

Vocation EXPO 2010



Vocation Expo
October 21st – 24th 2010

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Hayes, Middlesex, UB3 2AB

Do you know what the Catholic Church is doing now?

A second four day expo is being planned for October 2010.

We want to promote the many positive aspects the Catholic Church is involved in today and create an awareness of how people can contribute helping and supporting these.

They include:

Fighting AIDs

Managing schools in countries where education is not provided by the state

Supporting women trapped in the sex trade

Supporting families in poverty, including the UN

Providing basic healthcare where it is not provided by the state

Lobbying the UN about issues of social justice

Responding to natural disasters, wherever they, occur throughout the world.

The event will be in 2 parts:-

an exhibition area where people can tour the presenting Religious communities.

Instead of lots of religious orders presenting similar information, we have organised the Vocation Expo so that different religious 'families' or congregations with similar apostolic ministries and common charism will work together to show the work that they are involved in.

Supporting the displays there will be a series of workshops and spaces to highlight specific topics of projects and work being undertaken.

In addition, individuals will recount some of the many stories from the work they do.

We will be compiling and distributing information packs for content for exhibitions and workshops in the New Year

The event will be a valuable experience for many people.

We will need contacts from your Diocese and parishes, with whom we can work with, to help publish the event and nearer the time coordinate visits.

The event will begin on Thursday and Friday from 8.30 am with a prayer liturgy and will run until 9pm. On Saturday the Expo will open at midday and run until 11pm with a special vigil for young adults. On the Sunday beginning at 9am and the whole event will close with a special Mass at 3pm.

Schools will be invited to bring RE students during the week days with some of the presentations geared to the school RE syllabi. We will also have parish groups bring groups in the evening. Throughout, the event will be open to the public.

In an age when often all we hear about the Catholic Church is bad news this is an opportunity to come along and find out the Good News about what the Catholic Church is doing in the world.

We ran a pilot event over Vocation weekend this April. We had over 700 people over the four days.

We intend to run this event with more exhibitors, workshops and visitors.

People misunderstood the purpose of the event.

Many assumed it was to recruit people to join congregations.

This is not the intention.

We are aiming to provide awareness about the many positive projects and caring work the Catholic Church and organisations are involved in today.

People can then decide what how they follow up the experience

There may be requests to join orders but more likely we will encourage people to help and support the vital work in whichever way they can.

For more information go to our website:

www.godknowswhere.co.uk

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parishioners organising team