Little Way Catholic Educational Trust

Catholic Social Teaching Term 5

It's sobering to think that 1 in every 70 people on earth has been forced to flee their home due to persecution, conflict, violence, human rights violations or events seriously disturbing public order*.

Strikingly, children are disproportionately affected – although children make up only 29% of the world's population, they represent 40% of all forcibly displaced people*.

The Church advocates repeatedly and strongly for support for people when they are at their most vulnerable. The DoCat* explains that '*Catholic teaching can be summarised in a number of key points. First, people have the right to migrate in order to support themselves and their families. Second, nations have the right to regulate their borders. Third, refugees and asylum seekers should be given protection. Fourth, human dignity and human rights of undocumented migrants should be respected.*' It goes on to explain that, for Christians, '*it is a moral duty to provide refuge for those who in their homeland are subject to persecution or suffer from dire need. People do not leave their homeland without a reason. As long as there is no real international collaboration for the truly just development of all nations, people will seek to migrate to other countries looking for a better life*'.

This can be a confronting message for many. What does this look like on an everyday level for Catholics in the UK?

The Church does not dictate to governments what to do or advocate specific policies or offer technical solutions – this is because, to do so, it would lose its universal power as a global mediator and voice of conscience.

But Catholic Social Teaching compels us, in no uncertain terms, to welcome everyone around us and to protect people who suffer displacement because 'people are not just citizens of a country but are always members of the human family as well'. CST also teaches us that the '*ones who should intervene concretely in politics, however, are Christian laymen who become involved in that field. Moreover, many Christians put their Christian commitment and thinking into practice in unions, groups, and associations that campaign for particular social causes e.g. aid for refugees*'. **We are all called to action.**

Refugee Week (15th – 21st June 2026) provides an ideal opportunity for each of us to explore the openings that God puts in our path to welcome someone far from home or in need of security and belonging.

Check out the **Simple Acts** on the next page for easy things families can do in order to stand with refugees and make new connections in our communities. Click each picture for ideas. From having a courageous conversation to sharing a film, book or walk together to learn more about the people around us, there are some great tips for us all.

Wishing all our families and staff a wonderful half term,

Mrs Charlotte Blanch, CEO, Little Way Catholic Educational Trust

*UNHCR Global Trends 2024 report
** DoCat Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church ISBN: 978-3945148068

Little acts, great love, big difference

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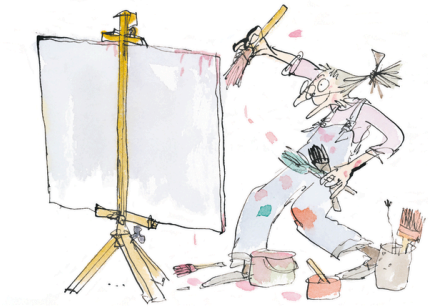
Have a Courageous Conversation

Refugee Week SIMPLE ACTS

Illustration © Quentin Blake

Get Drawing & Painting



Refugee Week SIMPLE ACTS

Illustration © Quentin Blake

Read a Book

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Illustration © Quentin Blake

Watch a Film Together

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Illustration © Quentin Blake

Move Together

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Illustration © Quentin Blake

Let Nature Inspire You

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Share Food & Stories

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Join the Movement

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Walk & Talk

Refugee Week SIMPLE ACTS

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The Trust family is growing

St Peter's High School open evening: Thursay 4th June 2026

Parents of children in Years 4 and 5 are warmly invited to attend the upcoming Open Evening at St Peter's Catholic High School and Sixth Form Centre — a wonderful opportunity to explore the school, meet staff and pupils, and discover the exciting next step in your child's Catholic education journey.

As many families will know, St Peter's High School is set to join Little Way Catholic Educational Trust over the next year, helping to strengthen even further the close partnership between our Catholic primary and secondary schools and providing greater continuity in faith, values, pastoral care and educational experience for our children.

The school's recent Ofsted report recognised the strong sense of community within the school, the warm and respectful relationships between staff and pupils, effective pastoral care, positive behaviour, strong safeguarding culture and the wide range of opportunities available in sport, music and the arts. Inspectors noted that pupils are "safe and happy", benefit from a "real sense of community", and are encouraged to live out the school's 'ROCK' values of respect, optimism, kindness and courage.

Families are encouraged to attend the Open Evening to experience first-hand the caring, ambitious and faith-filled environment that St Peter's offers.