

LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN CENTRE FOR  
EVANGELISATION

Croxteth Drive, Sefton Park, Liverpool. L17 1AA



YEAR OF FAITH 2012  
2013

Fr John McLoughlin. Ep.Vic. STB SLL  
Department of Pastoral Formation  
Tel: 0044 (0)151 522 1041  
Fax: 0044 (0)151 522 1060  
E-mail: j.mcloughlin@rcaol.co.uk

*Residence*

St Agnes, 82, Huyton Hey Rd, Huyton,  
Liverpool. L36 5SQ  
Tel: 0044 (0)151 489 1296  
Fax: 0044 (0)151 482 1010

Mrs Julie Cassidy (Assistant)

Tel: (0151) 522 1040 E-mail: j.cassidy@rcaol.co.uk

27th August 2012

Dear Father,

The YEAR OF FAITH begins this autumn. I hope to have ready by that time a series of twelve Holy Hours - themed on the Council Documents of Vatican II - one to be celebrated each month in the parishes across the archdiocese. I am hoping that these celebrations would take place on a Sunday in order to strengthen at least one very important aspect of FAITH: 'quoniam sine dominico non possumus' ('without the day of the Lord we cannot live.' Emeritus, 304 AD).

When we consider that the Sunday trading extension allowed during the Olympics has now been extended indefinitely it is perhaps very opportune that our Diocesan Assembly takes for its theme the 'Lord's Day'. If we are to do anything in this YEAR OF FAITH let it be to strengthen in the parishes our commitment to the 'Lord's Day.'

I am also hoping to arrange throughout this Year of Faith four one day conferences for clergy and laity celebrating Vatican II. A key aspect of which is the role of the laity within the Church. In regard to this please find attached a recent message of Pope Benedict XVI to the 6th Assembly of the International Catholic Action Forum. In it the Holy Father again speaks of the relationship between clergy and laity as being one of 'co-responsibility.' You may recall the Holy Father speaking of this in a homily given at the parish of San Giovanni della Croce in Colle Salario in the northern part of the Diocese of Rome in March 2010. In that homily Pope Benedict XVI said:

*'I was happy to hear that your community wishes to promote, in regard to the vocations and the role of consecrated persons and the laity, the co-responsibility of all the members of the People of God. As I already noted, this demands a change in mentality, above all with regard to the laity, "moving from considering them 'collaborators' of the clergy to recognizing them as truly 'co-responsible' for the being and action of the Church, promoting a mature and dedicated laity in this way" (cf. "Address at the Opening of the Pastoral Conference of the Diocese of Rome," May 26, 2009).*

I hope and pray that our new process for the preparation of the Sacraments of Initiation may be a time of true co-responsibility and a deepening of faith in all of us.

With all good wishes  
Yours sincerely