials for Home Mission Sunday. This year we have decided to focus on the opportunities we have to welcome back lapsed Catholics, or whatever your preferred name is for those who no longer practise their Catholic faith. The readings could hardly be more suited to this theme.

We are well aware that this is a topic of great concern to all parishes and especially to the clergy. Our main focus, therefore, is to help turn that concern into reality by offering you a range of resources that are highly practical. Many of these are drawn from the experience of initiatives such as KIT or Landings which have been working in this field for a long time.

Our suggestion is that each parish concentrate on welcoming lapsed Catholics back for Christmas, a season which provides an obvious focus for this. One possibility is to set up a group parallel to the RCIA, but specifically geared to the lapsed. Providing a space where people can tell their stories may well be half the battle in this case. We can offer training and resources should you decide to do this. Why not order some more of the leaflets and posters contained in this pack? Please let us know if you plan a 'Welcome Back' event and we can help publicise it for free.

Needless to say, we want to be very flexible in our approach to suit your needs and situation, so if these ideas do not appeal to you, we hope you will still find plenty of other helpful suggestions and will contact us if you feel we can be of any use in this or other aspects of evangelisation.

In addition to the printed resources provided here, we have a wider range available for download from www.caseresources.org.uk. Our Catholic Enquiry Office website, www.life4seekers.co.uk has enjoyed continued growth with approximately 278,000 unique visitors over the last twelve months, and a peak of 8973 different users on one day alone on February 14th in response to a St Valentine's Day initiative. Your support directly funds this kind of very valuable and effective outreach work. We have two further websites under development, one for young people aged 9 to 13 and www.comehomeforchristmas.co.uk which will be launched in November to accompany the Come Home For Christmas initiative detailed elsewhere in this pack. All of the material provided in this pack is also published online so as many people as possible can access our resources and adapt them to their own circumstances.

Once again we appeal for your financial help as well as your prayers. If you can take up a collection on Home Mission Sunday itself, this not only helps us but also raises people's awareness of evangelisation as a vital aspect of the parish. If you cannot, a donation from parish funds, however small, will be most gratefully received.

Wishing you every blessing,

Mgr Keith Barltrop
CASE Director



RESOURCE PACK CONTENTS:	LITURGICAL RESOURCES:
A booklet of ideas exploring the importance of inviting back lapsed Catholics	Prayers of the Faithful for 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C <i>blue</i>
A flyer detailing the resources available for the forthcoming initiative <i>Come Home for Christmas</i> (CHFC)	Homily Notes <i>blue</i>
Two Promotional CHFC Posters: one for an exterior Church noticeboard, the second for a non-Church location	Pledge Card of Prayerful Support <i>yellow</i>
A sample 'Invitation & Welcome' leaflet that could be distributed to each of the Catholic homes in your parish	Newsletter Inserts and Gift Aid Forms <i>pink</i>
	Poster promoting Home Mission Sunday (A3 poster available on request)
	CASE Notes Newsletter for Autumn 2007



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Prayer for Evangelisation

Father, by Your Holy Spirit,
 You have poured Your love into our hearts.
 Deepen our faith in Your Son, Jesus,
 that we may be channels of Your mercy to the world
 and reveal the presence of Your Kingdom
 of Justice and Peace.

Our Lady, Star of the New Evangelisation,
 pray for us.
 Saints and Martyrs of England and Wales,
 pray for us.