



## Claretian Missionaries of UK and Ireland

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Claretian Missionaries Trust - Registered Charity Number 234026

### VOCATIONS EVENT “VOCATIONS EXPO”

A group of parishioners in the Claretian parish of the Immaculate Heart of Mary are busy trying to promote and support a new vocation initiative during 2009.

There are three elements to the initiative.

In February and March there will be a NATIONAL COMPETITION to encourage young people to make contact with members of religious congregations to interview them and then create a biography that they will submit as an entry to the competition.

At the end of April to coincide with Vocation Sunday on May 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be A FOUR DAY VOCATIONS EXPO which will offer people young and old the chance to explore the idea of vocation and become more aware of the wide variety of work that is being undertaken by the Catholic Church. It is intended that the Vocation expo will have 16-17 exhibits, looking at not just religious life but also diocesan priesthood and Married life.

There is also hoped to have information about organizations such as HCPT that allow young people the opportunity to experience helping others. In addition to the exhibits there will also be a series of workshops, discussion groups and presentations aimed at offering both information and experiential formation of issues relating to the Christian Life.

It is intended that a large number of representatives of religious congregations and other church organizations will be present to engage with those who attend. While the event will be promoted to attract schools during the day and local parishes during the weekend and evenings, the event will be open to the wider community so all will be welcome to find out what the Catholic Church is engaged in doing in today's world.

By September 1<sup>st</sup> some of the materials from the competition and the Vocation Expo will be used in the CREATION OF A CD ROM resource that will be sent to all the Catholic secondary Schools in England and Wales.

Please tell your readers about this exciting event – we have contacted all Secondary School RE teachers in England and Wales. It is hoped that those from local parishes will attend in the evenings aswell. The event is open to all – so if we are in the area or can get to it easily please come along! If you are a large group please tell us in advance.

This Expo has been set up and co-ordinated by Fr Paul Smyth cmf.

**See our Web Page for full competition details “[godknowswhere.org.uk](http://godknowswhere.org.uk)” Vocation Expo!!**