



POPE JOHN PAUL II AWARD

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Message from the Bishop of Portsmouth

Dear Friends,

The Pope John Paul II Award was founded in Derry, Ireland, in 2006. Since then, it has become part of the life of over 26 Dioceses. I am delighted to introduce this Award into the life of our Diocese of Portsmouth so that young people here may benefit too.

Our Diocesan ambition is to *Bring People Closer to Jesus Christ through His Church*. In this process, young people are the best missionaries and witnesses to other young people, but they do need to be supported and encouraged in their faith. This is why this Award, I believe, can be a great help.

In a message to young people on Palm Sunday 2020, Pope Francis said: "I would like to join you, young people, in calling for a cultural change, based on Jesus' command to 'arise'. He calls us to embrace a reality that is so much more than virtual. 'Arise,'" he adds, "is also an invitation to 'dream', to 'take a risk', to be committed to changing the world, to rekindle your hopes and aspirations, and to contemplate the heavens, the stars and the world around you." The Pope then invites young people to "give their passions and dreams free rein," and, through them,

offer the world, the Church and other young people something beautiful. Young people should "make your voices heard."

It is my hope that this Award will help our young people to "arise."

To introduce this Award, of course, will require all of us, especially parish clergy and leaders, to commit some time and energy. Yet in so doing, we will see our young people take a more visible place in the daily life of our parishes as people of faith. This will be a great blessing not only to the young people themselves who participate, but to all of us. Indeed, my hope is that through their participation in this Award - at whatever level Bronze, Silver, Gold or Papal Cross - our young people will develop a lifelong love for Jesus Christ and become ever more generous and effective missionary-disciples within His Body the Church.

With my prayers and best wishes



In Corde Iesu,
+Philip
Bishop of Portsmouth

Pope John Paul II Award

The Pope John Paul II Award encourages you to go beyond your comfort zone on a **journey of self-discovery**. It challenges you to give your time, your talents, your intellect, and your social skills for the **well-being of others and for the Glory of God**.

The Award was created to commemorate the late Pope John Paul II who was so committed to young people and who had such belief and confidence in them.

Through the Pope John Paul II Award, young people in the Diocese of Portsmouth will be enabled to take an active part in the life of their Church, in the life of their community and society, and also become more aware of the teaching and role of the Catholic Church in the world. This will enable young people to engage at a deep level with Christ, whose body the Church is.

It will allow young people to understand that religion and faith are not just for learning, nor are they a list of rules, but that they are for living.



Who is the Award for?

Who is the Award for?

- Students in full-time education, Years 11-13
- Students attending a sixth form college
- Anyone between the ages 16 and 18
- The award is non-competitive, flexible and voluntary and requires an ongoing commitment

The people involved

- Award Patron - The Bishop of Portsmouth
- Award Making Body - Pope John Paul II Award Committee of the Diocese of Portsmouth
- Award Leaders - all are trained and drawn from the local parish both lay and clergy, local school/college teachers and chaplains who will work in collaboration with the parish
- Facilitators - trained and DBS checked individuals who will facilitate participants access to and opportunity to engage with individual activities
- Administrative Centre - JP II Award, Diocese of Portsmouth, Bishop's House, Bishop Crispian Way, Portsmouth PO1 3HG



How does the Award work?

How many Awards are there?

There are four Awards: The Papal Cross, Gold, Silver and Bronze.

What is the completion time?

16 months beginning in September.

How do I earn the Award?

You earn your Award by taking part in activities through Parish Involvement and Social Awareness, and preparation of a Reflection. For the Papal Cross Award, which only begins after completing the Gold Award, the Reflection is replaced by a project.



Award Levels:



The Papal Cross Award

Gold Award

Parish Involvement: 1 hr per week for 26 weeks

Social Awareness: 1 hr per week for 26 weeks

Project



Gold Award

Parish Involvement: 1 hr per week for 20 weeks

Social Awareness: 1 hr per week for 20 weeks

Reflection



Silver Award

Parish Involvement: 1 hr per week for 14 weeks

Social Awareness: 1 hr per week for 14 weeks

Reflection



Bronze Award

Parish Involvement: 1 hr per week for 8 weeks

Social Awareness: 1 hr per week for 8 weeks

Reflection

How does the Award work?

How do I enrol in the Award?

Visit www.thepopejohnpauliiaward.com to download the application form and parental consent form (for those who are under 18 years of age). You should then return the completed forms with the enrolment fee to your Award Leader in your school or parish.

Enrolment Fee

To enrol in the Award costs £20. Cheques should be made payable to PRCDTR The Arise Projects and given to your Award Leader. Alternatively, you can make a BACS transfer to PRCDTR The Arise Projects; Sort Code: 30-80-27 Account No: 36871568 Please quote your name and parish/school as the reference.

What happens next?

When your enrolment is processed you will receive your Record Card from your Award Leader. You will decide with your Award Leader what activity or activities you intend to carry out under the sections Parish Involvement and Social Awareness.

Please be sure that the named facilitator signs your Record Card each time. The Reflection is to be completed after the Parish Involvement and the Social Awareness sections.



How do I claim my Award?

On completion of the hours and the Reflection, you should return your Record Card and your written Reflection to the Award Leader. These are ratified by the appropriate person(s) in the parish or the school and are then sent to: The Pope John Paul II Award Committee, Diocese of Portsmouth, Bishop's House, Bishop Crispian Way, Portsmouth PO1 3HG

Parish Involvement

Encouraging Parish Involvement

When we are baptised we become members of the Body of Christ. This means that we are called to be the presence of Christ in the world. As the Body of Christ, we belong to the community of the Church. We live out this belonging in our parish. For the Church, for the Body of Christ to be fully alive everybody needs to be actively involved. There are many things we can do in our parish.

Examples of activities that can be done for the Award in the parish are:

Those that assist the celebration of the Mass and other liturgies

- Minister of the Word - Readings of the day or prayers of intercession at Mass
- Altar Server
- Extra-Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion
- Member of the parish music group, choir, folk group, organist and or musician
- Assisting with Children's Liturgy of the Word
- Supporting the Mass through the Offertory Procession, and or assisting with the weekly collection
- Composing prayers of the faithful/bidding prayers



- Helping to organise and/or lead a Praise and Worship evening
- Helping to organise and/or lead a Lenten Faith Sharing Group
- Member of the hospitality team
- Be an active link between the school and parish

There may be other activities that you are involved in that are not included here but may be relevant, if so please contact the Pope John Paul II Award Committee for approval by emailing: JP2award@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Social Awareness

Encouraging Social Awareness

As members of the Body of Christ, through baptism, we make Christ present by the way we treat others. Our faith is lived out most fully in our actions, which is why it is important to be aware of the needs of others and to minister to their needs. That is why Social Awareness is such an important aspect of this Award.

Examples of activities in the area of Social Awareness that you could do for your Award are:

Join local branches of charities and get involved in local projects or fundraising, for example:

- Caritas
- CAFOD Aid to the Church in Need
- St Vincent de Paul or Young Vinnies
- St John Ambulance or The Red Cross
- Volunteering at charity shops
- Volunteering at community centres
- Helping to organise collections for the local food bank

Be active within the community by:

- Visitation of residential homes
- Visiting and supporting SEN homes and or schools



- Faith Friends/Lighthouse Programme
- Being a Caritas School Ambassador
- Coaching
- Peer Mentoring
- Being a member or leader within one of the parish uniformed groups (i.e. Cubs/Guides, etc.)
- Helping out at the local food bank

There may be other activities that you are involved in that are not included here but may be relevant, if so please contact the Pope John Paul II Award Committee for approval by emailing: JP2award@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Faith Development Activities

Every Award participant in the Diocese of Portsmouth is required to engage in a recognised faith development programme/activity offered in the Diocese or parish:

- Supporting sacramental programmes as a Youth Leader/Mentor/Youth Catechist
- Attending the second year of the Confirmation programme, i.e. the year after you have received the Sacrament of Confirmation
- RCIA / Confirmation Sponsor
- Membership of the EST - Evangelisation Strategy Team
- Youth 2000 Prayer Group
- Prayer Partner
- Taking part in an Alpha/Youth Alpha Course
- Assisting with an Alpha/Youth Alpha Course

There may be other activities that you are involved in that are not included here but may be relevant, if so please contact the Pope John Paul II Award Committee for approval by emailing: JP2award@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



Reflection

Preparing the Reflection

When the participant completes the Parish Involvement and the Social Awareness sections of the Award he/she prepares a Reflection. This Reflection may be written, or on request it can take the form of an oral presentation which will be recorded and then transcribed.

The Reflection is to include:

- A personal reflection and evaluation on any one activity carried out for the Award
- The teaching of the Church that is relevant to the activity (e.g. visiting a residential home - teaching of the Church in relation to the care of the elderly and vulnerable. Reading at Mass - teaching of the Church in relation to the Word of God).
- An answer to the question - What does it mean to be a baptised member of the Church?

Through the Reflection, the participant will show a knowledge and understanding of what they did within the context of the Church. Their role within the Church will become more apparent.



Award Top-Ups

Award Top-Ups

Award Top-Ups are given in recognition of the extra activities that young people are already involved in. Top-Ups will go towards the total number of hours an individual has to complete.

Top-Ups can be achieved in a number of ways - see below:

Top-Ups:

Papal Cross	7.5 hours
Gold	6 hours
Silver	4.5 hours
Bronze	3 hours

Pilgrimage

The Diocese of Portsmouth organise a pilgrimage to Lourdes each year. As a youth pilgrim you would be involved in enabling pilgrims to take full advantage of the programme perhaps by pushing wheelchairs and offering assistance at mealtimes. You would also be able to help with the liturgies and all other aspects of the pilgrimage. Many parishes also organise pilgrimages, either specifically for young people, or for the wider parish community, but open to young people. Participation in this type of activity can be part of the Pope John Paul II Award.

Diocesan Youth Activities

On a number of occasions during the year, the Diocese of Portsmouth organises youth activities such as the Altar Server Day, Confirmation Retreats and celebrations for National Youth Sunday which include guest speakers. Participation in these activities can be part of the Pope John Paul II Award, either through attendance or by becoming one of the Diocesan Youth Ambassadors and helping to organise and lead these days.

Humanitarian Trips

Trips lasting four days or more to work on specific projects, such as overseas projects, or other areas to work in a voluntary capacity in schools and communities can also be part of the Pope John Paul II Award.

There may be other activities that you are involved in that are not included here but may be relevant, if so please contact the Pope John Paul II Award Committee for approval by emailing: JP2award@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Code of Ethics

Participants Code of Ethics

The Pope John Paul II Award values and encourages the participation of young people in activities which allow them to live their faith in Jesus Christ in the community of the Church. The Award is committed to helping young people enhance their spiritual, physical, emotional and social development through participation in school, parish and community activities.

In keeping with this ethos, the Award has drawn up a Code of Ethics for all participants.

Participants will:

- Follow the policies and procedures already in place in their schools, parishes and community groups where the Award activities will take place
- Obtain signed consent from parents/guardians to participate in activities and events associated with the Award, where participants are under 18 years of age
- Treat people with courtesy, dignity and respect
- Avoid inappropriate language and/or sexually suggestive comments/jokes
- Not engage in any behaviour that could be construed as bullying or abusive
- Not engage in any inappropriate physical contact

Code of Ethics

Participants will:

- Respect a person's right to privacy
- Act with particular care if visiting residential homes and ensure all safeguarding requirements are adhered to
- Abide by arrangements and procedures for entering and exiting activity events and venues
- Act according to directions and regulations when carrying out fundraising activities for charities
- Report immediately to the School Principal or designated Child Protection Person for the Diocese of Portsmouth if they have any concerns about their own safety and well-being, or that of another participant
- Sign up to the Code of Behaviour before beginning the Award
- Not be permitted to smoke whilst engaged in activities associated with the Pope John Paul II Award
- Refrain from alcohol or illegal substances



Participants found to be under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances during activities will be asked to withdraw immediately from the Award and their continued participation will be reviewed in consultation with the School Principal or the Award Committee.

Offices

Diocese of Portsmouth:

The Pope John Paul II Award
Diocese of Portsmouth
Bishop's House
Bishop Crispian Way
Portsmouth
PO1 3HG
Email: JP2award@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING

The Portsmouth Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator
Diocesan Safeguarding Office
St Edmunds House
Bishop Crispian Way
Portsmouth
PO1 3HG

Tel: **02394 216488 / 07554 427064**
Email: rattfield@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

All activities must adhere to the Diocese of Portsmouth safeguarding policies, GDPR procedures and Pope John Paul II Award guidance as outlined at: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk>

Award Central Office:

Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre
The Gate Lodge
2 Francis Street
Derry
BT48 7DS
Tel: 00 44 28 7126 4087
Email: admin@thepopejohnpauliiaward.com
www.thepopejohnpauliiaward.com

*Trust Christ; listen attentively to his teachings, fix your eyes on his face,
persevere in listening to His word.
Allow Him to focus your search and aspirations,
all your ideals and the desires of your heart.*

Pope John Paul II