



The 171st Annual Report of the Catholic Education Service



***‘And looking up to heaven,
he sighed and said to him,
“Ephphatha,” that is, “Be
opened.”’***

***Mark 7:34
(Liturgy from Education Sunday 2018)***



Catholic Education Service

Supporting Catholic Education Since 1847

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The CES Management Committee for 2018



Chairman
The Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP KC*HS
Archbishop of Liverpool



The Right Reverend Terrence Draine
Bishop of Middlesbrough



The Right Reverend David McGough
Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Birmingham



The Right Reverend Marcus Stock
Bishop of Leeds



The Right Reverend Alan Williams SM
Bishop of Brentwood

The Very Reverend John Weatherill

Mrs Kate Griffin

Foreword



I am delighted to introduce the Annual Report of the Catholic Education Service for 2018. This report outlines the essential work that the CES has undertaken and highlights the importance of the CES in promoting the views of the Bishops to the Government and other national agencies, as well as supporting Catholic education in England and Wales.

2018 has been another successful year for Catholic education. On the education policy front, following the launch of *Formatio* in 2017, we saw the first national conference for Catholic Teaching Schools held, and it was extremely well attended.

Additionally, as part of our role to promote Catholic education to those in power, we wrote to every English MP, providing them with an information pack about all the Catholic schools in their constituency.

Moreover, we continued to strengthen our relationship with the Department for Education, cementing our role as a Government partner in the provision of education nationally. This strong relationship meant we were able to see the retirement of the Local Authority Co-ordinated Voluntary Aided Programme (LCVAP) ensuring capital funding now goes directly to Dioceses.

My own personal thanks go to all those who support this work of the CES. I express my gratitude for your hard work and dedication in helping to ensure that Catholic education remains at the forefront of the Church's mission in the service of the common good.

As a separate ecclesiastical entity, we continue to produce our own Annual Report to remain accountable to the dioceses and our supporters for our use of resources.

We hope that you find this report useful and that you will continue to support our work and spread the good news about the success of Catholic education.

+ Marcus Stock

The Rt Rev Marcus Stock, Bishop of Leeds
Chairman of the Catholic Education Service

About the CES

The Catholic Education Service (CES) is the education agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

It works closely with the Bishops' Conference Department for Education and Formation and represents the Bishops' national education policy in relation to the 2236 Catholic schools, colleges and universities for which the Church is responsible across England and Wales.

The Catholic Education Service was founded by the Vicars-Apostolic of England and Wales in 1847 as the Catholic Poor-School Committee.

It is an agency of the Bishops' Conference and also a public juridic person in canon law governed in accordance with its Statutes, which are ultimately approved by the Bishops' Conference. Governance of the CES under the Statutes rests with the CES Management Committee, which consists of an episcopal Chairman, appointed by the Bishops of England and Wales, the episcopal members of the Bishops' Conference Department for Catholic Education and Formation, and up to three additional members appointed by the Chairman.

For the period of this report the membership of the Management Committee was:

**The Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP,
Archbishop of Liverpool (Chairman)**

**The Right Reverend Terence Draney, Bishop of
Middlesbrough**

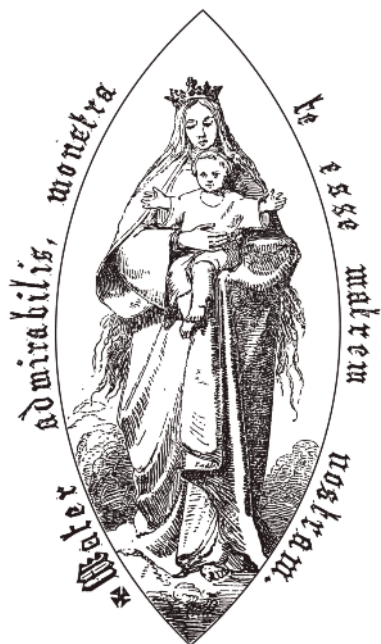
**The Right Reverend Marcus Stock, Bishop of
Leeds**

**The Right Reverend David McGough, Bishop of
Chunavia**

**The Right Reverend Alan Williams SM, Bishop of
Brentwood**

The Very Reverend Canon John Weatherill

Mrs Kate Griffin



The Director, Paul Barber, the Assistant Director (Public Affairs), Marie Southall, and the General Secretary of the Bishops' Conference, The Reverend Fr Christopher Thomas also attend meetings of the Management Committee.

The Trustees of the CES are the Catholic Trust for England and Wales (CaTEW), who are also Trustees of the Bishops' Conference. The assets of the CES are held as a restricted fund within CaTEW for the work of the CES under its Statutes. Until March 2013, there was a separate charitable trust holding the assets of the CES: these functions have been transferred to CaTEW, with the CES continuing as a separate unincorporated association in English law, reflecting its separate legal personality in canon law.

The CES operates under its own Statutes, which were amended by the Bishops' Conference in 2013 to take account of these changes.

The CES negotiates with the Westminster and Welsh Governments and other national bodies in order to safeguard and promote Catholic education.

It also offers a Catholic contribution to the English and Welsh educational landscapes, seeking to ensure that the principles of Catholic Teaching are reflected in all aspects of national education policy. Our strategic plan 2015-2018 sets out the CES work for the three year period.



The logos of the Catholic Education Service demonstrating its 171 year history



Catholic Education in England and Wales

Schools

The Catholic community works in close partnership with central Government and with Local Authorities in its provision of education. This partnership is enshrined in a variety of administrative and financial arrangements.

State-supported Catholic schools, sixth-form colleges and universities are funded jointly by the State and the Church. Most are owned by Diocesan Trustees, with a smaller number owned by the Trustees of a religious order or congregation. The Diocesan Bishop (or Religious Superior) appoints the majority of governors. The governing bodies employ all staff and have responsibility for admissions and the curriculum.

In England and Wales the Church currently has:

357 Secondary Schools

15 Sixth Form Colleges

48 All-through Schools

1,793 Primary Schools

16 Universities Colleges and HE Institutions

Catholic schools make up 10% of the total publicly-funded sector of England and Wales. Catholic schools are an integral part of the voluntary sector. This sector, which includes Anglican, Methodist and Jewish Schools as well as a few others, represents about one-third of State-funded provision in England and Wales. In the 22 dioceses, there are teams of officers who offer support to schools on legal, administrative and educational matters while the Catholic Education Service works at a national level to promote and safeguard the interests of Catholic education and those working in Catholic schools and Colleges.

Pupils

There are 852,043 pupils being educated in Catholic schools. The number of Catholic pupils has been constantly more than 540,000 since 2012. This is the first fall in pupil numbers in ten years, however it is too early to tell whether this is a continuing trend or an abnormality due to birthrates. Pupils numbers have risen by 5% in state funded Catholic primary schools compared to a national rise of 9.4%. In Catholic secondary schools pupil numbers have risen slightly for the second consecutive year.

Phase	Pupil Numbers
State funded Primary and Nursery	456,013
State funded Secondary	328,535
State funded 6th Form Colleges	28,095
Independent Schools	39,400
Total	852,043

International

The CES is a member of the European Committee for Catholic Education (CEEC) and is represented at its regular General Assembly. The CEEC is the European regional secretariat of the International Office for Catholic Education (OIEC) of which the CES was a founder member in 1952.

The OIEC provides permanent representation at various international bodies such as the Council of Europe and UNESCO and promotes regional cooperation through its regional secretariats.

66%

**of pupils in
Catholic
Schools* are
Catholic**

***State Funded**

43%

**more pupils
from the
poorest
backgrounds
(compared to national
primary average)**

29%

**more pupils
from ethnic
minority
backgrounds**

**(compared to the
national average)**

50%

**of teachers
in Catholic
Schools are
Catholic**

88%

of Catholic schools are rated good/ outstanding by Ofsted

20%

of all black pupils in Eng. attend a Catholic school

5_{and} 4%

points higher than national average at KS2 and GCSE respectively

10%

of non-Catholics in Catholic schools are Muslim



Education Policy



“Our vision is that education always helps pupils and students to explore and embrace what it means to be human, what every human being has in common.”

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster

The first national conference for Catholic Teaching Schools was held in London with more than 100 attendees from dioceses, schools and Catholic universities across the country.

The conference focused on the main aspects of Catholic school leadership will form the basis for a new vision for Catholic School leadership.

Other successes include:

Leadership & Governance - Formatio

The first executive leadership training took place for 52 Catholic leaders from across England and Wales. This was the first of two residential which have been planned by a working group of serving executive leaders, diocesan and CES staff, and representatives from the National School of Formation.

The CES appointed two Development Officers for the northern hubs to facilitate the strategic aims of Formatio in the regions.

Relationship & Sex Education

The CES worked closely with DfE in advance of the consultation on RSE at a high level. The Statutory Guidance was published before the Summer recess and the CES responded.

The Guidance does not contain anything that will jeopardise a Catholic approach to RSE. The CES continued to work with the DfE to look at ways to support Catholic schools to deliver RSE from September 2019 through the production and provision of Catholic RSE resources.

Catholic Special Schools

The CES continued to support Catholic Special Schools through a working group which has now expanded and, by request, is attended by a large number of head teachers. As well as working towards main objectives, this became an important support group for these head teachers.



“Catholic education gives soul to world”

Pope Francis (Jun 2018)

Religious Education



The first cohort of students sat the new GCSE in Religious Studies at the end of May and achieved high grades across the country.

Other successes include:

GCSE Religious Studies

The CES asked all Catholic schools to submit their results to ascertain whether Catholic schools had been disadvantaged by following the reportedly more demanding Catholic specifications. There is no significance difference at the thresholds between Catholic schools and other sorts of school and the passes. At C+/4+ are and at A+/7+ were largely in line with historical trends. A grade 4 pass in the new GCSE is equivalent to a grade C pass in the legacy GCSE and a new pass at grade 7 is equivalent to a legacy pass at grade A.

Standards and Curriculum

The CES, in collaboration with NIBRIA, provided training for dioceses for the DfE's new 'Comparative Judgement' assessment tool. This proved very successful and pointed towards a potentially much wider use of approach to help Catholic schools nationally arrive at more objective and useful way of measuring achievement in Religious Education in all age phases.

The RECD Revision

In accordance with the mandate from the CES Management Committee set out in the CES Strategic Plan, the CES, in close collaboration with NBRIA, convened a working party to prepare a draft of a new RECD for approval by the bishops. The intention is for this to be ready for first use in 2020.

Inspection

In moving towards a national approach to inspection, the inspection working party produced a draft version of the evaluation schedule.

The Commission on Religious Education (CoRE)

The CES had worked closely with the Commission on Religious Education in the run up to the publishing of their report. Despite our in-depth engagement, their final report failed to recognise the right of the Catholic Bishops to be the sole authority over the content of the Religious Education curriculum in Catholic schools, as such we were unable to publicly endorse it.



“I value greatly the contribution that Church and faith schools make to our education system; they are consistently generally high performing and popular schools.”

Damian Hinds, Secretary of State for Education
November 2018

Public Affairs



The Public Affairs team created individual constituency profiles for each English MP (522 in total) and sent them along with a meeting request during the September session of Parliament.

These had a positive response, particularly from many non-Catholic MPs and secured meetings with many MPs we have not previously had contact with.

Other successes include:

50% Cap

The CES launched a campaign that saw more than 18,000 people write to the Secretary of State about the 50% Cap. This is the largest public engagement in a Church campaign there has been in many years. We were aware that our actions have had an impact on the Secretary of State and made his final decision not to remove the cap more difficult. We contacted those Catholics who took the action to thank them. Our campaign also ensured greater CES involvement at the highest level, in order to influence the final Parliamentary statement and secure a Government promise to support faith based education in tandem with free schools.

Interfaith and Ecumenical Work

As we look to further promote Catholic education, we have been seeking to expand our inter-faith and ecumenical dialogue by engaging with the Board of Deputies of British Jews on how to take forward a joint case for Church Schools and Schools with a Religious Character.

Parliamentary Work

THE CES built better relations with the Labour education team and met with new members of the Education policy team, introducing them to Catholic education, ahead of the Labour Party consultation on a National Education Service. As a result, we secured a meeting with Angela Rayner, the Shadow Secretary of State, having already met with influential backbenchers such as Lucy Powell MP who sits on the Education Select Committee.

We had a successful conference event at Conservative conference which generated a lot of interest and was well attended with over 100 people. Simon Hoare MP addressed the crowd, paying tribute to the role of Catholic education as well as the work of the CES and the Bishops' Conference.

Media Engagement

The CES continued to respond to the media on a variety of subjects and maintains strong working relationships with journalists. Key journalist meetings included the BBC's education editor, an education journalist for the Sunday Times and the editor of ConservativeHome. The latter meeting resulted in Jacob Rees-Mogg writing an article in support of the cap campaign.

We completed a mammoth data harvesting project, collecting all the twitter handles for all Catholic schools that use twitter. We developed a range of social media projects where we can engage with schools to promote Catholic education online.

The CES developed an integrated media strategy to deal with the Commission on Religious Education. This was to ensure that any concerns the Church had with the final outcome of the report was taken seriously by decision makers.

CES Census

All schools in England and Wales completed the census for the fourth year running. The 2018 census included minor changes to the questions on pupil age, Catholicity and gender. This change has been made to mirror DfE census totals and also to cure a discrepancy between these totals and the totals for pupil ethnicity.

IT

Following a procurement process, Paralogic Networks were appointed as the IT services company for the Catholic Trust. Mailboxes and documents were transferred to a cloud system (Office 365) but we retained an in-house network as well in what is called a hybrid cloud network.

Staff attended a course on GDPR, which is the replacement to the data protection act coming into force in 2018. Following the introduction of GDPR a review of system and data security took place and a revised security policy was developed.

CES Website

Following a consultation with CES staff and dioceses, modifications were made to improve usability and the visual appeal of the site. The menu has been changed so that the most visited pages can be reached with a minimum of clicks. Images and slideshows are being replaced and improved. Corrections are being made to fonts and text colours to ensure consistency.

The website was moved to a new hosting platform. This is necessary because the existing platform is reaching end of life. The space on the new host is available and some initial setup work has taken place.



“The aim of all Christian education, is to train the believer in a faith that can make a "new creation", capable of bearing witness in his surroundings to the Christian hope that inspires him.”

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Legal Support



Following extensive discussions between the CES and the DfE, the department announced the retirement of LCVAP meaning funding will now go direct to dioceses for capital works for Catholic schools.

The CES held a conference for dioceses to consider what actions may be required to make the proposals a reality and to consider opportunities for collaboration between dioceses.

Other successes include:

Admissions

The suite of CES model admission documents, including a model admissions guidance for dioceses to issue to their schools, model admission policies and a model supplementary information form, were well received by dioceses. The documents were also well received by the Office of the Schools Adjudicator, with their Annual Report highlighting the work of the CES and included a positive commentary about the CES model documentation.

Religious Order Trustees

The CES put in place regular bi-annual meetings with the trustees of religious orders and dioceses. The purpose of the meetings was to improve communication with religious order trustees and offer support to them and to their dioceses, particularly in light of the changing educational landscape arising from increased academisation.

Land and Building Collection Tool

The Land and Building Collection Tool (LBCT) has been developed by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) to facilitate the annual collection of data about the land and buildings occupied by academies and the basis of their occupation. The CES negotiated church sign-off in relation to the returns made by academy trust companies.

Model Employment Documents

The CES produced a new model business manager contract of employment for schools and academies, together with the job description/person specification drafting note. The CES undertook a review of its Model Employment Documents and various documents were updated to ensure compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

The CES joined a working group set up by the Bishops' Conference to produce a guide to GDPR for dioceses. The CES also worked with solicitors Browne Jacobson, on the development of a bespoke Toolkit for Catholic schools. In addition, the CES negotiated competitive rates for dioceses to purchase the suite of bespoke documents on behalf of all their schools.

Judicial Review Proceedings by the Humanists UK

Humanists UK issued Judicial Review proceedings against the Catholic Education Service regarding the Bishops' Memorandum on the Appointment of Teachers in Catholic Schools, claiming the priority given to practising Catholics when employing teachers was contrary to the law. The initial stage was an application by Humanists UK for permission to proceed with Judicial Review proceedings. The request was refused. However, Humanists UK renewed their application for permission, this was again refused.

Academies

The CES re-established the Academies Working Group, which is made up of diocesan membership, and chaired by a DSC. The first meeting of the Working Group took place and was well received by those in attendance, who represented the majority of dioceses. The purpose of the Working Group is to reflect on diocesan academy strategies and share experiences, with a view to developing best practice.

Accounting for church assets occupied by academies

After discussions with the DfE, the department agreed an approach which would remove the church assets from its consolidated balance sheets. The DfE has now removed the value of Church assets from forthcoming Government accounts.

Asbestos Management Assurance Process (AMAP)

The CES worked with the DfE and ESFA in relation to the recent request by the ESFA for all schools and academies to complete a return to enable the ESFA to obtain assurance about health and safety compliance in relation to the management of asbestos risks in schools. The CES negotiated a mechanism for dioceses to receive reports of the information provided by its schools.



Higher Education

“The natural law also gives man the right to share in the benefits of culture, and therefore the right to a basic education and to technical and professional training in keeping with the stage of educational development in the country to which he belongs.”

Pacem in Terris ('Peace on Earth'),
Pope John XXIII

*As part of **Formatio** the CES explored the anchor roles of the Catholic Universities within their region and communication and relationship building with our external funder in support of the regional hubs.*

The CES continues to work closely with the Catholic Universities and the Cathedrals Group on our responses to Government consultations on higher education generally and teacher education more specifically.

Other successes include:

Veritatis Gaudium

Two important new Church documents on Higher Education have been issued. The most important is Pope Francis' Apostolic Constitution *Veritatis Gaudium* ('The Joy of Truth') on Ecclesiastical Universities and Faculties. This document embodies a long-standing project by the Congregation for Catholic Education to update and replace *Sapientia Christiana*, issued by Pope St John-Paul II in 1979. More recently, the Congregation itself has issued an Instruction on Studies in Canon Law in the light of the reform of cases regarding the nullity of marriage. This helpful document outlines ways in which Catholic universities without an ecclesiastical faculty of canon law can have a department or a chair of canon law in their theology or law faculties. It also deals with the establishment of a range of accredited courses in such institutions leading to a certificate or diploma rather than a full degree in the subject.

Ecclesiastical Faculties

The CES supported the Bishops' Conference Working Group on the future of the Heythrop Faculties of Theology and Philosophy ('the Bellarmine Institute') after the 'civil' component of Heythrop College closed. The intention is to retain the Ecclesiastical Faculties for the benefit of the Church in this country. Revised Statutes for the Faculties will need the approval of the Congregation for Catholic Education, and will need to comply with the new prescriptions of *Veritatis Gaudium*.

Wider Engagement

The CES continued to support the working groups of Pro Vice-Chancellors and Deans of Education set up through the Cathedrals Group to encourage collaboration for mutual benefit.



“It is of the utmost importance that parents exercise their right and obligation toward the younger generation by securing for their them a sound cultural and religious formation.”

*Mater et Magistra ('Mother and Teacher'),
Pope John XXIII*

Wales



The CES achieved confirmation from the Welsh Government that any changes to RSE will take into consideration the current legislation which protects schools with a religious character from teaching and materials which are inappropriate and will have due regard to the age and the religious backgrounds of pupils.

Other successes include:

Relationships and Sex Education

The CES received confirmation that the rights of diocesan bishops to direct and inspect on the teaching of RE and RSE in Catholic schools will be protected in the Curriculum and Asses White Paper and Bill and an agreement in principle to fund the development of Welsh Curriculum Guidance for Catholic schools in Wales. The Welsh Government also confirmed the continuation of the parental right to withdraw.

The National Model for Regional Working developments

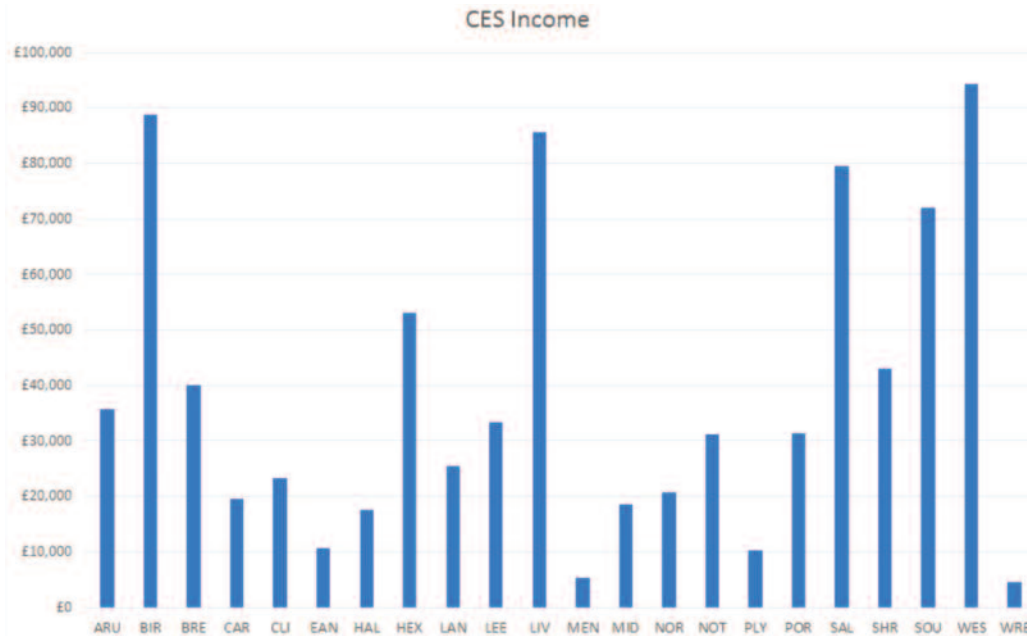
The Association of Directors of Education in Wales met with Welsh Government to discuss aspects of the National Model for Regional Working. It was agreed that the status of the two Churches as co-providers in Wales will be acknowledged, as well as the role of diocesan directors in Wales as partners with LAs, recognising the need for LAs/Consortia to support CES HR documentation.

School Governance Review

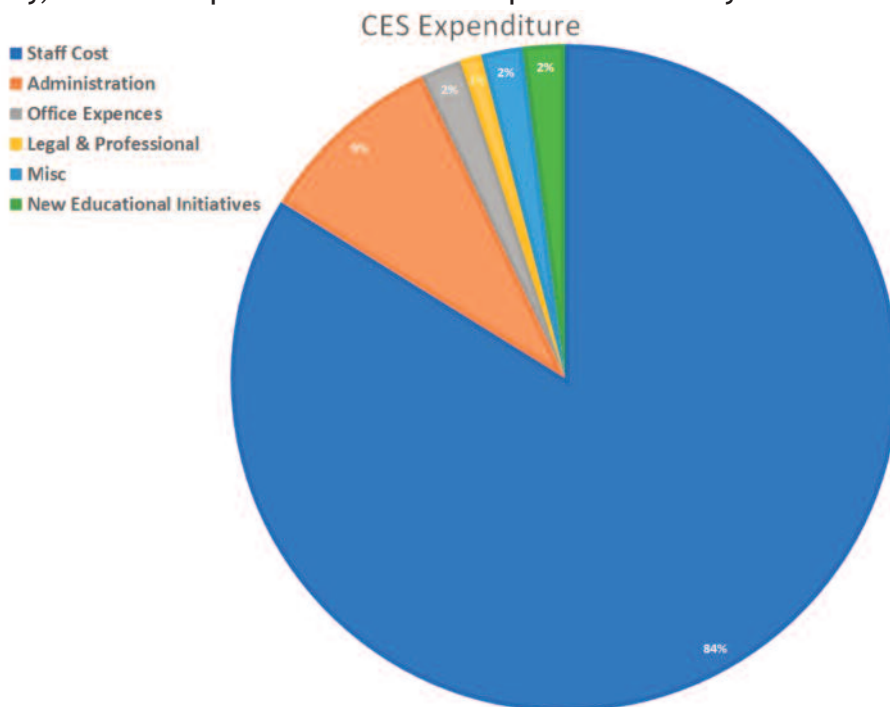
The Welsh Government agreed to Catholic sector involvement in any task groups that emerge to undertake the review and development of school governance.

Finance

The CES is funded by a Bishops' Conference approved annual levy on each diocese to support the work of the CES. The levy is based on the number of pupils in Catholic schools per diocese. The money collected from dioceses is supported by the CES annual collection which is taken throughout the country on Education Sunday: this collection was first established by the Bishops in 1848. Since 1849, a plenary indulgence has been available to all subscribers to the CES who fulfilled the usual conditions within the Octaves of the Feasts of the Sacred Heart, of St George, or St Edward the Confessor.



The full accounts for the CES are consolidated with those of the Bishops' Conference, with which we share Trustees, as part of the statutory accounts of the Catholic Trust for England and Wales (CaTEW). The CES continues as a distinct organisation alongside the Bishops' Conference, and is committed to the highest levels of financial accountability and transparency, hence the publication of this separate summary of income and expenditure.





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