



PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church

A scenic coastal landscape. In the foreground, there is a large, dense clump of tall, dry, golden-brown grass. Behind the grass, the blue sea is visible. In the background, a rugged, rocky cliff rises from the water. On top of the cliff, there is a long, low stone building with several small, rectangular windows. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

A VISION WITH A DIFFERENCE



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3.1 MILLION PEOPLE

live in the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

That we seek holiness of life in imitation of Jesus, obedient (ob-audire) to God and legitimate authority, loving and respecting one another, and filled with the Holy Spirit, that we foster a joyful, positive 'can-do' attitude.

"Be holy for I am holy" (1 Pet 1:16)

...above all, that we become more holy.

Laudetur Iesus Christus!

Praised be Jesus Christ! I write this introduction from within the lock-down of the coronavirus emergency and the devastating impact the pandemic is having upon us all, as individuals and as a community. Even so, whilst our prayers at the moment are very much for the sick, for the dying and for all who care for them, we can look back before the crisis to a year in which we have much to thank God for in our Diocese, with many people to thank for their generous part in the mission of the Church: clergy, religious, laity, families, parishes, schools and communities. The vision that continues to inspire our work is the Lord's mandate that we go out to all nations to make disciples of Christ (cf. Mt 28: 19-20). I expressed this vision a couple of years ago in the leaflet *Bringing People Closer to Jesus Christ through His Church*. In it I invited everyone to seek renewed holiness of life by a deeper communion with the Lord and His Church, to become more evangelised ourselves in order better to evangelise others. I laid out four priorities: to go out on mission to all, to convert Catholics, to be totally dependent on the Holy Spirit and to become outward-looking servants. I also set forth three areas of special attention: youth, vocations and prioritising resources.

The Vision

This vision has inspired all my own work this last year. Through prayer, and especially the work of the Bishop's Council (the two Vicars General and three Episcopal Vicars who head the Departments and Framework teams), I have tried to engage everyone in the work of new evangelisation. In January, I led a group of the Bishop's Council, leaders and students to SEEK 2019 in Indianapolis, an event run by FOCUS, with 17,000 youngsters present and inputs from many leading Catholic evangelists. While there, we met the directors of the St. Paul's Evangelization Society (SPES), who have supported us throughout this year in developing our mission strategy. In September, they invited me to a conference of bishops in Steubenville, which was addressed by three speakers now widely known in our Diocese and influential in our pastoral practice: Sherry Weddell, author of *Forming Intentional Disciples*, Fr. James Mallon, author of *Divine Renovation*, and Curtis Martin, author of *Making Missionary Disciples*.

This Year

Over this year, I continued most weekends to conduct parish visitations as a means of sharing with the faithful our diocesan vision and aspirations. In Lent, we had a refreshed and uplifting celebration of the Rite of Election, with

Our Story

BRINGING PEOPLE CLOSER TO JESUS CHRIST THROUGH HIS CHURCH

service in our parishes. The promotion of vocations to all states of life and ministry in the Church remains central to my prayers and efforts. Another highlight was a short private pilgrimage to Turin to stay at the house of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, patron saint of our youth, to pray for our young. In the autumn, our Diocesan Pastoral Council met to discuss what might be done for the many non-practising Catholics in our midst. I also attended the canonisation in Rome of St. John Henry Newman, and this fittingly coincided with the completion of the first phase of the refurbishment work at the Oratory in Formation in Sacred Heart Bournemouth.

Ever - Important Area

An ever-important area of concern for me is safeguarding, so that the Church is a safe haven for all, especially for children and the vulnerable. In May, I took part in an intensive five-day training programme for bishops and in the summer safeguarding was the topic of a new bi-annual meeting at Southwark of the bishops from this province. In appearing at the IICSA hearings, I also commissioned an independent review of all our safeguarding arrangements.

At the suggestion of SPES, I have established an episcopal leadership team, formed of members of the Bishop's Council and ten laity from across the Diocese selected for their commitment to the new evangelisation. This group, which has begun meeting regularly, is helping us develop a ten-year mission plan. Central to this is an extensive consultation with clergy and people of the Diocese, a process now underway. The present Year of the Word and in 2021, the Year of the Eucharist form the first two years, focused on spiritual renewal, and in Advent, I distributed across parishes and

schools pocket-sized editions of the Gospel and a prayer for renewal.

Significant Development

During these last months, a significant development has been the appointment of a Chief Operating Officer to manage the administrative, business and operational functions of the Diocese. Prior to the appointment of the COO, I commissioned a temporary Director of Change Management to begin the overhaul of our Support and Administration Services, a work the COO continues. In this work, our Board of Trustees have been especially involved.

I finish by expressing profound gratitude to everyone for their good work. Our Diocese of Portsmouth with its 91 parishes and 71 schools, stretching from south Oxford to the Channel islands, has enormous potential. I am especially thankful to our Trustees for their diligence, competence, advice and practical support. Let us pray to the Lord for a speedy end to the pandemic and a resolution of the current crisis which is affecting us all. But let us also pray that the good work done in His Name will bear much fruit, fruit that will last (cf. John 15: 16), through the intercession of our dear patrons Mary Immaculate, St. Edmund of Abingdon and Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati.

In Corde Iesu

+ Philip

Bishop of Portsmouth

Our Diocese

22

Pastoral Areas

91

Parishes

142

Churches





An Evangelising Diocese

with a missionary-minded approach, one of evangelistic Catholicism in which the object of all diocesan activities is, within the terms of the Diocese's charitable objects, to make Jesus Christ better known and better loved.

Catholic Church

The Roman Catholic Church is the largest organisation in the world, with 1.3 billion members.

In every country, like counties, it is divided into Dioceses. Each Diocese is overseen by a Bishop in communion with the Bishop of Rome, the Pope.

The Church and its Dioceses are governed internally by its canon law. As such, each Diocese must equally comply with canon law as well as the civil legislation of the nation in which it operates. Therefore, in the UK, the Church works both within canon law and within the laws relating to charities.

The day to day operation of a Diocese is one thing, but there will be times when complex interactions arise between the demands of canon law and the demands of civil law and how best to meet them.

In England & Wales there are 22 Dioceses.

Each Diocese is an autonomous unit and all have a separate legal identity. Each Diocese under its Bishop is responsible for the management of its own Diocesan affairs. However, there is also a Bishops' Conference for England and Wales. At times, this makes policy decisions for the whole Church throughout England and Wales.

There are also annual meetings of the Senior Executives of the various Dioceses to enable collaboration on policies and responses to particular circumstances, such as changes in Charity or Employment Law.

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

The Diocese of Portsmouth was created on 19 May 1882 and comprises 6,339 km² (2,447 sq Miles) and the areas covered by the original administrative counties of Hampshire and Berkshire. This area was originally part of the Archdiocese of Southwark. As seen in the map, the Diocese now comprises an area bounded by a line from Bournemouth to the outskirts of Oxford and as far east to Windsor together with the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands.

3.1m
People

230,000
Catholics

33,000
Practicing

Financial Summary

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

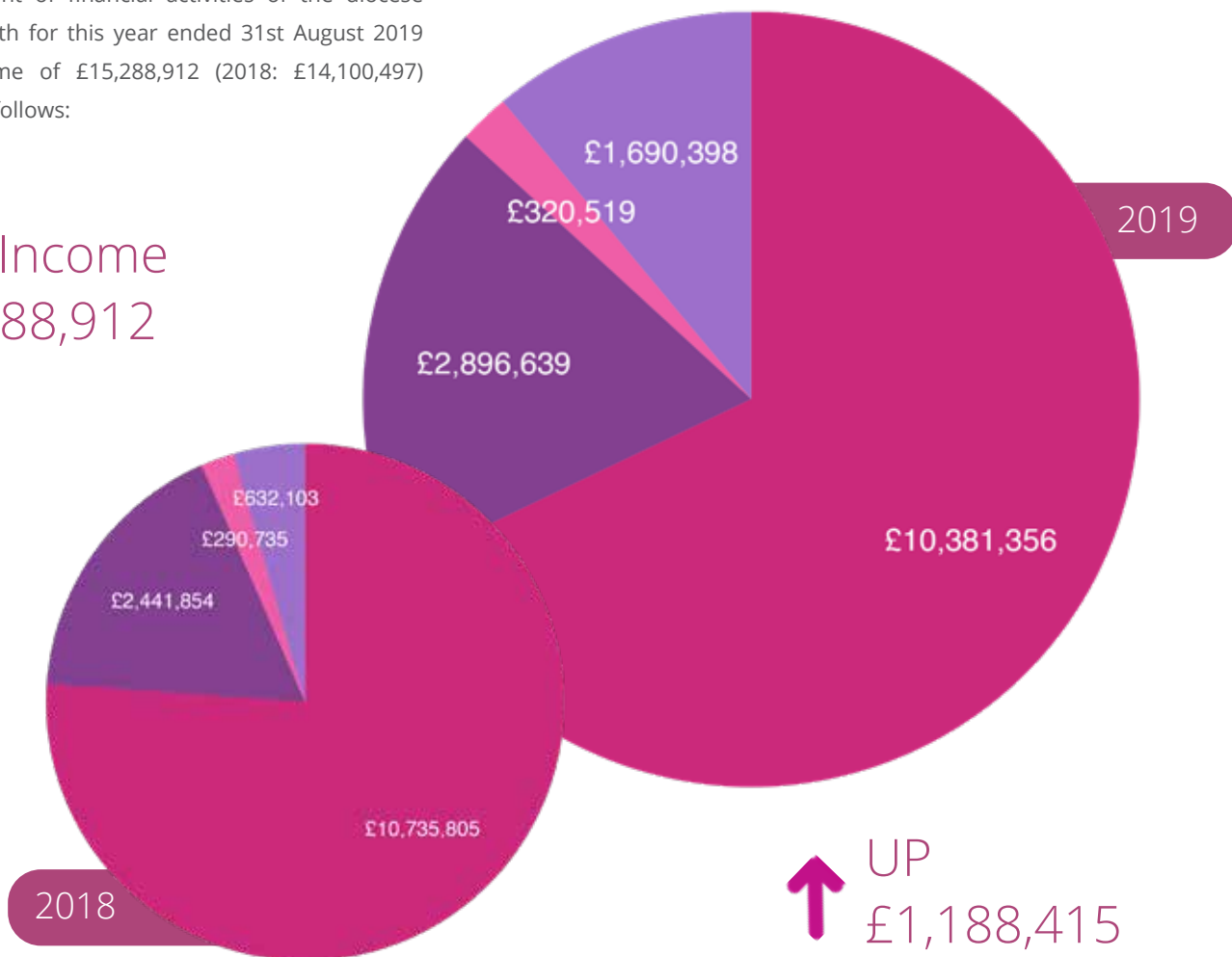
These summarised financial results for the year ended 31st August 2019 have been extracted from the complete set of annual financial statements on which the auditors have expressed an unqualified audit opinion. The full financial statements are available on the diocesan website under our charity reference number 246871.

The statement of financial activities of the diocese of Portsmouth for this year ended 31st August 2019 shows income of £15,288,912 (2018: £14,100,497) analysed as follows:

Income Analysis

- Donations and Legacies - £10,381,356
- Income from Rent and Other Activities - £2,896,639
- Investment Income including Interest - £320,519
- Other Income - £1,690,398

Total Income
£15,288,912



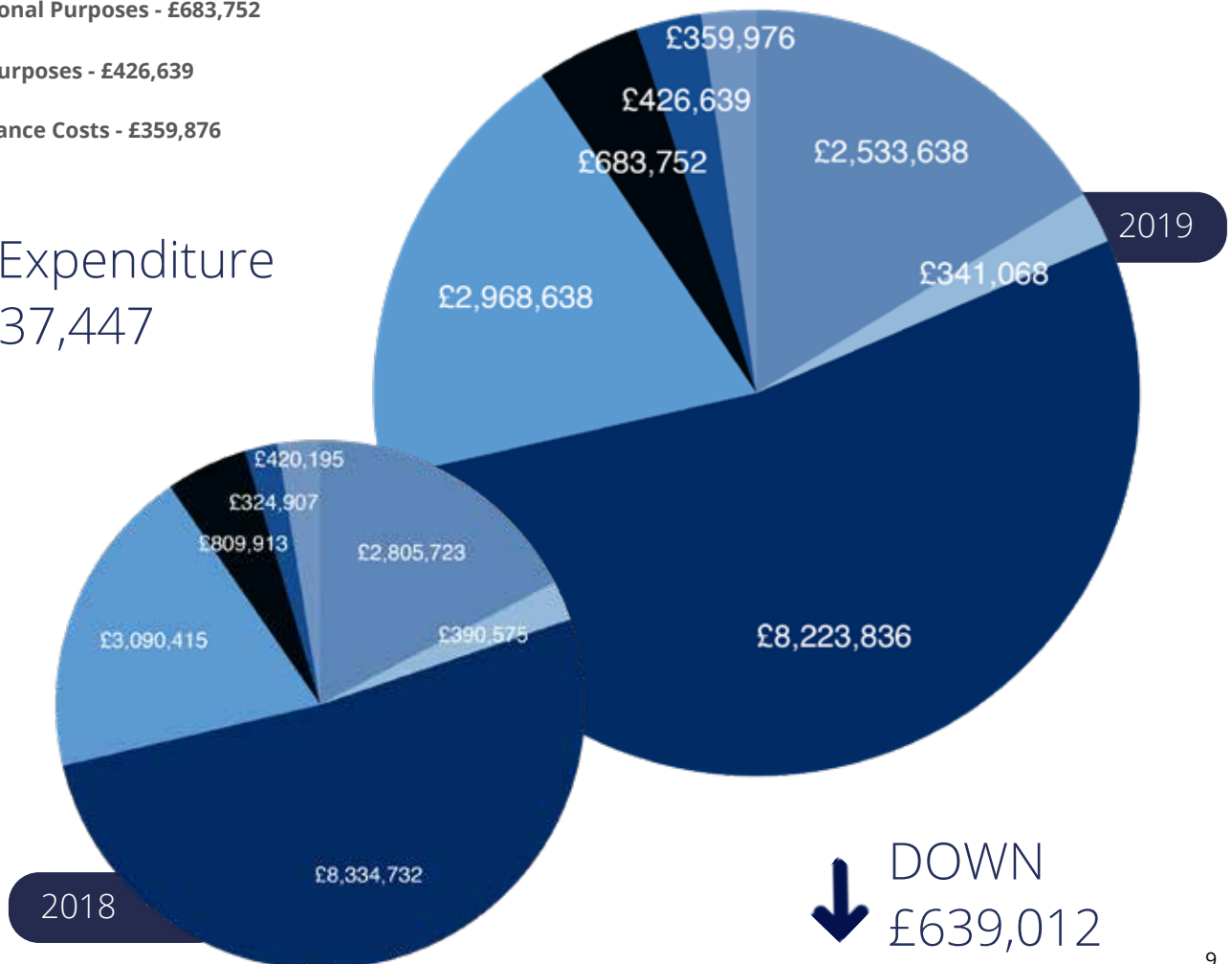


Expenditure Analysis

- **Parish Expenses - £8,223,836**
- **Property - £2,533,638**
- **Clergy Training - £341,068**
- **Other Curial and Diocesan Services - £2,968,638**
- **Educational Purposes - £683,752**
- **Social Purposes - £426,639**
- **Governance Costs - £359,876**

The statement of financial activities of the diocese of Portsmouth for this year ended 31st August 2019 shows expenditure of £15,537,447 (2018: £16,176,459) analysed as follows:

Total Expenditure
£15,537,447



Living our Faith (LOF)

OUTSTANDING GENEROSITY AND COMMITMENT OF FAITHFUL
THROUGHOUT THE DIOCESE



The Living Our Faith Fund is a result of a major campaign conducted from February 2009 to May 2010, in which approximately £13 million was raised. The funds were allocated to four different areas:

- Supporting our clergy and promoting vocations
- Investing in the on-going formation of the laity
- Renewing facilities and encouraging growth
- Strengthening the parishes and pastoral areas

The Fund has been invaluable these past ten years in providing the necessary financial supplementation to growing demands within the diocese that the offertory has not been able to meet.

An "Impact Committee" of clergy and lay people have monitored the expenditure of the funds and communicated Living Our Faith progress against benchmarks. Meeting five times a year, they discern whether the wide range of applications meet the spiritual and legal requirements of this discretionary fund. The Committee was originally chaired by Canon David Hopgood and is currently chaired by Canon Simon Thomson.

Total Number of Pledges	6497
Total amount Pledged	£13,156,193
Largest Donation	£167,000
Total Amount received	£13,005,008
Parish Share	£5,836,429
Diocese Share	£7,218,579
Total number of projects	411

Thank you

It is due to the outstanding generosity and commitment of faithful throughout Portsmouth diocese that the Living Our Faith Fund has been able to serve the diverse and essential needs of our diocese these past ten years. Incredible projects, initiatives and missions have touched hearts, renewed faiths and fostered vibrant and growing parishes that have been able to move forward as beacons of hope for a future where all eyes are fixed on Christ and his promise of Salvation. Thank you.



TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT SO FAR

*Since 2010

Parish and Pastoral Areas	£4,726,444
Renewing Facilities	£862,220
Formation of Laity	£2,207,496
Clergy and vocations	£2,303,143

2018-2019 SPENDING

£516,040

Supporting our clergy and promoting vocations

Funding has covered:

- Ongoing training of individual priests
- All-clergy retreats for individual spiritual renewal
- Support network of spiritual advisors and mentors
- Vocation promotion: a paid promotions officer and resources including videos, podcasts, adverts, posters and online tools
- Seminarian training and formation
- Seminars and retreats for young discerners to the priesthood

£294,627

Investing in the on-going formation of the laity

Funding has covered:

- Assisting lay formation at the local pastoral area
- Funding gap year experiences for youth and young adults seeking to give a 'Year Out for God'
- Encouraging volunteers and evangelisation in the community through local initiatives
- The establishment of a diocesan wide skills and talents register

£280,513

Renewing facilities and encouraging growth

Funding has covered:

- Physical upkeep of our churches and parish buildings
- Expansion projects where a parish is growing
- Innovative projects to foster parish growth

£118,910

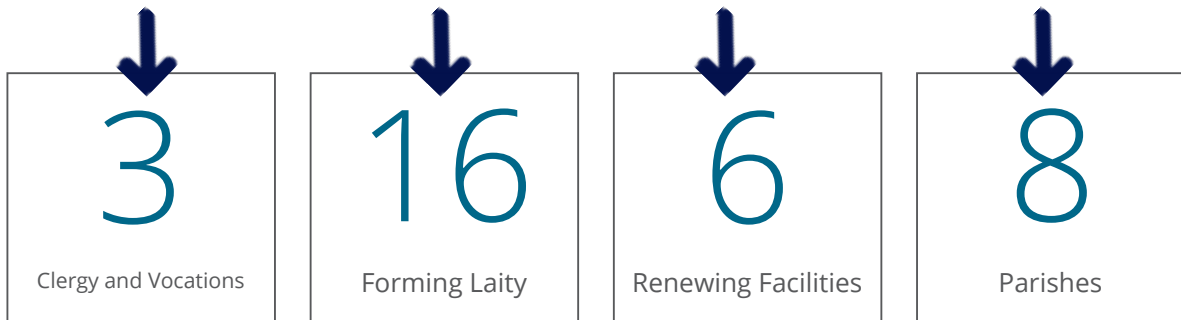
Strengthening the parishes and pastoral areas

Funding has covered:

- Local parish projects and ministries
- Initiatives covering pastoral areas
- Parishes addressing deferred maintenance

33 LOF Projects

in the financial year 2018-2019





"For we are God's workmanship,

created in Christ Jesus to do good works,
which God prepared in advance for us to do"

Ephesians 2:10

2018-2019 SPENDING

New Heating System. English Martyrs, Didcot

£ 25,384

The amount was released to enable the parish to carry out significant refurbishment of the parish heating system, providing a safe and warm environment for parishioners and visitors. The work enabled the parish to provide a welcoming environment and bring down future heating costs.

Funding Alpha Courses. St James & WOY Reading

£ 5, 598

The funding supported the parish in running the Alpha course annually. Costs incorporated necessary training for leaders, programme resources and multimedia elements. The allocation has helped the parish to engage in evangelisation and mission with people from outside the parish.

Evangelisation Doctoral Research Grant. FFM

£ 15,600

The allocation supported two thirds of a Doctoral Research Grant in Evangelisation and Catechesis for a candidate involved with the Formation for Mission Team. The research benefited parishes, in forming the lay faithful and equipping them to evangelise and catechise.

Creation of Parish Hub. Holy Family Southampton

£ 28,500

The new parish hub supported parish ambitions to increase their social action activities amongst the local community. The hub provided an enlarged office space, conference room, AV and media facilities, base for Caritas workers and improved access to parish access to facilities.

Pastoral Area Co-ordinator. Avon & Stour

£ 25,000

The Avon and Stour Pastoral Area received a grant of £25,000 to provide a Pastoral Area Co-ordinator who would work across the parishes. The amount was committed over a three year period and helped the pastoral area to develop various projects.

Our Clergy

SEMINARIANS. PRIESTS IN MINISTRY. RETIRED. PERMANENT DEACONS

Upon this rock I build My Church

Upon this rock I build my Church. The life of a priest is one of sacrifice and service because it is the life of Christ. In persona Christi Capitis the priest administers the sacraments; like Christ, he is the shepherd who guides and cares for the flock entrusted to him; as a mediator between God and humanity, he is called to sanctify God's people, bringing them ever closer to Him.

Diocesan Priests in Active Ministry

73



CLERGY
SUPPORT
TEAM

Retired Diocesan Priests

45

"The formation of future priests, both diocesan and religious, and lifelong assiduous care for their personal sanctification in the ministry and for the constant updating of their pastoral commitment is considered by the Church one of the most demanding and important tasks for the future of the evangelization of humanity." [Pastores Dabo Vobis, St John Paul II]

Priests - Religious and Overseas

55

Caring for our clergy at all stages of life and ministry is therefore a vital mission for the diocese of Portsmouth. The Diocesan Clergy Support Team provides specialised support to all priests of the diocese in their ongoing priestly formation, covering four domains: spiritual, pastoral, human and intellectual.

The team is led by Vicar for the Clergy Canon Paul Townsend who has been involved in ongoing formation for thirty years. Canon Paul has a small team of three part-time employed and three volunteer human development professionals from various backgrounds including psychology, social work, work with older persons, HR and adult learning.

£311,421

CLERGY SUPPORT
SPENDING

2018-2019



"I will give you shepherds after my own heart"
Jer. 3:15

The team provides five distinct services:

- Annual Clergy Training Programme
- Individual Support to Priests who are Recently Ordained (- 4 Years) and their parish priests
- Individual Tailored Support to Priests who are facing significant or complex challenges
- Individual Support and Group Induction for Priests in Transition between Parishes/or from Overseas
- Individual Support and Practical Assistance to Retired Priests and those in Transition to Retirement



Support in moving post ranges from practical assistance, the administrative challenges of changing address and health support structures, emotional well-being during transition (including working on the topics of stress, loss and disorientation), facilitating new working relationships, and the pacing of change.

The team also holds an annual clergy training programme, providing ten days of seminars and a three-day residential conference. Subjects cover those four domains of formation and this year included topics on pastoral challenges, scripture, developments in marriage preparation, hospital chaplaincy, medical ethics, school liaison and the mandatory safeguarding training as well as days of prayer and the biennial diocesan clergy retreat at Douai Abbey.

"The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus"

Jean Marie Vianney

Our Seminarians

7
YEARS

£210K

COSTS
PER
MAN

Preparing a man for the priesthood

Training our seminarians is an essential part of diocesan life. Investing in our discerners, providing them with opportunities for human, spiritual, intellectual and pastoral formation, cultivates an environment in which priestly vocations are discovered and shaped. The process of formation for the priesthood normally takes six to seven years, during which time the seminarians live in a community built around prayer and study.

What is seminary for? From a purely practical perspective, it's comforting to know that if God calls you to be a priest, ordination is still years away. Seminary offers a period of intensive formation to help a man address his concerns, grow in holiness, and prepare for an effective priestly ministry. No man enters seminary ready to be a priest!



Seminarians currently in formation

St John's Womersley: Paul Nwune, yr 5; Allen Hall, London: James Lewis, yr 4; St Mary's, Oscott: Ambrose Chou, yr 2, David Bateman, yr 3; Venerable English College, Rome: Ryan Browne, yr 1, Edward Hauschild, yr 3, Anthony Fyk, yr 6; Beda college, Rome: Kevin Conmee, yr 3; Mater Sacerdotum, Shrewsbury: Farvin Gonsalves, Ryan Hawkes and Jack Ryan; Sacred Heart Catholic Church: Rev Matthew King.

Applicants for formation this year

If all five applicants are successful with the discernment panel in April and enter seminary formation continuing through the seven years of priestly formation to ordination, the total cost for these five men alone will be £1.05 million. It currently costs £210,000 per seminarian for formation to the priesthood. That's £85 per day!

Ordinations during the year 2018-2019

Fr Mohanraj Edward and Fr Johnpromise Umeozuru, were ordained to the sacred ministry of the priesthood at St John's Cathedral, July 2019. Fr Mohanraj is now serving in St Joseph's parish, Guernsey, and Fr Johnpromise is serving in St Thomas' parish in Jersey. Rev Matthew King was ordained to the transitional diaconate at Palazzola, Rome.

Upcoming Ordinations

Rev Matthew King will be ordained to the sacred ministry of the priesthood on Sat 18 April 2020, at St John's Cathedral and Anthony Fyk will be ordained to the sacred ministry of the priesthood on 14 July 2020 in Rome.



Priests Retirement Fund (PRF)

Canon David Hopgood oversees the welfare of retired priests using the services of the clergy support team and the stewardship of the PRF capital fund provided by Mr Alan Sendall.

Priests of the diocese retire at 75 unless illness or other circumstances indicate an earlier date. 45 priests are in retirement with another 12 due to retire in the next four years. 13 of those 45 live outside the Diocese, most having returned to be nearby family. Four of the retired priests are in residential care and another three in our recently provided semi-independent retired clergy flats near Basingstoke.

Some Fund Statistics

- 17 PRF owned properties
- 3 Diocesan properties rented by PRF
- 3 Maryfield Flats
- 5 Care Homes
- 2 Other Church properties
- 14 priests who own their own property

If a priest decides to stay within the diocese post retirement and needs financial assistance the PRF will invest in an appropriate property that facilitates independent living for the priest in a place of their choice, within the limits of a determined budget and according to future health needs.

Before retirement, the clergy support team are in regular contact with the priest, to work through these logistical issues as well as other practical and emotional needs, ranging from cooking and domestic skills, setting up phone, broadband and TV contracts for the first time, to role changes, loneliness and isolation, celebrating Mass less often, being useful, health issues and all the familiar issues to do with ageing.

Fellowship with all Diocesan priests continues through visiting, participation in clergy training and retreats, and the provision of holiday and other supply cover for parish priests. Our retired clergy really do keep the show on the road in terms of filling in the gaps for Sunday Masses.

Retired priests are regularly visited by a member of the clergy support team who is often the person who first spots that more support may be needed as the priest becomes frail or no longer wants to live alone. In such cases, placements in either residential care or nursing care or in our semi-independent flats become options along with the complex assessment process for local authority funding for those placements.

“White hairs are a crown of honour,
they are found in the ways of uprightness”

Proverbs 16:31

“lead a life worthy of the calling to which you
have been called” Ephesians 4:1



Vocation Promotion

“A VOCATION FLOWS FROM THE
HEART OF GOD”

POPE FRANCIS

Vocation Promotion Team

To discover your vocation is to discover the specific way in which you personally are called to know, love and serve God with your life. Working this out is not always easy. The noise of busy, stressful lives can often be an obstacle to hearing this call. The Vocations Promotion Team seeks to build an awareness of vocation across the diocese, and supports individuals in hearing and answering this call via prayer networks, opportunities for formation, parish and school outreach and the provision of resources.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

2018-2019

£27,147

VOCATION PROMOTION
SPENDING

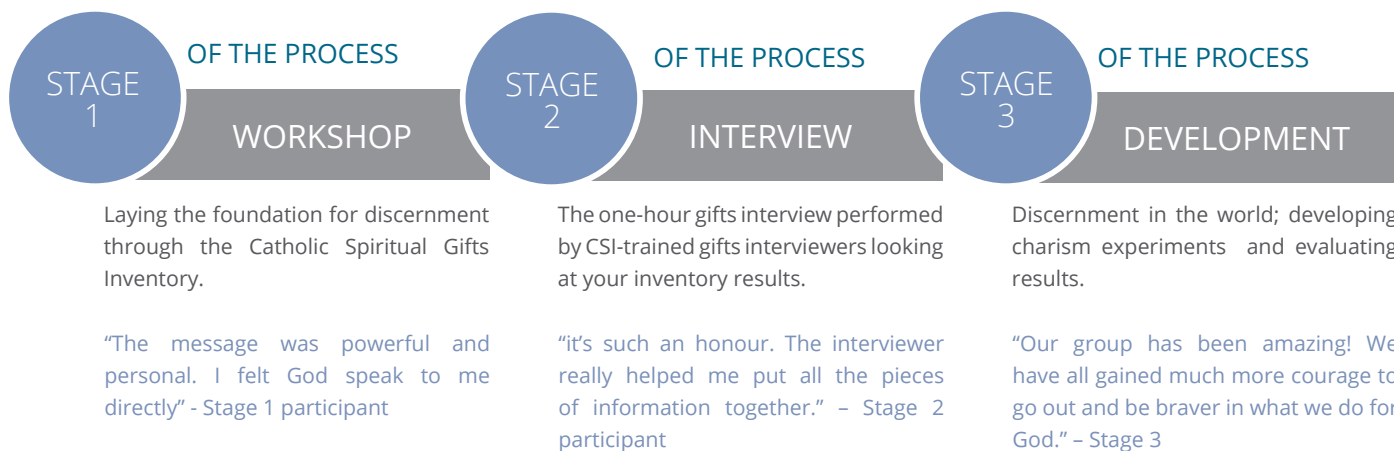
- New Diocesan Vocations Website
- Monthly discerner group, ‘Seeker’, for those considering a vocation, or discerning God’s will for their lives
- Successful inauguration of a Diocesan prayer network, reaching 990 people so far
- ‘Seminarian of the month’ articles
- Organisation of vocations days in diocesan schools with inspirational speakers
- Regular Discernment weekends
- Resources encouraging laity to pray for vocations include:
- Rosary for Vocations prayer booklet, Stations of the Cross, Holy Hours, Good Shepherd Novena, Advent Wreath prayers •
- Marriage witness testimonies given at masses
- Provision of Good Shepherd resources across diocesan schools and parishes
- Talks given in 11 parishes, 1 school and 1 youth group
- Annual BBQ for seminarians and discerners

Called and Gifted

ENABLING CATHOLICS TO DISCERN THE PRESENCE OF CHARISMS

Discernment Process

The Called and Gifted Discernment Process has the specific goal of enabling Catholics to discern the presence of charisms in their lives. The programme is based on the premise that each person is uniquely gifted through the Holy Spirit and when these gifts are understood, and allowed to manifest, the person will be able to fulfil their potential according to God's will. The Process could be viewed as the Bishop's project to call forth, develop and invest in the giftedness of his people.



2000
PEOPLE
REACHED

14
TRAINING
DAYS

379
PARTICIPANTS



£35,396
2018 2019
SPENDING

"We have witnessed family conversions to the faith, including our youth; callings to priesthood and diaconate, the changing of unjust cultures in the workplace, people bringing God's healing to others, new ways of making the faith alive and relevant for our youth, to name just a few."

The Diocese of Portsmouth Called and Gifted Team have become the UK leaders in this area and are currently sharing their expertise with other dioceses.



There are different ways the Spirit works. But the same God is working in all these ways and in

Spiritual Journey

The Pre-Discipleship Team, led by Clare Simpson, focuses on the spiritual journey that all Catholics go through before they become disciples. Based on the work of Sherry Weddel, who identifies preliminary stages in one's faith journey, of "trust, curiosity and openness", before reaching "discipleship", the team looks at ways to engage people of these initial stages, in a formation of faith.



PRE
DISCIPLESHIP
TEAM

Team Achievements

- Provided Team training in how to be an Ananias, for faithful around the diocese who are already at the stage of 'disciple'. An Ananias is someone who can accompany others on their spiritual journey, whether friends, family, work colleagues or others in the parish.
- Ananias retreat days called The Great Story of Jesus, which have taken place in several parishes, as well as the Annual Deacon Conference, and a number of inset days for teachers working in diocesan schools.
- Prayer network of 70 intercessors from around the diocese who pray for all sorts of requests received through the diocesan website, to which there have been many extraordinary results.
- Team set up in Abingdon to accompany parents from Baptism to Confirmation.
- House groups set up, who meet regularly to develop their own formation and outreach.
- Engaged with 10 parishes and two hundred participants.
- Healing Advisory Group was set up in early 2019 to develop and implement the Bishop's Healing Norms, issued January 2019. The principle objective is to develop prayer ministry in the diocese, training lay people in how to pray with others, whether in small groups or in a parish setting, for healing and deliverance. The group have engaged with 40 parishes so far, and several hundred people.
- Prayer network of 70 intercessors from around the diocese who pray for all sorts of requests received through the diocesan website, to which there have been many extraordinary results.

DIOCESAN
STATISTICS
2018-2019

"To be saints is not a privilege for the few,
but a vocation for everyone"

Pope Francis

32826

ATTEND WEEKLY MASS

286

CATECHUMENS

1834

BAPTISMS

2113

1ST HOLY COMMUNION

570

CONFIRMATIONS

412

MARRIAGES

1184

DEATHS

10M

VOLUNTEER HOURS
EST

Our Parishes

The Parish... from one priest's perspective

The 'parish' is the opportunity to reach people where they live. As we know, in the gospel, Jesus worked and met people where they lived. In an age that puts precedence on the internet and social media, the physical Church, its parish halls and centres, its people coming together in community, answers that human need for 'encounter', for human contact, for friendship. This is why the parish life lies at the heart of our diocese and the wider world, and why it will never lose its importance.

St Swithun Wells

Our parish at St Swithun Wells is quite complex. With 6 churches, covering a huge area, it presents various challenges; each one has its own history and traditions, but this at the same time provides a vibrancy, with possibilities for people to meet each other and bring their own experiences.

Christianity is Alive

In our parish we have been putting an emphasis on the fact that Christianity is a life. We don't just want to offer programmes that have a beginning and an end, we want to offer a flavour of the eternity of Christian friendship, so we have been forming groups that target all ages, aimed at all people, whatever stage in the faith they may be, as a place where they can be formed in a sense of authentic community. We have the 'stars of Abraham' for primary school, with 60 children involved, 'grail seekers' for yrs 7-9, with 40 young people, a year 10+ group as well as many different adult groups, including our monthly families' get-together with over 20 families.

We have also been providing reading and musical activities for our parishioners, to assist them in their daily lives of faith. Finally, we have been encouraging charitable works, particularly among the children, going to care homes and institutions for people who have specific needs, in order for the children to learn what it is to live charity in action.



All shapes and Sizes

Myself, Fr Luca and Fr Marco, are part of a movement called Communion and Liberation. In our movement we try to live the fact that Christianity is a personal encounter with Christ in a community. This is why we live together as priests in the same house, with a life in common, and is why we try to promote an experience of communion in the different groups and in the parish as a whole.

There has been an official group of CL lay members in the parish that started a year ago. It is open to everyone, and a number of parishioners have felt called to join. We meet once a week, reading a text from Fr Luigi Giussani, the founder of the movement, and using the text as a starting point, as a form of inspiration and encouragement, we share our personal experiences of living a life of faith, the challenges, struggles, joys. The witnesses we hear at the moment of sharing are incredibly deep and enriching.

I think perhaps the most beautiful thing is that the people who have become involved in this weekly meeting have been growing in their life of faith and in friendship between themselves. In this way they are a witness of joy and happiness in the parish. So we see a wonderful complementarity between parish life and the life of the CL movement, where the one sustains and nourishes the other.

Fr Raffaele

St Swithun Wells Parish

£28,656

2018 2019
SPENDING

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE



Upon this rock I build My Church

At the beating heart of parish life are our families. Husbands, wives, sons, daughters, grandfathers and grandmothers; families forge our community in vibrancy and richness that replenishes the Church with a contagious joy. The family is the first community, the first place where our children are educated. Authority, stability, and a life of relationships within the family constitute the foundations for freedom, security, and fraternity itself within society.

The marriage and Family Life Team exists to support marriage and family life in a variety of ways:

- Delivering a preparation programme covering spiritual, theological and practical content, with formed and trained catechists;
- Promoting and forming couples in natural fertility awareness
- Establishing grandparents' prayer groups in parishes
- 'Loving4life' sacramental marriage retreats
- 'Breakthrough' workshops, combining psychology and Catholic teaching, aimed at overcoming 'gridlock' in



The Team's ultimate goal is to invite all people of the diocese into a renewed appreciation of the depth and beauty of the Catholic Church's vision of marriage and family life and its enrichment through our call to chastity.

"I wish this workshop existed when we needed it... I see the damage we have done to our children and it's rather late... this should be offered more widely in the diocese. Thank you for all you have shared and God richly bless your ministry and your own families" – a divorced Catholic attendee to the Breakthrough workshop.

Evangelisation

GO FORTH AND SET THE WORLD ON FIRE

Outward Looking Servants

Our parishes would not be fulfilling their missionary function if they were not committed to living as outward seeking servants. The Department for New Evangelisation seeks to encourage and enable parishioners to share Christ's love and transmit his Gospel message with the peripheries of their own parishes as well as the wider world. It does this through coordinated events and initiatives by the New Evangelisation Team, the social research unit, the formation of children and adults for mission, and dialogue with fellow Christians, other religions, and with the various cultural sectors.

Director of the department and Episcopal Vicar of the Vicariate for Evangelisation Fr Mark Hogan describes the importance of this work: "The work of evangelisation is essential. Jesus himself gave us the great commission: 'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations' (Mt 28:19) Jesus entrusted his disciples with a partnership in the salvation of the world. The transmission of the Gospel message depends on us. Pope Paul VI, in his Apostolic Exhortation Evangelii Nuntiandi, wrote that it is 'the whole Church that receives the mission to evangelise, and the work of each individual member is important for the whole.' (15)"

NEW
PEOPLE

176

CATECHUMENS

129

RECEIVED INTO CHURCH

159

RCIA INSTRUCTION



£93,142
2018 2019
SPENDING



Divine Network (DR) Network

A number of parishes have signed up with the Divine Renovation Network, receiving coaching from Ron Huntly of St Benedict Parish, Halifax (Canada). Parishes include St Peter's, Winchester, English Martyrs, Reading St James and St William of York, Reading, City Centre, Southampton, St Michael and All Angels, Leigh Park, Sacred Heart, Waterloooville

The work of Divine Renovation rests upon three fundamental tenets:



A Simple Goal

Divine Renovation has a simple goal: To Inspire and equip parishes to be missional and through them bring people to Jesus. It aims to accomplish this through events, resources and hands-on coaching.

Senior Leadership Teams

Senior leadership teams have been set up in the parishes, who meet on a weekly basis to tackle the key day to day and week to week challenges of leading a parish that is trying to make the journey from maintenance to mission. In St Peter's Winchester, the Parish Council ('Evangelisation Strategy

Group') has developed a parish vision, mission and 5-year plan to help the parish stay on track.

Key Success

A key success across the involved parishes has been their chosen evangelisation tool, the Alpha course. Well over 100 people have participated from St Peter's, Winchester alone, with one evening and two day-time alpha's running. This tool is having a highly positive impact on the lives of the individuals and on the culture of the parish, as many 'Alpha graduates' are invited back as part of the team to lead later sessions. It has created an experience of authentic Christian community.





Spiritual Journey

Alpha is a parish tool for evangelisation based on hospitality, rooted in open conversation. The same Alpha content is run all over the world, by Christians of all traditions, sharing the good news of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The basic tenet is that everyone is welcome.

Overview

Running for eight weeks at a time, 20 to 30 guests meet to share a meal, watch an informative film about an aspect of Christianity and then gather into small groups for discussion and fellowship.

For the year 2018-2019, parishes running Alpha courses include St James's Reading, English Martyr's Reading, Abingdon, Tadley, Havant pastoral area have five parishes running courses, St Edmund Campion, Maidenhead, Bracknell, Fleet, Hailing Island, Waterloooville, Basingstoke, Farnborough, Tadley, Our Lady and the Saints, Guernsey and the Avon Stour pastoral area.



"For me, this is what the life of the church should be about. It's given me a wonderful opportunity to deepen my relationship with Jesus and to get to know people I hadn't met before. It's given me more confidence to share the joy of my faith with others inside and outside the church." – recent participant



MANY MORE GRASS ROOTS PROJECTS

Growing from the Parishes

We have seen in our parishes that thriving communities inevitably form dedicated missionary parishioners. Consequently, in the spirit of the new evangelisation, in finding new ways of reaching people, some fantastic grassroots initiatives have materialised, and are taking place on a regular basis throughout the diocese.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

2018-2019

- Hospitality Ministries
- Social and Community Groups
- Catenians Mission and Outreach
- Knights of St Columba - Mission and Outreach
- Development of Blogs, Social Media Channels
- Parish Symposiums
- Groups -
- 'Welcome to Worship',
- Healing on the Streets',
- Unlocking the Bible',
- 'Faith on Tap'
- Street Pastor Initiative

FOCUS
ON



Nightfever is an initiative of evangelisation that has the Blessed Sacrament as its focus. Having taken place in St Mary's, Gosport, St Swithun's, Southsea and St Edmunds Southampton, its fruitfulness lies in its simplicity. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed, and with the help of sacred music, volunteers take to the streets two by two, inviting people into the Church to light a candle.

Mike Slater, Nightfever coordinator from Gosport, describes the programme and its impact.

"It brings people in front of God. And we are saying 'Look, the church is always open, come in any time. You are welcome'. It brings them in touch with Jesus. We bring people in and we let God do the rest.

Nightfever happens about 6 times a year on a Saturday evening, and as well as this, we've had an offshoot initiative that we call 'adoration outreach', which is a simple version of Nightfever, taking place every Thursday afternoon. In the afternoons we have 30, 40 even 50 people coming in, who are usually going about their daily business, who stop for a while to come into the Church, to light a candle, say a prayer for a loved one, or simply sit. In the evening, we approach many people who are out for the night, and people are very visibly moved by coming into the Church. It is a wonderful way to evangelise. We have such positive feedback, with many wanting to know more about the faith. At our last Nightfever, I approached one chap out with a group of people, who replied to me: 'I keep saying no. You know what? I'm coming in!'



Formation for Mission

SERVING THE NEED - ALL CATHOLICS - FORMED IN THE FAITH

Upon this rock I build My Church

It is important to provide the necessary foundations for our parishes to evangelise. Our parish communities, our people need to be alive in their faith, and formed, knowledgeable witnesses. To be able to be outward looking we must also look at ourselves and be evangelised ourselves.

The Formation for Mission team, led by Dominican Sr Hyacinthe Defos du Rau, exists to serve the need for all Catholics to be formed in the faith. It seeks to equip the faithful in engaging passionately at the service of the Church's mission in this diocese of bringing all people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church.

Core Team Members

25

The team provide general formation through weekly webinars and podcasts, tailor-made events, courses of varying levels and parish resources.

Dominican Sisters

10

It provides specific formation and support for parish catechists, children's Liturgy leaders and parish readers through annual events, courses, workshops, training days and resources.

Lay Co-ordinators

15

It responds to requests from parishes looking for specific training: RCIA, children and parents' catechesis (Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion), on-going catechesis, Children's Liturgy of the Word, adult catechesis.

The team also helps to facilitate the Rite of Election taking place in the Cathedral each year at the beginning of Lent.



£29,546

2018 - 2019
SPENDING



“Fantastic course which has inspired me to deepen my own faith, not just try to teach it.” -
Catechists course participant

2018 - 2019 Highlights

- Annual Diocesan Day for Catechists in October 2019, with an attendance of 140
- Preparation for the Year of the Word (www.godwhospeaks.org)
- 2 retreat days: one for new Catholics and one for Catechists
- 2 Training Days for Children's Liturgy of the Word leaders
- 2 Training Days for First Holy Communion Catechists
- Catechists courses run in Hook, Winchester and Andover, for a total of 84 catechists; the courses were rated excellent in 94% of the participants' feedbacks
- 2 Maryvale courses offered in the diocese
- Contribution to the Rite of Election with a renewed format
- Catechists Formation Conference in Notre Dame de Vie, France
- Launch of the diocesan 'Readers Workshops' in Leigh Park, for 60 participants, with a goal of equipping them in proclaiming the Word of God

REGULAR
SUPPORT

630

PEOPLE ENGAGED IN
EVENTS

51

DELIVERED

WEBINARS

251

RECEIVED

PARTICIPANTS

19
PARISHES

DOWNLOADED

3452

PODCAST
DOWNLOADS



SECTORS FOR DIALOGUE

"THE MORE I STUDY NATURE, THE
MORE I STAND AMAZED AT THE
WORK OF THE CREATOR."

LOUIS PASTEUR

Science or Religion? A Symposium

The Sectors for Cultural Dialogue team are composed of professionals from various disciplines, e.g. medicine, business, education, politics etc. The team seeks to bring the Catholic Tradition into a critical conversation with the thinking and philosophy of those cultural sectors. For the financial year 2018-2019, the team organized a symposium on science and religion which took place in November 2018, with over 200 attendees.

The day was made up of various workshops given by renowned professors in the fields of science, philosophy and theology, and two key-note talks were delivered by celebrity scientist and professor, Dr Brian Cox and Fr Andrew Pinsent, Catholic priest and CERN physicist.



CIVIC RELATIONS

The civic relations team seeks to cultivate good relations with MP's, with those who work in local government and in the public bodies located within our diocese. The team organises an annual Civic Mass at the Cathedral. During the 2018-2019 year, Bishop Philip met with local MP's to discuss topical issues.



"IN ORDER TO UNITE WITH ONE ANOTHER, WE MUST LOVE ONE ANOTHER; IN ORDER TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER, WE MUST KNOW ONE ANOTHER; IN ORDER TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER, WE MUST GO AND MEET ONE ANOTHER."

CARDINAL MERCIER 1920



Universal

Headed by Canon David Hopgood, the Christian Unity Team aims to promote and develop good relations with the clergy and laity of other Christian communities, both with the Orthodox and Reformed communities (Anglican, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Free Church, Pentecostal, Baptist and non-denominational Churches). More specifically it engages in various activities through education and prayer to work for a deeper communion among the different denominations.



The inter-religious dialogue team, headed by Canon John O'Shea, seeks to develop good relations with other religious communities and their leaders. The team is largely based in Southampton, where a Council of Faith, headed by Mgr Vincent Harvey, meets once a month with representatives of other religions in order to discuss relevant issues, enter dialogue, and grow in fellowship. This past year they have been working together on events and initiatives such as the Holocaust Memorial day and the Peace Walks initiative. Each year they meet for a Christmas lunch and together they have close working relationships with the city council.



CARITAS

"A VOCATION FLOWS FROM THE
HEART OF GOD"
POPE FRANCIS

£84,585

2018 - 2019
SPENDING

Caritas Portsmouth Team

Caritas exists in order to respond to the third of the three major objectives of the Catholic Church: spread the Gospel, deliver the sacraments and charitable action. Its principle aim is to reach out in love to those most in need, setting up social action projects for the homeless, refugees, asylum seekers, those living in social isolation etc. Caritas Portsmouth operates throughout the diocese, working with parishes, schools and outside agencies to deliver a range of social action projects.

"Jesus tells us what the 'protocol' is, on which we will be judged. It is the one we read in chapter 25 of Matthew's Gospel: I was hungry, I was thirsty, I was in prison, I was sick, I was naked and you helped me, clothed me, visited me, took care of me. Whenever we do this to one of our brothers, we do this to Jesus. Caring for our neighbor; for those who are poor, who suffer in body and in soul, for those who are in need. This is the touchstone." Pope Francis

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS 2018-2019

- Four projects to house Syrian refugee families in Fareham, Horndean, Basingstoke and Ringwood
- InSight drop-in projects for those living in social isolation in Portsmouth and Tadley
- Night Shelters in Windsor and Portsmouth
- Sunday lunch provision for homeless in Southsea
- Education classes for young asylum seekers in Portsmouth
- Literacy classes for immigrants in Reading
- Holiday clubs in Southampton, Portsmouth and Basingstoke
- Caritas Dragons Den social action project schools competition
- Caritas Faith in Action and JP2 school awards

"This shelter gives me a place to reflect"
Night Shelter Guest

"I look forward to coming here. It gives me
a reason to get up in the morning"
Insight project guest

"The response from the local community is amazing, especially for our homeless church shelters. When Caritas provides a platform and channel to get involved it shows that despite what we hear, people do care." DIRECTOR OF CARITAS PORTSMOUTH



Catholic Education

SCHOOLS - CHRIST AT THE CENTRE

Why do we have Catholic Schools?

The key reason why Catholic schools are established is to be part of the Church's mission in education, to place Christ and the teaching of the Catholic Church at the centre of people's lives. "Education is integral to the mission of the Church to proclaim the Good News. First and foremost every Catholic educational institution is a place to encounter the living God who in Jesus Christ reveals his transforming love and truth." This evangelising mission is exercised through the diverse interaction of Catholic schools with their local parishes, families, societies and cultures they serve.

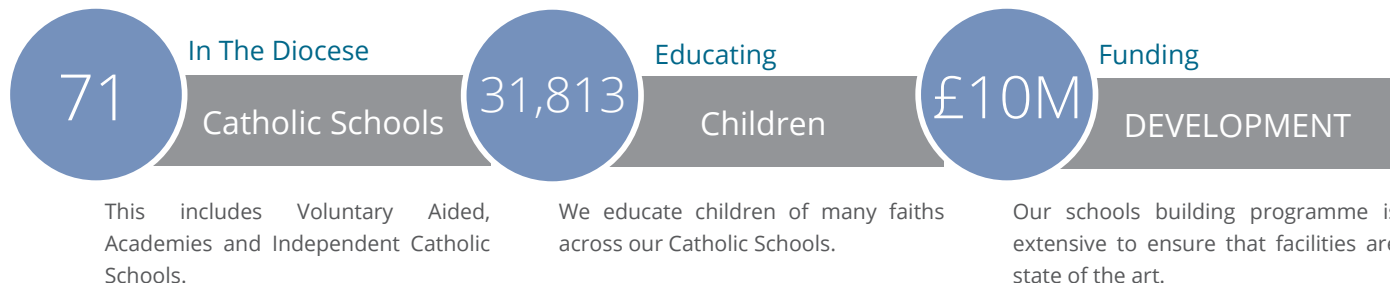
This means that the Church provides Catholic schools to be more than just places where pupils are equipped with learning and skills for the workplace and responsible citizenship. Rather, they are to be the communities where the spiritual, cultural and personal worlds within which we live are harmonised to form the roots from which grow our values, motivation, aspirations and the moral imperatives that inform our choices and actions as persons.

Catholic Academies and Schools Office

What does it do?

The Catholic Academies and Schools Office ensures on behalf of the Bishop that all the Catholic schools of our Diocese (independent, maintained voluntary aided and maintained academies) operate as 'Catholic schools' in accordance with both canon and civil law.

The Department seeks to develop our schools as key diocesan tools of evangelisation in union with the local parishes, pastoral areas and deaneries. The Department promotes excellence in Catholic education, providing direction and consultation in all diocesan schools and their governing bodies, especially in religious education, collective worship and religious education resources, all of which are at the heart of the curriculum and purpose of a Catholic school.





“What kind of a person do you want to be?”

POPE BENEDICT XVI

SUPPORT
FOR
SCHOOLS

Schools Inspected by OFSTED

11

Judged Good or Better

63%

Catholic Life and RE Standards

Judged Good or Better

83%

Catholic Life and RE Standards

Judged Outstanding

62%

Section 48 Inspections

12

Policy Governance

Through termly briefings for Headteachers, partnership briefings for Foundation Governors, and monthly newsletters, CASO updates schools on changes to education policy and facilitates the sharing of good practice between schools.

Formation

CASO provides training for new headteachers, foundation governors, teachers new to the diocese, newly qualified teachers, RE Leaders, heads of RE, teachers of RE, seminarians and priests. It also provides tailor made support on specific issues, e.g. delivery of the RE curriculum, the appointing of headteachers and senior leaders, pastoral issues, or standards following disappointing results or an OFSTED outcome.

Interconnection

CASO liaises across 12 local authority areas, including education representatives from local authorities, the department for education and the Catholic education services.

Collaboration

Headteachers and governors serve on our education steering and stewardship groups which help to discern the priorities for our work and how we can further support each other by working in partnership.



Spending 2018/19

£343,621
CASO

£10M
CONSTRUCTION

£121M
GOVT FUNDING



SOME HIGHLIGHTS 2018-2019

TRAINING AND FORMATION

Annual Schools Mass

Schools gave thanks for the charitable work of our schools in supporting those in need in the community. At this year's Mass 13 schools were awarded the Oscar Romero participator level for their work on Catholic social teaching.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

It is hoped this will be the first of a series of pilgrimage opportunities for school leaders, in support of their continued spiritual formation.

Annual Headteachers and Deputy Headteachers Conference

Aimed at providing support, challenge and dialogue for senior leaders in Education.

CHARITABLE WORKS

Across Our Schools

Students across the diocese have been involved in a variety of charitable activities including fundraising events for CAFOD, the SVP and Mary's Meals (among others), foodbank collections, 'friendship champion' anti bullying project, and the Bethany Group where students provide support to other students who have been bereaved.

SPIRITUALITY

Across Our Schools

There have been countless missions of prayer in our schools during the last year, such as the Bamenda prayer tree project, lunchtime prayer clubs, creation of prayer cards and rosary clubs, week-long adoration in schools, prayer retreats for year 10 students at St Cassian's retreat centre, and a youth led healing service, to name a few.

Educational Chaplaincy and Youth

Serving Young People

The Department of Educational Chaplaincies serves the youth of the diocese by organising events and providing robust services in mission, training and support to all chaplains (lay and ordained) and youth workers.

In particular it coordinates the ecclesial mission of school and university chaplains, networking them into unified missionary teams. Led by its director, Episcopal Vicar for Education Fr PJ Smith, the department focusses on mutual support, the sharing of information, liaising with the diocese on behalf of chaplains and youth workers, identifying existing challenges and proposing appropriate responses, as well as developing norms of good practice.

This year, the Department has also developed specialised consultation packages. Diocesan youth coordinators work with parish priests and various parish members, to form youth ministry teams and develop strategies for youth ministry within the parishes themselves.

Further to this, they have carried out newly designed training days at the pastoral area level.





SOME HIGHLIGHTS 2018-2019

LOURDES pilgrimage

42 young people helped to organise and run our pilgrimage to Lourdes in July 2019. Its aim was to invite young people to grow in their love of the Lord and his Church, while encouraging adult pilgrims to recognise Christ in the youth and take renewal in the vibrancy they bring to the liturgies. The outcome was remarkable. Adult pilgrims commented on the wonderful spirituality of the young, which opened their hearts and minds, and many of the youth were inspired to carry out other voluntary services, commit to acts of daily prayer, invite other youth to participate in the next diocesan pilgrimage and one young man even convinced his parents to sign up for Lourdes 2020.

42
YOUNG
PEOPLE

FLAME Youth Congress

350 young people were taken by the diocese to 'Flame' national youth congress in March 2019. The purpose of Flame is to invite all young people to discover or rediscover in a profound way that Jesus Christ is their brother, friend and saviour. Through inspiring talks and live music, it seeks to incite joy, hope and a sense of Christ's mercy.

350
YOUNG
PEOPLE

Annual Celebration for Altar Server

100 young people attended the diocesan 'Annual Altar Servers Day' in August 2019. The day was largely focussed on fraternity, with lots of fun activities, as well as an opportunity for sacramental encounter.

100
YOUNG
PEOPLE

£81,296

EDUCATIONAL CHAPLAINCIES SPENDING



UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

"DO NOT SAY, 'I AM ONLY A YOUTH'
FOR TO ALL TO WHOM I SEND YOU YOU SHALL GO,
AND WHATEVER I COMMAND YOU YOU SHALL SPEAK."

JER 1:7-9

Our University Chaplains

The university chaplains team comprises all Catholic Chaplains, lay and ordained, paid or voluntary working within universities. The Department for Educational Chaplaincies coordinates the ecclesial mission of the chaplains and networks them into a team. There are 6 university chaplaincies - Bournemouth, Portsmouth, Reading, Southampton Solent, Southampton and Winchester.

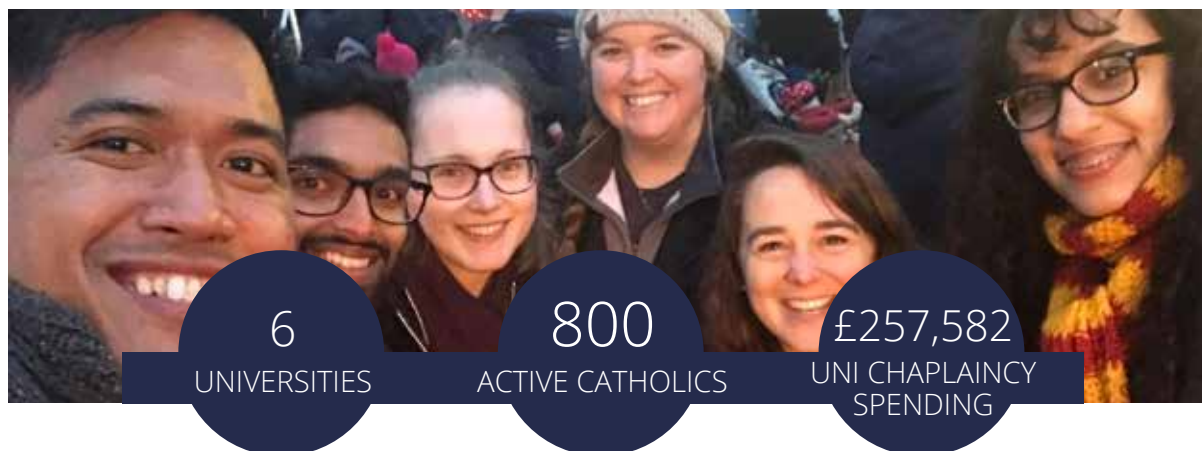
FOCUS

A team of FOCUS missionaries have been serving the students and chaplaincy at the University of Southampton since September 2017. The team consists of Kaitlin Gilday, Shea McMahon, Mickel McMahon, Katie Pestka and Jacob Grass, all from the USA. The role of the missionaries on campus is to invite university students into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church, to inspire and equip them for a life-time of Christ-centred evangelisation, discipleship, and friendship in which they can lead others to do the same.

Currently, there are 10 weekly Bible studies consisting of a total of 47 students, both men and women. The missionaries have invited 12 students to commit to living more intentionally as missionary disciples of Christ. These

men and women are in close mentorship with one of the missionaries. They have committed to daily prayer, frequenting the sacraments, striving to live virtuously and inviting more people in relationship with Christ through leading a Bible study themselves and discipling others.

Since the FOCUS missionaries have arrived in Southampton, several students have started attending daily Mass, either on campus or in a nearby parish. Also, several students have developed a more personal relationship with God and learned how to pray with Scripture through lectio divina. The missionaries are in contact with nearly 200 students at the university and are continuing to invest in those relationships with the hope of more souls coming to know Christ.





Hospital ● Prison ● Cultural ● Seafarers ●

CHAPLAINCY

"I WAS NAKED AND YOU CLOTHED
ME, I WAS SICK AND YOU VISITED
ME, I WAS IN PRISON AND YOU
CAME TO ME"

MATT 25: 36

Chaplaincy to Seafarers

Seafarers have a very difficult life working on the sea. They are away from home and family for many months of the year often working in harsh conditions, receiving low pay, working long hours, while at the same time visiting many foreign ports unfamiliar to them. Within the Diocese of Portsmouth, Stella Maris/Apostleship of the Sea provides daily and ongoing support to the many thousands of seafarers who visit the ports of Southampton and Portsmouth each year. By providing warm clothes and food, giving an attentive ear, and offering the sacraments, among other things, members of the clergy and the lay faithful, together, bring the Light of Christ to all seafarers. There is also an annual Mass each year.

HMP Isle of Wight

The Catholic Chaplaincy at HMP Isle of Wight is doing its best to meet the needs of the Catholic population and assists with the pastoral and sacramental ministry for prisoners (now called residents) and staff.

Fr Keith Windsor as RC Chaplain and Deacon Gary May as managing Catholic Chaplain, have baptised and confirmed about 17 residents with four upcoming. Between the Anglicans and Catholics there have been over 30 baptisms/confirmations in the last 12 months.

The Catholic Chaplaincy has run three Prison Alpha courses comprising of 7-10 week programmes and it has also undertaken regular Catechesis classes amongst other generic duties within the prison.

A Lay Prison Chaplain's Experience

I was appointed as Lay Roman Catholic Chaplain to HMP Winchester in 2019 and since then we have had the privilege of baptising, confirming and receiving into the Church a number of prisoners. This is a very exciting time. God has doubled the Mass attendance and I have started a Bible study group which He has grown so consistently that we are now looking at splitting it into two groups to manage interest and ensure we meet the needs of all those who attend. Prisoners who want to learn more about the Roman Catholic Church or those who have lost touch with their Catholic faith have access to teaching and instruction to develop this in groups or one-to-one.

Please continue to pray for the work of the Chaplaincy Team and the prisoners.



Ethnic Chaplaincy

The role of the Ethnic Chaplaincy Team is to value, celebrate and network each ethnic group. It seeks to facilitate the integration of peoples of different ethnicities into the life of the local parish, the diocese and the Universal Church.

Just recently Pope Francis celebrated Ethnic Masses with the Amazons (South American Liturgy), the Congolese (African Zaire Mass) and the Filipinos (Simbang Gabi or Traditional Pre-Christmas Mass) at the Vatican. The Holy Father said:

"Your faith is leaven in the parish communities to which you belong, today. I encourage you to increase opportunities for meeting to share your cultural and spiritual wealth, while at the same time allowing yourselves to be enriched by the experiences of others. We are all called to practice charity together with those who live in the existential peripheries, using our different gifts to renew the signs of the presence of the Kingdom. Together, we are all called to proclaim the Gospel, the Good News of salvation, in all languages, so as to reach as many people as possible."

Hospital Chaplaincy

Hospital Chaplaincy provides a vital ministry across the diocese, with 51 hospitals covered. The purpose and work of the chaplaincy team is to provide spiritual, sacramental and emotional support to the Roman Catholic families and patients whilst in hospital or in hospices.

For example, in just the QA hospital in Portsmouth, we have 16 priests serving at the hospital, visiting and accompanying people and witnessing to the face of Christ; they are making a marked difference in the lives of staff and patients who need their assistance, bringing comfort and a sense of hope and peace in their hour of need. On average at the QA hospital, the priests visit approximately 50 people per week and are available on call 24/7. Every Sunday a priest celebrates Mass at 4pm in the Hospital for approximately 30 to 40 people.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

2018-2019

- Feast of the Epiphany – Ethnic Mass and Ethnic food sharing afterwards
- Sunday Feast of the Infant Jesus – Filipino Mass
- Saturday Filipino Mass
- Sunday Ethnic Mass – St. Mary, Ryde Isle of Wight
- Mass for the Chinese New Year with Chinese Catholics
- Sunday Gambia Mass
- Saturday Diocesan Mass for Zimbabwe – Cathedral Portsmouth
- St Patrick Mass c/o Irish in the Diocese / Irish Club
- Anniversary Mass of Rwanda Massacre, Rwanda & Burundi Association
- Talk on Refugees – Sacred Heart, Waterlooville
- Filipino Mass – Southampton
- Pentecost Sunday – Ethnic Mass – CC Portsmouth
- Sunday – Nigerian Mass
- Thursday – Chinese Mass – Little Way

BAMENDA

"A VOCATION FLOWS FROM THE
HEART OF GOD"

POPE FRANCIS

Bamenda Portsmouth Team

In 1974 the dioceses of Bamenda and Portsmouth were formally twinned. Bamenda is the capital of North West Province in Cameroon, West Africa.

In 2014 we celebrated the 40th anniversary of the link with delegations from both dioceses visiting each other. Over the past 40 years more than £1,000,000 raised by Portsmouth Diocese has been spent on supporting projects in Bamenda in collaboration with the local communities in the areas of Faith, Health, Education and Social Welfare. The Portsmouth Bamenda Committee serves this link on behalf of the Diocese as a channel of information and mutual support, and by administering the funds that are contributed from the annual Bamenda Sunday collection and from parishes and other organisations/institutions who have taken on specific projects.

Our brothers and sisters in Bamenda Archdiocese over the last few years have, and continue to suffer in the current socio-political crisis. Human rights atrocities are occurring on a daily basis and hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced from their homes.



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

2018-2019

FAITH

In 2018/19, funded projects included completing the church at Alatening Mission, help with the roofing of St Paul's Mission Station Church, Bamessing, supporting the training of 12 postulants of the Tertiary Sisters of St Francis through the Maryvale Institute and two priests at Southampton University.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Funding went to sustain the workshops for people living with disabilities at Mambu Bafut; strengthening integrated networks to facilitate access for ordinary people to justice; to the Family Life Office to enhance the capacity of teenage single mothers to be self-reliant. Copnor parish continues to supplement prison food and a private donation continues to support the work of the HIV/AIDS Support Group.

Education

Classrooms were refurbished to create a Youth Centre on an Oratory model of St Don Bosco to provide a home/ school/ spiritual/play space for youth to provide hope in these troubled times. A computer literacy programme for youths unable to attend school was also funded to equip young people for the jobs market.

Health

Projects supported included equipment for Phase 2 of Bamessing Health Centre, along with the purchase of a four wheel drive vehicle to enable Sr Louisa of the Archdiocesan Catholic Health Service to deliver the services required around the region. Cosham parish's monthly bucket collections continued to support crisis outreach from Njinikom Hospital.

Chief Operating Officer



Reflections and plans

The Diocese of Portsmouth is a large and dispersed organisation under one Charity. There are all the usual functions that one may see in any business environment, which are described in our current organisation chart. It is usual for these to change over time as the needs of the organisation change and as people develop in their roles.

The fostering of team work across all the professional disciplines is essential to be able to meet our aspirations to support our Parishes and Schools in achieving the Bishops vision so while our diagram shows each team separately the challenge is to keep working at a whole team approach.

During 2018/19 we saw some people leave the central team and we thank them for their years of service to the Diocese. In the first half of the financial year 2020/21 We welcomed some new people to the central team who have already made a difference to the way we work bringing fresh ideas and energy. Our plans to develop the way we work together have progressed and this has enabled us to respond to the very rapidly changing position brought about by the Covid 19 pandemic flu.

We have played our part in working with those of other faiths under the local resilience forums, joining up our response to the changing needs of our local people.

£1,070,922

BUDGET

CENTRAL
PARISH SUPPORT

6.5%

OF TOTAL
DIOCESAN
EXPENDITURE

What this means for the coming year cannot be entirely predicted as at the time of writing we are still navigating our way through the period of lock down which has seen our churches closed and much of our usual activity curtailed.

The Diocesan central departments must now be focussed on developing our ability to adapt quickly to changing demands, ensuring that we be confident about our ability to support our parishes as we work through the upheaval and longer-term impacts together and to keep in our minds the reason we are all here which is to bring Jesus Christ closer to people through his Church.

Our key priorities are outlined below, recognising some of the limitations of the current time.

Good stewardship of our resources for now and for future generations.

Most of the money we receive comes from donations by people who love and care for the Church. It is our responsibility to use the resources wisely for our current needs and to ensure long term sustainability. This annual report shows how we have used the money we have been given to further the mission of our Church and there is always more we can do to be Christ to the world.

The short term consequences of the Covid 19 have meant that our parishes have lost much of their financial support and we will need to rely on you for help so that we can continue to keep our faith alive through our churches long into the future.

Support for men in formation for priesthood, for our clergy and those who are sick and retired are a priority for the year ahead as well as developing on all the work you have read about from

ORGANISATION
PRIORITIES
2019-2021

PRIORITY

1

the last year and of course we have the day to day running costs that do not diminish so finding new sources of income as well as making the best use of what we already have will be a key priority.

We have assets especially land and property that have strong meanings and association for people. In partnership with local people we will seek opportunities to use some of those assets to support the longer-term sustainability of our parishes as well as add real social value to the local communities in keeping with our priorities.

PRIORITY
2

Supporting the development of the Diocese’s long-term plan

The development of the Diocesan long term plan, which is work led by the Bishop ,will be widely consulted on and will shape the way the wider Diocese and in turn the central departments develop over the next two to three years.

The pandemic has forced us to work in very different ways to connect with our Faith and each other and the shape of this plan will be informed by that learning.

PRIORITY
3

Supporting our Priests and our Parish Community and working in partnership with others.

Now more than ever we have much to do to support our clergy, staff and volunteers. We will also continue to build effective partnership working with other organisations, for example statutory agencies, voluntary sector and across the Catholic Bishops Conference England and Wales so that we both benefit from and contribute to developments across the whole of or work.

Succession planning and effective training and development all contribute to building an organisation fit for the future. Listening to parish-based staff several needs were identified that we must progress.

Part of our development will also rely on our ability to embrace and adapt to the changes afforded to us through new technology. We have much work to do in the coming year on upgrading our systems so that we can be as responsive and productive as possible to meet the demands that serving such a large area demands.

PRIORITY
4

Good Governance and transparency.

The way an organisation makes decisions and governs itself is important and we are held to account to comply with the legislation and good practice. Over the coming year we will continue to develop our policies and procedures and to make the best use of data to underpin our decision making. This work means that we can be sure we are applying best practice to all that we do.

The Bishop has highlighted safeguarding as a key priority area and we have begun a new journey of improving practice with the external review which is just completing at the time of writing and which will set the plan for the coming year.

We hope that the production of this annual report has shown our commitment to being open with all that is happening, and we look forward to sharing the realisation of our priorities in future years.

FRAMEWORK FOR COLLABORATION

Curia

The Diocesan Curia consists of those institutions and persons, which assist the Bishop in the governance of the diocese, especially in guiding pastoral action, in caring for administration within the overall authority of the Diocesan Trust Deed and in exercising judicial power. In the Diocese of Portsmouth, the Diocesan Curia is also called the Framework for Collaboration. It comprises many teams, experts and ministers who directly assist the pastoral mission of the Diocese.

Principle Duty of the Framework

One of the principle duties of the Framework for Collaboration and of every team is to enable the implementation of the Diocesan mission: Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church. Within the Framework for Collaboration there are three Vicariates: for Vocation, for Education and for Evangelisation, representing the three dynamically interrelated strands of Christian discipleship.

Trustees

The Diocese of Portsmouth is a registered charity in England and Wales under civil law. Chaired by the Bishop, the Trustees have responsibility for ensuring that the activity of the Diocese complies fully with charity law and civil law in all areas.

5

Members of Laity

Diocesan Trustees

8

Members of the Clergy

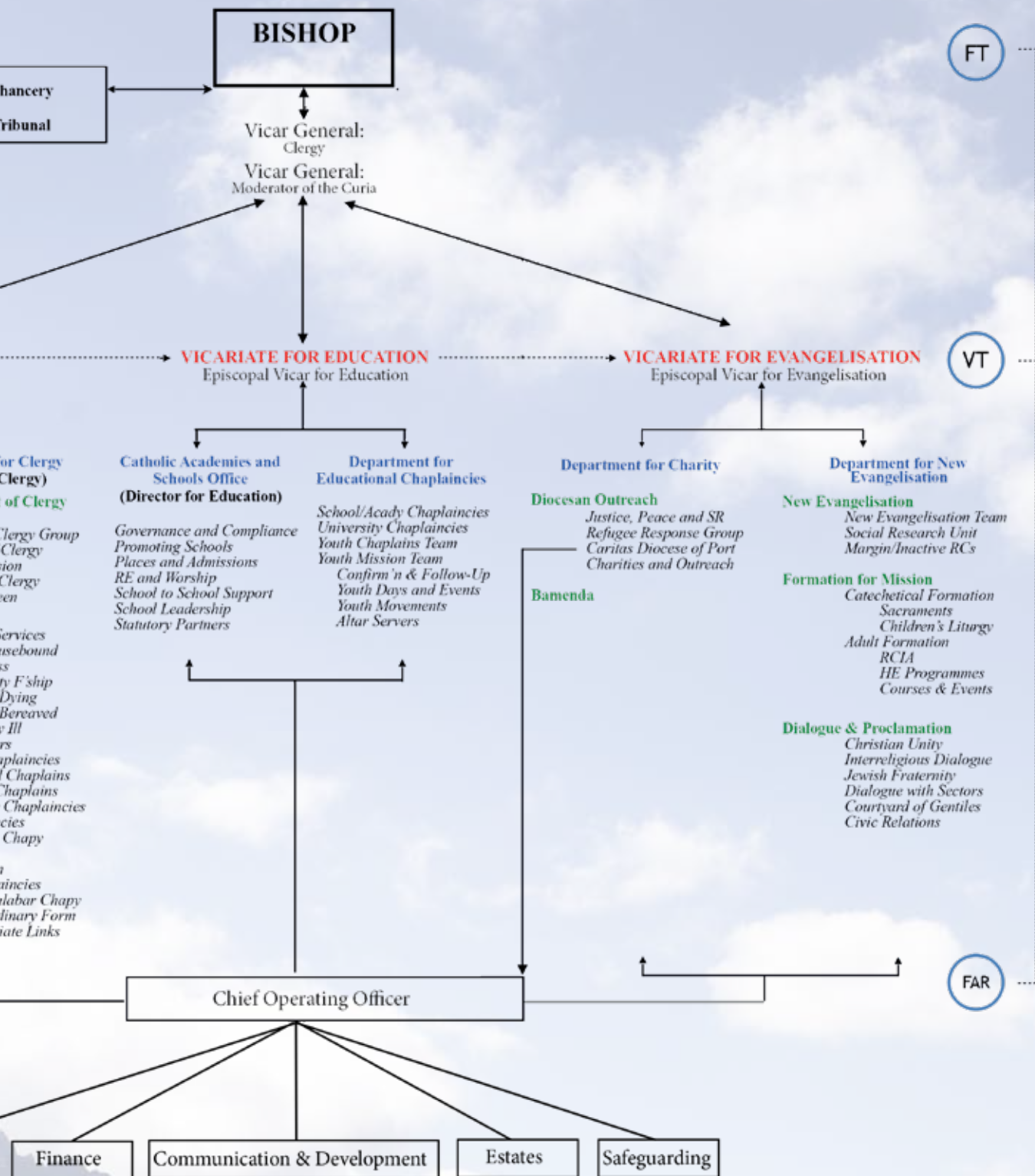
Diocesan Trustees

Charity trustees play a very important role in making sure that the charity is run in the interests of the people it is there to support. They strategically oversee the management and administration

of the organisation. The group is made up of clergy, including the Bishop's Council, and members of the Laity with a plethora of professional experience.



HR





138
VIDEOS
VIMEO

INCREASE
FOLLOWERS
&
ENGAGEMENT

135,000
PEOPLE
SINGLE POST
REACH

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Functions of the Communications Department include:

- Managing 3 diocesan websites and multiple digital and social media channels and continuous content
- Various digital newsletters and blogs, including ENews, PA Forum, AdClerum
- Running promotions, either on social media or at physical locations.
- Holding events, such as continuing education opportunities, networking mixers or training.
- Overseeing media relations, including writing and distributing news releases, responding to media inquiries
- Public speaking, including representing the diocese in public settings and preparing ambassadors to speak publicly.
- Develop promotional materials, including brochures, newsletters and mailers.
- Finding opportunities for promotion, whether in print, on TV or online.
- Handling crisis communications when an issue threatens public safety or the diocesan reputation.
- Overseeing internal diocesan communications, including internal announcements and training.



INSTAGRAM
FACEBOOK
TWITTER
FLICKR
VIMEO

30,000
MONTHLY
WEB
VISITORS



COMMUNICATION

"PREACH THE GOSPEL, AND
OCCASIONALLY USE WORDS"

ANON

What We Do

The Diocesan Communications team work to deliver high quality communications across a wide range of disciplines – including media relations, campaigns and marketing, digital and internal communications. We play a key role in: helping the public understand the Diocesan vision and priorities, and in supporting parishes to promote the mission of the Church by sharing the inspirational stories of real people and the amazing things that they are engaged with.

Our aim is to develop communications that are relevant, engaging, focused and impactful – locally and nationally – to enhance our reputation among our many different audiences.

We focus on ensuring that our powerful stories are communicated to the world, that we celebrate our achievements, and that we stand out as a diocese that makes a difference and takes a lead on the local level.



PROMOTIONAL
MATERIALS

We play a key role in:

Helping the public understand who we are, what we do and why we do what we do - Vision, Mission

Promoting the mission of the Church at the local level - Parishes and our inspiring people of faith

Encouraging people to engage with the diocese at all levels, but especially at the local level

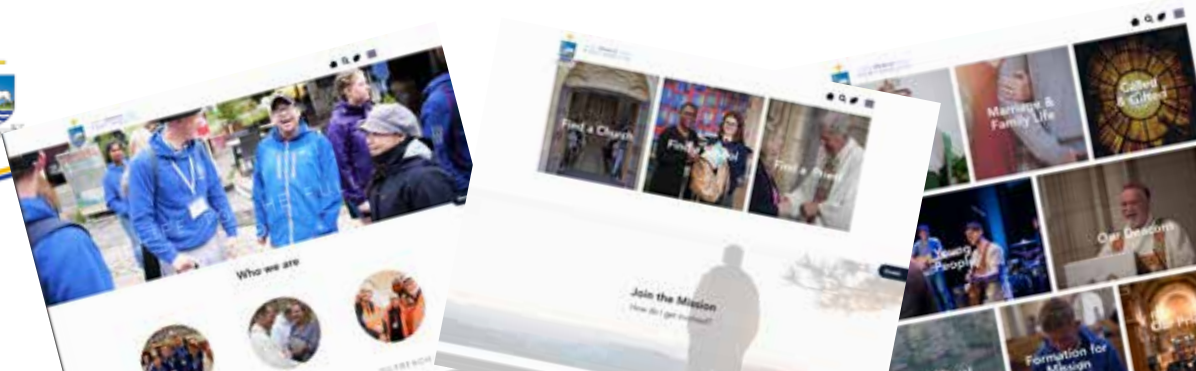
Informing people about services that the Church provides - **Where are we at work**

Reassuring people in times of crisis

Enhancing the reputation of the diocese, both internally and externally

Engaging with society on hot topics - Speaking into the social sectors

WEEKLY
NEWSLETTERS



Central Support

PUTTING PARISHES AT THE CENTRE



SAFE-
GUARDING
TEAM

A Special Responsibility and Privilege

Every human being has a value which we, the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, acknowledge as coming directly from God's creation of male and female in his own image and likeness. We believe therefore that all people should be valued, supported and protected from harm. We recognise the personal dignity and rights of vulnerable people towards whom the Church has a special responsibility.

The Bishop has delegated responsibility for all safeguarding matters within the Diocese to the Safeguarding Commission. Allegations of abuse have been and will continue to be reported without exception to the statutory agencies in order to ensure that they are dealt with promptly and properly. The safeguarding work across the Diocese is underpinned by the values outlined by the Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service (CSAS).

During this last year the Commission has continued to strive towards a culture of total safeguarding where all are safe from harm and abuse. It has acted and will continue to act in an open, transparent and accountable way, working in partnership with social care services, the police, health agencies, probation services and other relevant agencies to safeguard children and

91

In The Diocese

Safeguarding Reps

A network of Safeguarding reps volunteer across the parishes of our diocese working closely with the central team.

100%

Educating

DBS Checks
Up to Date

We centrally process in excess of 100 DBS applications each year for both clergy and the lay faithful across our parish communities.

300

People

Professionally trained

Over 300 people attended our regular training events provided across the year by our specialist staff and collaborators.



FINANCE TEAM

FOCUS

2018-2019

- The Finance Department serves the financial needs of the diocese through various functions:
- Reports to the trustees on a regular basis regarding the financial status of the diocese and producing management accounts to help the Trustees make financial decisions;
- Reports to the Charity Commission annually to comply with charity law by the consolidation of annual accounts and supplementary returns for the curia and parishes, parish trusts, limited companies, restricted funds, permanent endowments and designated funds;
- Supports and guides our parishes with regard to Gift Aid and complete returns to HMRC on the parishes behalf;
- Handles diocesan and parish investments and gives the parishes and priests full financial support, providing advice as required. It administers loan and deposit accounts and facilitates payments for internal departments and parishes for all types of projects.
- Manages restricted funds, permanent endowments and designated funds together with the financial accounts for the Priests Retirement Fund and TRADCO.

HR TEAM

Supporting the Diocesan Team

The Human Resource (HR) department supports the Diocese of Portsmouth broadly across the following areas: Recruitment, performance and absence management, on boarding, training, reward, employee relations and legal matters. This support also extends to the Parishes, and we are particularly interested in communicating with them and offering guidance at an informal level (usually through the Parish Administrator newsletter and annual training days). The HR department exists to ensure that the right people can work in the right places, with the right tools they need in order to bring all people closer to Jesus Christ through his church.

In 2018/2019 HR started offering digital payslips to all those with an email address and internet access. This enabled us to reduce the use of paper within the department and modernise the organisation. HR supported the parishes by helping to recruit for 29 roles and provided 67 variations to support the Parish Priest serve their communities of parishioners and visitors alike



ESTATES TEAM

Putting our property to work for mission

The Diocesan Estates Team provides support to those directly managing our 91 parishes and 71 schools in their compliance with the law, ensuring that work on our built assets is managed safely and cost effectively, and that all work carried out on the physical estate, ultimately supports the Bishop's mission and ministry in line with organisational priorities.

The team also deals with the necessary actions to be taken after incidents and organises ongoing Health and Safety education for clergy, employees and volunteers, as well as Health and Safety assessments of all parishes. The Portsmouth Diocesan Health and Safety policy is currently being recommended as an exemplar to all other Dioceses.

Finally, the team provides a full service to our retired Clergy ensuring that their safety, living and welfare requirements are met by the purchase and day-to-day management of their homes.



130
MINOR
PROJECTS

£10,000 +

£128,758
ADDITIONAL
SPENDING

Historic England

The Historic England £116 thousand grant funded repairs to the Reading Abbey ruins in the grounds of St James' Church, dating back to 1121. The extensive stonework repairs have been part of a three-year long restoration project involving a number of partners and having reached its completion, this national heritage has now been safeguarded for generations to come.



EXCITING
PROJECTS

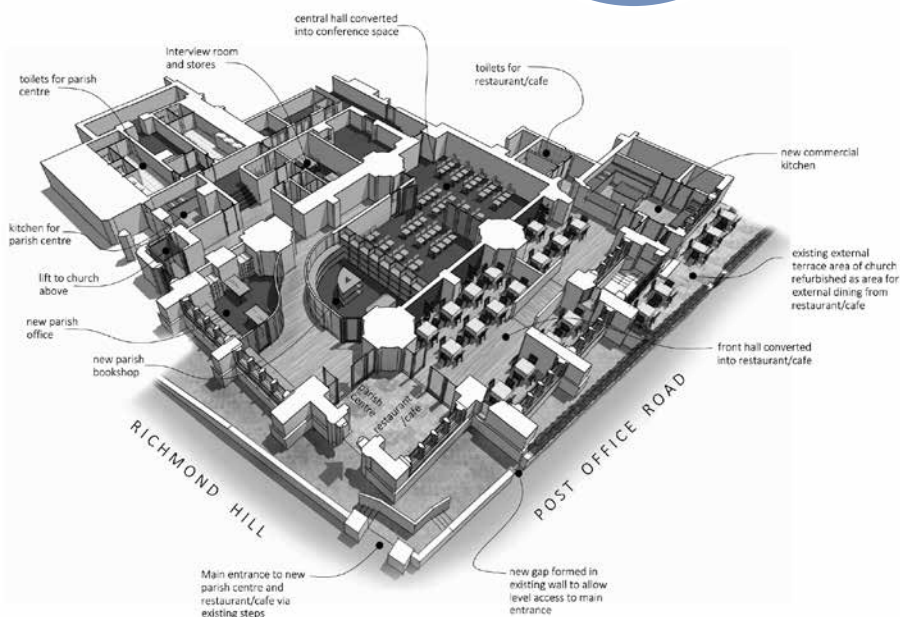
£1.25M
LOAN

BOURNEMOUTH
ORATORY

Bournemouth Oratory

The Clergy and laity of Sacred Heart, Bournemouth have begun an ambitious plan to become a 'powerhouse of prayer', a focus for formation in the Faith, and a hub for the community in the heart of Bournemouth.

To fulfil this vision, the Oratory and its Parish are redeveloping the extensive but dilapidated halls and subterranean areas into a welcome centre for Catholic Formation and Catechetics for the New Evangelisation, and a hub for the community.



Reading Abbey Ruins

- The works at Reading Abbey ruins (1121AD), in the grounds of St James Church, formed part of a three-year long restoration project involved a number of partners. As part of our national heritage, the ruins have been made safe for future generations to enjoy. While visiting the ruins they are encouraged to visit the church, which provides an opportunity to further the Bishop's vision.

5,000
7,417
GRANT

Reading, English Martyrs

- Canon Michael Dennehy and the parishioners of English Martyrs parish have carried out vital repairs to the fabric of the parish buildings and at the same time carried out a fully internal refurbishment of the Church creating a beautiful and sacred space for worship and prayer.

60,000
OF GRANT

Maidenhead, St Joseph's

- This project ensured that the old boilers were removed from the Church and parish hall and were replaced with the installation of new heating boilers and fan convectors. A complete renovation of the heating system across the parish buildings.



REGISTERED CHARITY: 246871

Registered Office:

St Edmund's House
Bishop Crispian Way
Portsmouth
P1 3QA

T 023 9421 6508
E enquiries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

@ CATHOLICPORTSMOUTH
WWW.PORTSMOUTHDIOCESE.ORG.UK
@PORTSMOUTHRC

