

CASE

Catholic Agency to Support Evangelisation

Launch Brochure April 2004



Colour illustration by Elizabeth Wang, *Sheltered by His Glory*
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“I sense that the moment has come to
commit all of the Church’s energies
to a new evangelisation.”

Pope John Paul II, *Redemptoris Missio* 3



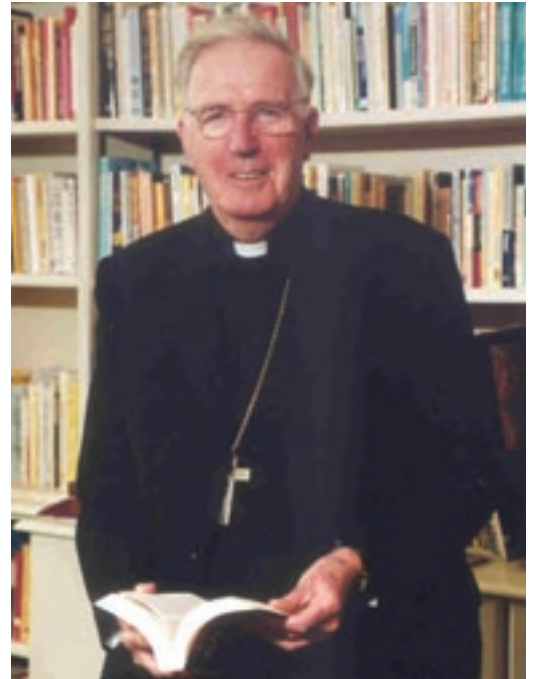
Message from the Cardinal

Today marks the fulfilment of a long process of thought and planning by the Bishops of England and Wales and many others. The aim of this process has been to give concrete expression to the Catholic Church's belief that, "Evangelising is the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelise." (Pope Paul VI, *Evangelii Nuntiandi* 14)

CASE is, of course, only one expression of that fundamental conviction. There are many others, in which many of you here today have been and are involved. But it has seemed important to the Bishops to set up a new Agency whose specific task is to remind the Church of the priority of evangelisation, and to support and foster a range of initiatives in this field.

I congratulate those involved in the setting up of CASE, and thank all of you for the support you are showing for its work by your presence here. I am sure you will join me in wishing CASE well in its work and supporting it by your prayers.

Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor



What have the Bishops asked us to do?

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



Dear Friends,

I am delighted to welcome you to the Launch of CASE. Thank you for being with us.

It is wonderful that so many of you have shown your interest in our work by coming along today. It is a great encouragement to us, but more importantly, it shows how vital you believe the evangelising mission of the Church is today.

We are particularly grateful to Cardinal Danneels for coming to give us our keynote speech. He brings a depth of understanding of the contemporary world which is so very important in our work. Special thanks also to Cardinal Murphy-O'Connor and the Bishops of England and Wales for their support.

From The Director

We have been given a challenging task by the Bishops: to foster in England and Wales the New Evangelisation of which Pope John Paul II so frequently speaks. As well as needing to remain very focussed on this task ourselves, we are aware that it can only be done in collaboration with others. Many people have been working tirelessly in the field of evangelisation for a long time. We want to support and learn from all of you, as well as make a distinct contribution of our own. That is why your presence here today is so valuable to us.

Mgr Keith Barltrop



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What are our values in CASE?

- We are passionate about the Gospel and the need for a continually renewed evangelisation in our country.
- We believe in the effectiveness of ordinary people sharing their faith with others.
- We rely on the 'mustard seed' principle, believing that growth will come in its own time.
- We see potential for evangelisation in every aspect of the Church's mission.
- We adapt our approach to the needs of each diocese, parish and situation, believing that there are many valid ways of evangelising.
- We respect the beliefs and freedom of others, and intend to work ecumenically and in dialogue with other faiths where appropriate.
- We seek to discern and affirm what is open to the Gospel in culture, and to challenge what is resistant to it.

“If we really believe that the most precious gift we have is our faith and that the most important message is where we’re going and how to get there, then why don’t we share it?”

To resource the Catholic community,
CASE website: www.caseresources.org

A PORTFOLIO OF

Stories

- Gospel People
- Sharing Ideas
- I could do that

Training

- Workshops
- Courses
- Trainers

Contacts

- Networks
- Prayer Partners
- Support



Enthusing



OF POSSIBILITIES

For enquirers: CEO website
www.life4seekers.co.uk



Catholic Enquiry Office

- Publications
- Internet
- Exploration

Resources

- Directory
- Information
- Website

Accompaniment

- Sounding Board
- Mentoring
- Coaching



Engaging



Equipping





What can CASE offer a diocese?

CASE can offer a variety of resources to each diocese which will expand as we develop.

- We are very willing to consider any requests made to us by bishops or their advisers. We regard this as our number one priority!
- We are happy to assist in the production of printed resources and website material related to evangelisation, or to make a specific contribution to diocesan study days and assemblies.
- We intend to work always in collaboration with, and in support of, local people.

Workshops and Training

We are able to offer workshops and training for clergy and laity on general topics related to evangelisation:

- What is the New Evangelisation?
- Evangelisation and our relationship with other faiths
- What is culture and how should Catholics react?
- Understanding the New Age and the spiritual aspirations of those outside the Church
- Evangelisation and Social Justice

Developing Diocesan Plans

The team can lead workshops or facilitate consultation on:

- Evangelisation initiatives in England and Wales: a practical guide
- *Novo Millennio Ineunte* and *Ecclesia in Europa*: applying key themes from these documents in a diocese
- Creating or developing a diocesan evangelisation plan

By May 2004, the CASE team will have visited every diocese in England and Wales. The purpose of these visits is to listen to the needs of the local Church, present the existing resources CASE has to offer, and begin to work towards the creation of new materials so as to meet specific needs identified.

Amongst many activities and projects, the team have already been asked to give input at a diocesan clergy inset day, to help create a leaflet explaining the Mass, to advise a diocese in the development of its website, and to explore opportunities for evangelisation in Confirmation preparation.



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Raising the Profile

CASE is able to help with:

- The creation of a list of dates of key public events in the diocese, and training teams to distribute contact cards and talk with people at these events
- Training and resourcing people to be present at large shopping centres at certain times of the year, e.g. school choirs singing while people give out contact cards
- Contacting local tourist offices, libraries, and providing leaflets for enquirers
- Organising diocesan or deanery processions of faith and youth pilgrimages

Internet Services

CASE can advise dioceses, parishes and schools on sharing faith through the internet.

Schools

Our portfolio includes:

- In-service for newly qualified teachers on what it means to work in a Catholic school
- Advice to schools on 'Good News across the Curriculum' - opportunities for evangelisation in different subject areas
- Workshops / training on the school as an evangelising community

Sacraments

We are happy to run:

- Parish workshops on making the most of opportunities for evangelisation such as Baptisms, weddings and Christmas, including preaching workshops for clergy
- Training for catechists on the opportunities for evangelisation in Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion catechesis
- Sessions on evangelisation in the catechetical documents of the Church



Young People

The new Agency is able to offer:

- Workshops on youth culture today
- Help in setting up a diocesan Youth Mission Team to serve schools, colleges and parishes
- Advice on the evangelisation of young people - theory and practice



Parishes and Schools

“In today’s Europe too, both in the post-Communist countries and in the West, **the parish**, while in need of constant renewal, continues to maintain and carry out its particular mission, which is indispensable and of great relevance for pastoral care and the life of the Church.”



Pope John Paul II, *Ecclesia in Europa* 15

Parishes

The Bishops have asked CASE to support and resource parishes in the task of evangelisation.

We are able to help with:

- Creating a culture of welcome:
CASE can provide posters and help set up welcoming teams
- Reaching out to inactive Catholics
- Developing a parish evangelisation plan
- Making the Parish the Home and School of Communion: Collaborative Ministry and Mission

Feedback so far

“You have really helped us move forward on the path to evangelisation in our diocese.”

“We’re really looking forward to working alongside CASE.”

“I think CASE is what I’ve been waiting for all my Christian life!”

“I don’t think the Catholic Church can be the same again once CASE gets going.”

“Congratulations! I think the website looks really professional, this is just what the Church needs.”

“Thank you so much, CASE has at least one success story before you have even had your launch!”

Catholic Enquiry Office



Basic aims of the CEO:

- 1) To stimulate interest in Catholic life and beliefs.
- 2) To promote a better understanding of the Catholic Church.
- 3) To respond to enquirers.

The Catholic Enquiry Office has for many years served as a 'shop window' for the Church, and the continued running and resourcing of it is an important part of CASE's remit.

Contact cards

Via the CEO the Catholic community are resourced with free contact cards which are placed in Catholic Churches. Future distribution will also be extended to cover a wider variety of public places to appeal to specific audiences.

Brand new website!

The CEO is launching a new website for "spiritual seekers" www.life4seekers.co.uk

This has been professionally produced so as to appeal to:

- Random internet surfers
- Those seeking Catholic answers to specific questions
- Those wanting basic reading material about key aspects of Catholic life and belief



Publications


As an Agency, we believe that simple faith sharing and the telling of stories are powerful tools of evangelisation. We already distribute a book called "Living Faith Stories," and we are in the process of expanding our portfolio with new publications.

Advertising

The CEO is responsible for advertising the services it offers in a wide variety of non-Catholic sources. This direct outreach work will be developed in the year ahead via the placing of adverts on the web, in magazines and in newspapers.

Logo

A new logo has been created which cleverly blends the letters "CEO" into a labyrinth. Why was a labyrinth chosen? It was felt that this image connects powerfully with the spiritual journey many seekers find themselves taking. Many thanks to its designer, Fr. Jonathan Stewart.



Partners

The CEO has close ties with a number of ecumenical and Catholic partners, for example, the Christian Enquiry Agency, www.rejesus.co.uk and the Catholic Truth Society.

Enquirers

A steady flow of enquirers contact the Catholic Enquiry Office. Our preliminary target for the coming year is to deal with over 3000.

Outreach initiatives, resources and training

The team plans to initiate and encourage Catholic groups and individuals to engage in direct kerygmatic outreach work. A list of public events has been drawn up for 2004 at which the CEO hopes to be represented.

"We must use the modern methods of making ourselves be heard in a reasonable way."

Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger,
Jubilee of Catechists, Dec. 2000

CASE has been asked to undertake a double task in 'Faith and Culture': to look outwards towards our culture, and to bring what we find there to the Church. We want to engage with contemporary cultures and to provide resources for mission and evangelisation.

CASE will work with others, including the Faith and Culture Committee of the Bishops' Conference, Catholic Cultural Centres and ecumenical partners, to provide:

- Research
- Study Days and other events
- Comments
- Publications, including internet material
- Evangelisation perspectives



The Angel of the North, Newcastle

“The kingdom which the Gospel proclaims is lived by people who are profoundly linked to a culture, and the building up of the kingdom cannot avoid borrowing the elements of human culture or cultures. The split between the Gospel and culture is without a doubt the drama of our time, just as it was of other times. Therefore every effort must be made to ensure a full evangelisation of culture, or more correctly of cultures.”

Pope Paul VI
Evangelii Nuntiandi 20

Faith and Culture

“Our task is not to evangelise a world which has passed and gone, but the world today in which God is present, waiting for us to announce the Good News of this presence. The urgent need for our Church is that it engages with the culture of our society. As CASE takes up this challenge it has my prayers and best wishes.”

Bp Malcolm McMahon OP

The Church is rooted in human cultures. We have a responsibility to respect the cultures of which we are a part. We seek to understand ourselves and our neighbours, and to trace the finger of God in England and Wales.

The Church listens to human cultures. God is out there before us. The Holy Spirit is blowing where he will. We follow God into God's world. In cultures we discern and nurture 'seeds of the Word.'

The Church speaks to human cultures. The Gospel of Christ has the capacity to address all people in all cultures. However, just as we might not expect to understand a foreign language, so, in order to communicate effectively, we need to be fluent in today's terminologies.

The Church is a counter-culture. As well as celebrating the best of human cultures, we also need to expose the downsides. Human cultures need redeeming and transforming by the Gospel. We have a vision of truth, goodness and beauty which fulfils all the deepest human yearnings even if it is at odds with the 'spirit of the age.'

New Movements and Communities

CASE is not being launched into a vacuum. There are many within the Catholic Church who already recognise, and are responding to, the call to see evangelisation as “the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelise.” (Pope Paul VI, *Evangelii Nuntiandi* 14)



As a national agency, we are able to offer support to all the tiers of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. As well as working with Bishops and Diocesan officers, with Parishes, Schools and Religious Communities, a significant part of our work will be with New Movements and Communities, with those who provide specific programmes of evangelisation.

What are the New Movements?

Over the last century, and particularly since the Second Vatican Council, many people, lay, religious and ordained, have been exploring new ways of working and living together so they can respond in a contemporary way to Jesus's command to “Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Good News,” (*Mk 16:15*). To stress that they are not outside or peripheral, but actually central to the life of the Church, the Holy Father refers to these groups as “new ecclesial movements.” At Pentecost in 1998, he held a meeting with representatives from more than 200 of these communities. Since then groups in England and Wales have continued to meet together.

The Bishops have asked CASE:

- To promote and evaluate methods and means of evangelisation.
- To be a point of reference for new movements and organisations in the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Mindful of our role to *support* evangelisation, CASE works alongside a wide variety of groups and individuals who deliver diverse evangelisation initiatives. These range from parish based programmes welcoming back inactive Catholics, to residential communities who deliver missions.

We are in contact with promoters of specific methods and means of evangelisation such as the Emmanuel Community, Miles Jesu, Sion Community and Youth 2000, amongst many others. We already have over 60 distinct evangelisation initiatives in England and Wales detailed on our growing database.

The work done by the “new movements” both to spread the Good News that each of us is loved by God, and to raise the profile of evangelisation in the Catholic Church, is of enormous value. We look forward to a continued collaboration with those who are at the frontline of evangelisation so that more and more Catholics can be enthused about evangelisation.



Members of the Faith Movement, the Neo-Catechumenal Way and Madonna House enjoy lunch at 'CaFE' London Colney, New Movements meeting, February 2004.

Mgr Keith Barltrop, The Director

Fr Keith has been a priest for 27 years.

He has worked as a parish priest, seminary rector and school chaplain, as well as being Episcopal Vicar in the East End of London. He also has a great interest in China and serves as Chair of the Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) China Forum.



Meet the CASE Team

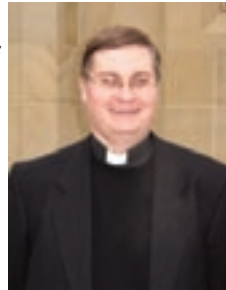
Clare Ford

Clare's background is in education. Although originally from Liverpool, she has worked as a primary teacher in Hartlepool, in Higher Education training new RE teachers at Maryvale Institute, and was most recently Head of RE at a secondary school in Birmingham.



Fr Philip Knights

Fr Philip is a priest of the Diocese of Westminster and is married to Jane. He has also worked in Zambia, the North East of England, in London, South Africa and in Oxford. He recently co-authored a report for the Bishops' Conference titled *Evangelisation in England and Wales*.

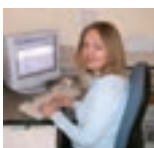


Clare Ward

Prior to joining CASE, Clare worked in broadcasting. She spent several years in Yorkshire working as a BBC Journalist, lived in a lay community in Northern France for two years and, most recently, has been involved in full-time voluntary service as a Catholic Youth Mission Leader.

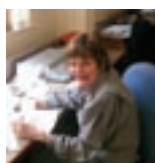


Our support staff and volunteers are invaluable in the day to day running of CASE and the Catholic Enquiry Office. If you would like to get involved, we would love to hear from you; please see our contact details on the back cover.



Jeanette Hardwick
Office Administrator

Lesley Pippet
CEO Office Assistant



We are happy to be working alongside the National Office for Vocation. They have a twofold remit: to promote a culture of vocation and to promote calls to specific vocational states. Check them out at www.ukvocation.org

CASE Launch Programme 21st April 2004

- 3.15 Cheese and Wine (Throne Room and rear of Cathedral Hall)
- 3.45 Monsignor Keith Barltrop
- 3.55 Cardinal Gottfried Danneels
- 4.35 Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor
- 4.40 Questions to Panel
- 5.00 Photo Opportunity
- 5.05 Team members available for press interviews
- 5.15 Depart from Cathedral Hall
- 5.30 Holy Mass Westminster Cathedral



Prayer for Evangelisation

As the seed grows silently in the earth, as the yeast rises in the dough,
May your power, Spirit of God, be at work in us.
Like a city set on a hill, like a lamp shining in the darkness,
May we witness together, calling our brothers and sisters
To the glory of your light and the peace and justice of your kingdom.

AMEN

Thank you so much
for attending our launch today.
Please keep our work in your prayers and
don't hesitate to contact us if you feel we can be of assistance.



With thanks to Allied Irish
Bank for their sponsorship
of this event.

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