

Quotes from 2017/2018 Faith in Action Participants in the Diocese of Leeds

"Donating food to the St Patrick's Mission made me feel like I was showing God's love to others." (Pin Level student at St Winefride's Catholic Primary School)

"To be more like Jesus in helping others I helped an elderly neighbour with her garden. It was interesting as she told me stories about her past." (Bronze Level student at St Bede's and St Joseph's Catholic College)

"I have been able to do many things in my Parish and I have enjoyed it. Before Faith in Action I didn't do much in church, but now I do." (Bronze Level student at St Matthew's Church, Bradford)

"We meet as a Faith in Action group at the end of the school day to pray for our community." (Pin Level Students at St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy)

"It has been a delight to support this young member of our Parish community as she courageously lets her faith show as an example to all in our Parish." (Faith in Action Parish Co-ordinator at the Parish of St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross)



"We should try to: deepen the faith and relationship of our young people with Our Lord Jesus Christ; integrate our young people into the life of the local and universal Church; form our young people in the Christian virtues which will build character and inspire the leaders among them; and, help our young people to grow in discipleship and learn how to put their faith into action through serving Christ in others, in the Church, and in the world around them."

Bishop Marcus Stock
September 2016

For further information contact:

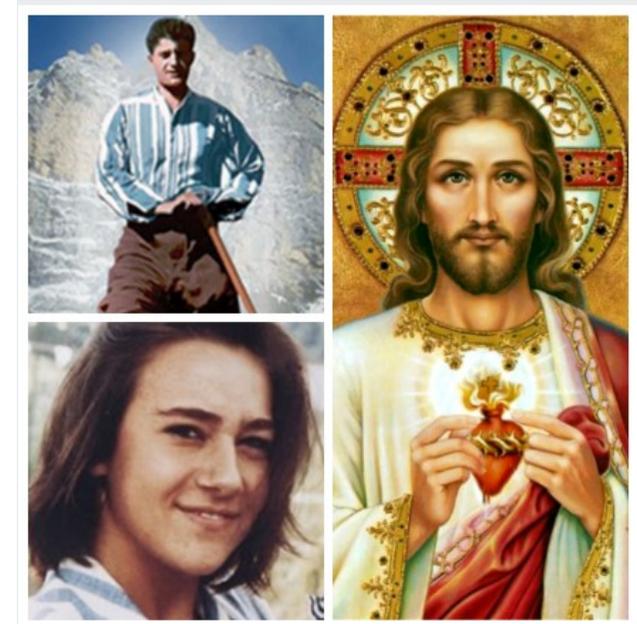
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Empowered by the Spirit Faith in Action Awards



*Information for Parents, Guardians,
and Parish volunteers*





Empowered by the Spirit

Faith in Action Awards

Faith in Action is a national award scheme for young people aged between 10 and 16, supported by CYMFed (Catholic Youth Ministry Federation). The scheme has been designed to be accessible, to acknowledge good works and encourage more, and to ensure that action is rooted in faith. The awards are given by the Diocesan Bishop.

This scheme will provide opportunities for our young people to be involved in on-going formation and catechesis as they move through their secondary education. The introduction of the first level to coincide with Confirmation preparation at the end of the primary phase will, we hope, become a stepping stone for their continuing involvement in the Christian life.

A participant can join the scheme at any level, but a Gold participant will previously have had significant involvement in similar activities.

4 Sections

Prayer: going on a retreat, leading class prayers & taking opportunities to have a variety of different prayer experiences

Pilgrimage & Procession: joining with Diocesan pilgrimages and processions like Walsingham, Lourdes and Batley, as well as family or school opportunities to visit local places of pilgrimage

Parish Practice: contributing to the life of the local Parish e.g. welcoming at Mass, reading bidding prayers & helping with younger children.

Social Action: volunteering in the local community, fundraising, campaigning, getting involved in the work of charities.



4 Levels of Award

Pin Level (Discovery): Years 5 & 6 (or Year 7s who have not participated in FIA in Primary school). This could be done alongside Confirmation preparation.

Bronze Level (Service): Year 7

Silver Level (Leadership): Years 8 & 9

Gold Level (Innovation): Years 10 and may include the Diocesan Lourdes pilgrimage.

What to expect

Your child will need earning credits for some things that they currently do and will also be needing to embark on some new challenges. Many of their activities will be part of existing parish and school activities, but there will be plenty of opportunities to get involved as a family.

How you can help?

The ongoing parental support and encouragement is needed for FIA just like so many other things. Your child may ask you to pray with them, to sign or comment on their work, to supervise them as they bake for a cake sale or even take them to a place of pilgrimage. Reminders to complete their reflections and activity logs will also be helpful.

Safeguarding

As a parent or guardian you are responsible for your child as they work towards their FIA Award. Many FIA activities your child undertakes will be part of a school event or a youth group event at which they are already registered. There will be many activities however that your child could do that will need your supervision and/or permission.