



project update

Welcome to Issue #2 of the 'Called to Love' project newsletter, and what a year it has been! A lot has happened since Issue #1 in terms of what has been accomplished and what is planned to take place over the next six months or so. The good news is that 'Called to Love' should be available for use in classrooms later this year.



We are happy to report in this issue that we have almost completed the testing of the materials in schools and hope to have the content of the materials finalised by the end of the summer. This is largely due to the hard work that has gone on in schools, so thanks to all of you for your continued support. As a result a full and coherent set of resources for S1 to S6 will be available to support those delivering Relationships and Moral Education (RME) in the future.

Inside this issue:

- Product Update1
- Piloting1
- Resources1
- Project Website2
- Key Messages3
- 'Babies'3
- Challenge Team4
- What Next4
- Informing Parents . . .4

piloting

Initially there were only 7 schools involved in the piloting phase. This number has risen considerably to 19 schools, approximately one third of the total number of Catholic secondary schools in Scotland. The pilot schools now cover a wide geographical spread across Scotland that spans five of the Scottish Dioceses and ten Local Authority areas.

June is a busy month as the results from the pilot school evaluations are read and collated. The views expressed by the schools will be used in shaping the look and feel of the final version of 'Called to Love'.



resources

When 'Called to Love' is launched later this year, schools can expect to receive a comprehensive set of support materials to help deliver RME that has its basis in Catholic teaching and reflects national priorities such as 'Respect and Responsibility', the national sexual health strategy. Built upon the Guidelines produced by the Catholic Education Commission (CEC), 'Called to Love' supplements and enhances existing good practice in schools.

Schools will receive a package that incorporates Student Resources, detailed Teaching Notes, and opportunities to introduce ICT into classroom teaching through the use of purpose-made PowerPoint presentations.

We will also offer CPD sessions to support the delivery of the new resources. These will take place at a number of venues and to an audience that will include teachers, support staff and school nurses, who contribute to RME provision in Catholic secondary schools.

project website

As part of the 'Called to Love' project, we have created a website as a means of offering an extra level of support to those involved in delivering RME in Catholic secondary schools. You can view it now at www.calledtolove.org.

The website carries a range of information and resources that seek to assist teachers in the delivery of RME, including a variety of key documents on the project itself and the national policy context. These can all be downloaded from the website in PDF format.

Web links to a number of related sites are available, and this list will continue to grow, giving teachers access to a wide variety of topics and information that can be used within the classroom, particularly in research projects (firewalls and filters permitting!)

One of the most interesting features of the website is the 'Frequently Asked Questions' section, where a number of questions are posed, with answers provided from a perspective that is in keeping with Church teaching. Teachers are able to pose questions by using the contact form on the website. Questions will be answered and, where appropriate, will be included on the website itself.

The contact section can also be used to give feedback or to ask for further help or clarification.

called to love support for relationships and moral education

about project in partnership resources contact

Thursday November 16th 2006

'what is called to love'?

'Called to Love' is the working title for a partnership project between Healthy Respect and the Scottish Catholic Education Service (SCES), funded by the Scottish Executive through the departments of Health and Education, to produce a range of teaching and support resources for the delivery of Relationships and Moral Education (RME) in Catholic secondary schools across Scotland. [read more](#)

why 'called to love'?

Love is central to our very existence and gives a sense of purpose and direction to our lives. It is, as Pope John Paul II tells us, "the innate vocation of every human being" (Familiaris Consortio), and in following Christ's example, by learning to love and be loved as God loves, we are each of us 'Called to Love.' [read more](#)

project news

The 'Called to Love' project has been running since August 2005, and already support materials for pupils in S1 have been piloted in a number of secondary schools. Support materials for S4, S5 and S6 are currently in draft form, and these are expected to be piloted later this year, with materials for S2 and the revised S1 to be piloted in the spring term, 2007. [read more](#)

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home | about | project | in partnership | news | contact us



key messages

The Catholic approach to RME is one that places great emphasis on the uniqueness of each individual person, created in the image and likeness of God, and on the formation of conscience in making moral decisions. The vision of love, relationships and sexuality presented in 'Called to Love' recognises the dignity of each human life, promotes a respect for self and for others, and encourages an approach which is not judgmental on those who do not share the same vision.

Young people working through 'Called to Love' will encounter a number of key messages regarding our human sexuality as a gift from God, one which demands of us respect and responsibility, for ourselves and others. In any one session of the programme from S1 to S6 one or more of these key messages will have a direct bearing on the work being done in class. So what are these key messages?

You are a special human being, created by God in his own image and likeness, gifted with unique talents and potential for life.

You are called to love – to know the love of God, of family and of friends – and to love others as you are loved by God.

God loves all people as his children. You are called to show respect for all people, even when their views and actions, their values and beliefs, are different from your own.

Your sexuality makes it natural for you to be attracted to other people. Such attraction can lead to strong emotional and physical feelings which should always be expressed with modesty and respect, both for yourself and others.

Your sexuality is an important and intimate feature of your person, given to you as part of God's plan for your happiness and your life's vocation. You should cherish it and ensure that it is not exploited.

The ultimate sexual expression of such attraction should be an expression of true love, in which you commit to being faithful in marriage to a husband or wife, for life. Such total gift of self – body, emotions and soul – is a great responsibility and requires careful preparation and total commitment by both partners.

You are called to share with God in the creation of new life through the rearing of children in a loving family which is itself a reflection of God's love.

You are loved by God who shows compassion when things go wrong, who helps to heal wounded relationships, who forgives when our actions fail to match our ideals.

'babies'

The Theatre company 'TenTen Productions' have recently been touring England, Wales and Scotland with their Theatre in Education resource. They appeared in Scotland in late May and early June with their dramatic presentation of 'Babies', in association with LIFE.

Aimed at pupils in S3, 'Babies' covers a wide range of themes dealing with teenage pregnancy, abortion, parenthood, relationships, marriage, family life, love and responsibility. It is an integrated package including a presentation of the play 'Babies' followed by a discussion-based workshop with the actors, interactive session with a speaker from LIFE, follow-up lesson plans and support for students and teachers.



The programme has received glowing recommendations from those who have witnessed the performance, and comes with the approval of Archbishop Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Birmingham. Costing £450 for a half day, the package should make a significant contribution to the ongoing RME provision in schools, as well as contributing to PSE and Citizenship.

You can contact Ten Ten Productions at office@tentenproductions.co.uk.

challenge team

Returning to Scotland in November of this year, 'Challenge Team UK' will once again deliver their own particular message of 'Saved Sex', or abstaining from sex until in a committed and permanent relationship. They do this using a variety of interactive games, sketches, personal expositions and question sessions.



The group visited a number of secondary schools across Scotland last May and June, including two Catholic secondary schools in Glasgow: St Margaret Mary's and St Roch's. 'Called to Love' caught up with them when they gave a highly energetic performance to the S5 students at St Margaret Mary's, where their message, which raised issues around contraception, pressure to have sex, and abstinence, was presented in a fun and enthusiastic way that thoroughly engaged the students throughout the duration of the session, lasting about 90 minutes.

For further information contact the group at www.challengeteamuk.org.

informing parents

As part of the 'Called to Love' pilot a series of information leaflets for parents and carers have been produced.



A separate leaflet has been produced for each year group from S1 to S6 that describes the context in which 'Called to Love' is placed and also outlines the role of parents as prime educators of their children. Each leaflet gives a summary of what themes are covered at a particular level and sets out the key messages that young people should encounter in working through 'Called to Love'.



what next?

The 'Called to Love' project is now in its pre-production stage, and over the course of the summer, following an intense editing process, the final content and layout of the resources for schools will be agreed. This will then be offered for approval and, following final production, a full launch of the project materials will take place at the end of the year.

The materials will be available to all schools from November, allowing for their full implementation as part of school development plans from January 2008.

contact details

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