

## St Bede's Catholic High School

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## **Dear Friends**

We are members St Bede's Million Minutes Peace and Justice group and St Bede's Faith in Action group. We are a group of young Christians from St Bede's who try to live out our faith in a daily way, serving God and the needs of others. We are free to practise our Christian faith, yet we know that many people around the world do not have this freedom.

For many people, living their faith, practising their faith can cost them their lives. According to the International Society of Human Rights, 80% of religious discrimination worldwide is directed against Christians. Discrimination, kidnap, forced conversion, torture and death are realities for millions of Christians around the world. Yet all people of any faith and indeed none, deserve our respect and charity where needed because we believe that each person is made in God's image and is a temple of the Holy Spirit. The campaign we are supporting at St Bede's is not about one religion against another, but solidarity with all people who are suffering for their faith.

It is the horrific reality of what so many innocent people suffer which has moved young people at St Bede's Catholic High School to take action. As young Christians, St Bede's Catholic High School, stands in solidarity with persecuted Christians and all who suffer for their peacefully held beliefs.

In partnership with Aid to the Church in Need and Christian Solidarity Worldwide, we are organising a range of #RedWednesday events in school on the 23rd November in order to raise awareness and shine a light on Christian persecution and also the injustices perpetrated against other faith groups.

The day's events will culminate in a Prayer Service at Our Lady's Roman Catholic Church, Parbold at 7 pm. We would like to invite you and members of your church to join us at the prayer service, where we can all pray together for peace, for the protection of persecuted Christians and the conversion of the hearts of those who persecute. In the words of Father Werenfried the founder of Aid To The Church in Need, we wish to "Storm heaven with our prayers."

As a symbol of our solidarity for #RedWednesday, we will be illuminating Our Lady's Church, St Anne's Church and St Bede's school in red light, you may also wish to wear something red for the service. Our prayer service is an ecumenical event and we look forward to coming together as one family, we have therefore extended this invitation to all local churches.

We believe our prayers and action can give persecuted Christians and others who suffer, a voice. We will be standing up for faith and freedom on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November and proclaiming that no one should have to live in fear because of their peacefully held beliefs. Please join us as we storm heaven with our prayers. We hope very much that you and members of your church will be able to join us at Our Lady's Church, Parbold at 7pm.

Kind regards and very best wishes

St Bede's Catholic High School Million Minutes Peace and Justice group.

St Bede's Faith In Action Group

## Please join St Bede's Peace and Justice pupils as they pray for persecuted Christians.

## #RedWednesday Event 23rd November 2022 – Stand up for Faith and Freedom.

As young Christians, St Bede's Catholic High School, stand in solidarity with persecuted Christians and all who suffer for their peacefully held beliefs. In partnership with Aid to the Church in Need and Christian Solidarity Worldwide, we are organising events in school on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November in order to raise awareness and shine a light on Christian persecution and also the injustices perpetrated against other faith groups.

The day's events will culminate in a <u>Prayer Service at Our Lady's Roman Catholic Church, Parbold at 7 pm.</u> We wish to invite you to pray with us at this service, for peace, for the protection of persecuted Christians and the conversion of the hearts of those who persecute. In the words of Father Werenfried, the founder of Aid To The Church in Need, we wish to "Storm heaven with our prayers." As a symbol of our solidarity for #RedWednesday, Our Lady's Church, St Anne's Church and St Bede's school will be illuminated in red light and you may wish to wear an item of clothing which is red.

This is an ecumenical event and we look forward to coming together as one family. Our prayers and action can give persecuted Christians and others who suffer, a voice. Please join us Our Lady's Church, Parbold on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November, at 7pm,

Many thanks

St Bede's Catholic High School Peace and Justice group and St Bede's Faith In Action group.