

FAITH STORY AND WITNESS

~ WITNESS COMPONENT



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY



PRAYER

Let us pray...

Leader:

Christ has no Body now but yours

No hands, no feet on earth but yours

Yours are the eyes through which he looks
compassion on the world

Yours are the feet with which he walks
to do good

Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the
world.

*All: Ours are the hands
Ours are the feet
Ours are the eyes
We are his body
Planning in the Kingdom.*

*Lord, we commit ourselves
to the work of our hands.*



CATHOLIC IDENTITY

~ FAITH STORY AND WITNESS



Sharing the school's faith story



Being a Christ-like presence



Integrating Gospel values



WHAT IS WITNESS????????

One online dictionary says that a 'witness' is : *'a person who gives sworn testimony about something'* they have personally experienced...

...so a 'Christian Witness' would *"openly profess faith in God through their words and actions."*

A Christian witness means going out in the world and telling people about Jesus.

They would DO the will of God and obediently SPEAK about God and what the scriptures command.

Jesus was considered a 'faithful and true witness' because he boldly spoke the truth about God.



WITNESS

Purpose:

To give Christian witness and so attract people to want to 'come and see' what this person (Jesus) has to offer.

It is the first act of, and perhaps the most effective way, to evangelise.



SOME COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS

- ◊ I don't like bible-bashing.
- ◊ We can't impose our beliefs on someone else.
- ◊ That sounds embarrassing!
- ◊ I wouldn't know where to start.
- ◊ I am glad that it's not my job.



IS THIS WITNESS...



THE
2·30
REPORT

...OR THIS...?



THE
SONG
OF
JESUS
p. 2/3

© The Visual Bible



To evangelise is to spread the Good News.

How??????

What we do

What we practice

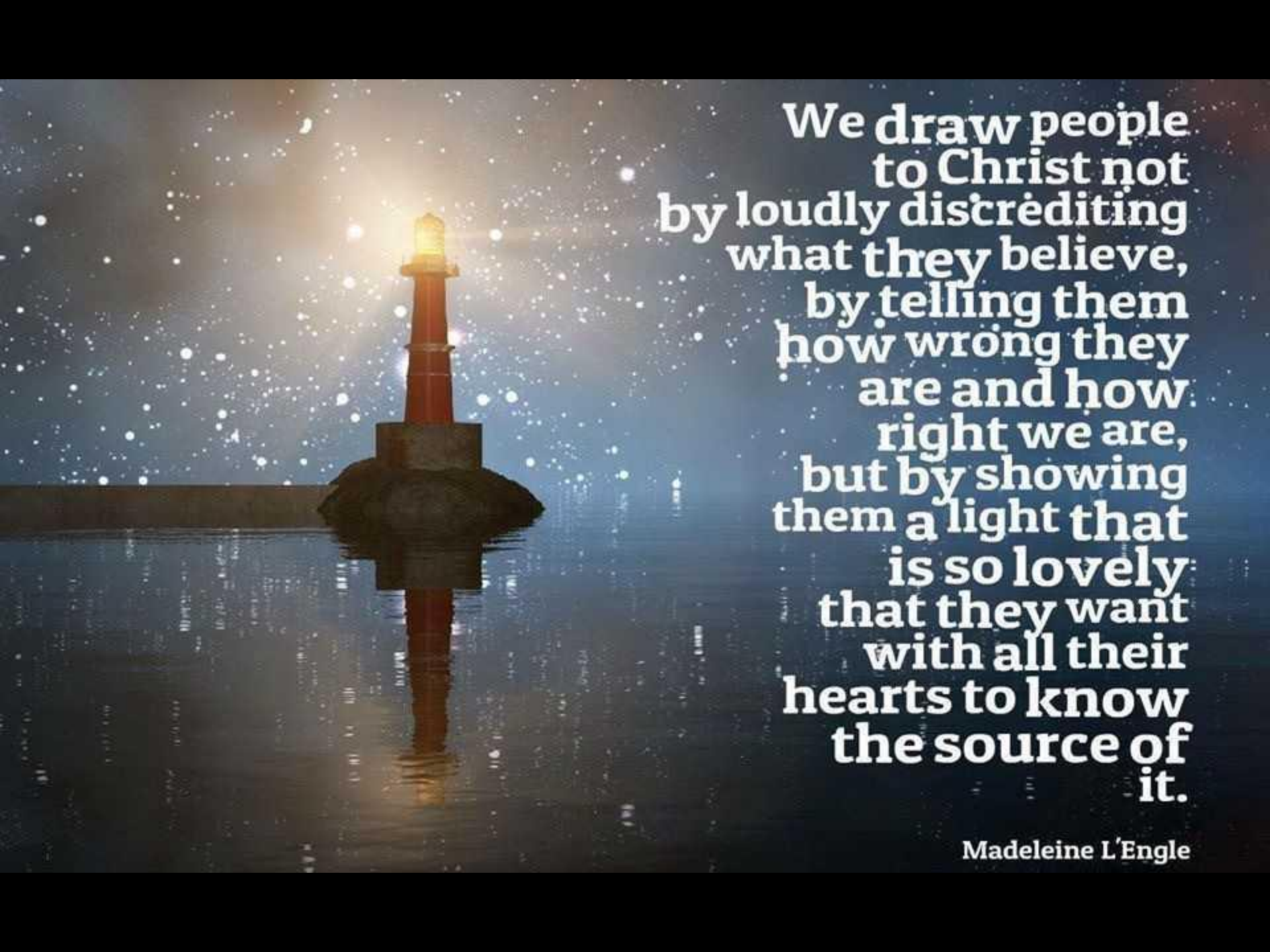
Our witness....

What we say

What we preach

And our word





**We draw people
to Christ not
by loudly discrediting
what they believe,
by telling them
how wrong they
are and how
right we are,
but by showing
them a light that
is so lovely
that they want
with all their
hearts to know
the source of
it.**

Madeleine L'Engle

METHODS OF EVANGELISATION

- Build personal relationships, make friends, build community
- Provide a 'wordless witness'
- Use a variety of approaches that acknowledges the differences of people
- Provide growth in holiness for all



TIME FOR REFLECTION

- who witnessed
to you????

A good man brings good things
out of the good stored up in his
heart, and an evil man brings evil
things out of the evil stored up in
his heart. For the mouth speaks
what the heart is full of.

~ Luke 6:45

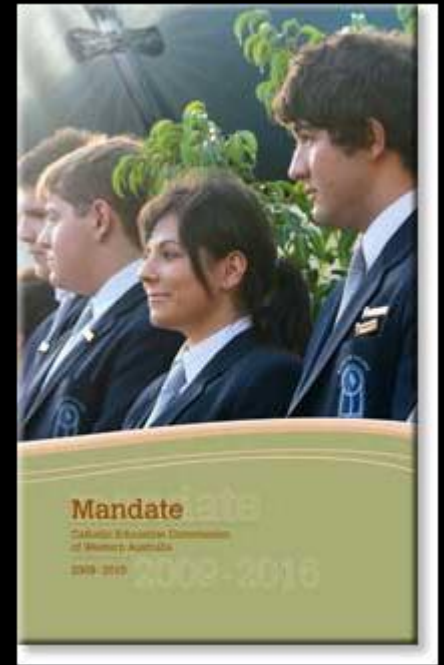


EVANGELISATION

~ What does it look like at
?? School?

WITNESS IN THE MANDATE

- Take notes on the important points of your part of the reading.
- Can you think of an example where this is happening at your school?
- Share your summary and example with the rest of your group.



STAFF WITNESS TO THE GOOD NEWS

- How do we witness at our school?
- In what areas do we give strong witness?
- What areas are challenging?

AN ALFOIL MEDITATION

- ◆ Consider : How do you evangelise within your role in the school? How are you the messenger of good news? To the students? Staff? Community? Parish?
- ◆ How does your vocation at the school give witness to the life of Christ?
- ◆ Create a symbol of your witness.
- ◆ Get ready to share it.



HERALDS OF THE GOSPEL

We need heralds of the Gospel
who are experts in humanity,
who know the depths of the human
heart,
who can share the joys, the hopes,
the agonies, the distress of people
today,
but who are, at the same time,
contemplatives
who have fallen in love with God.



VOCATION...

...is that nourishing sense
that we are meant to be doing what we
are doing;
that our work is of inherent value to
others and to us.

Thomas Landy (adapted)

HOW DID YOU GET HERE?



VOCATION

is that nourishing sense
that we are meant to be doing what we are doing;
that our work is of inherent value to others and to us.

The origin of that sense of purpose, of mission,
is outside ourselves yet it is intimately connected
to who we are as individuals,
to our own particular gifts, talents,
and sources of contentment.

The notion of vocation is inherently tied up
with our relationship with God.

Thomas Landy (adapted)

VOCATION
AND
THE WORK OF
OUR HANDS

A Reflection through Images









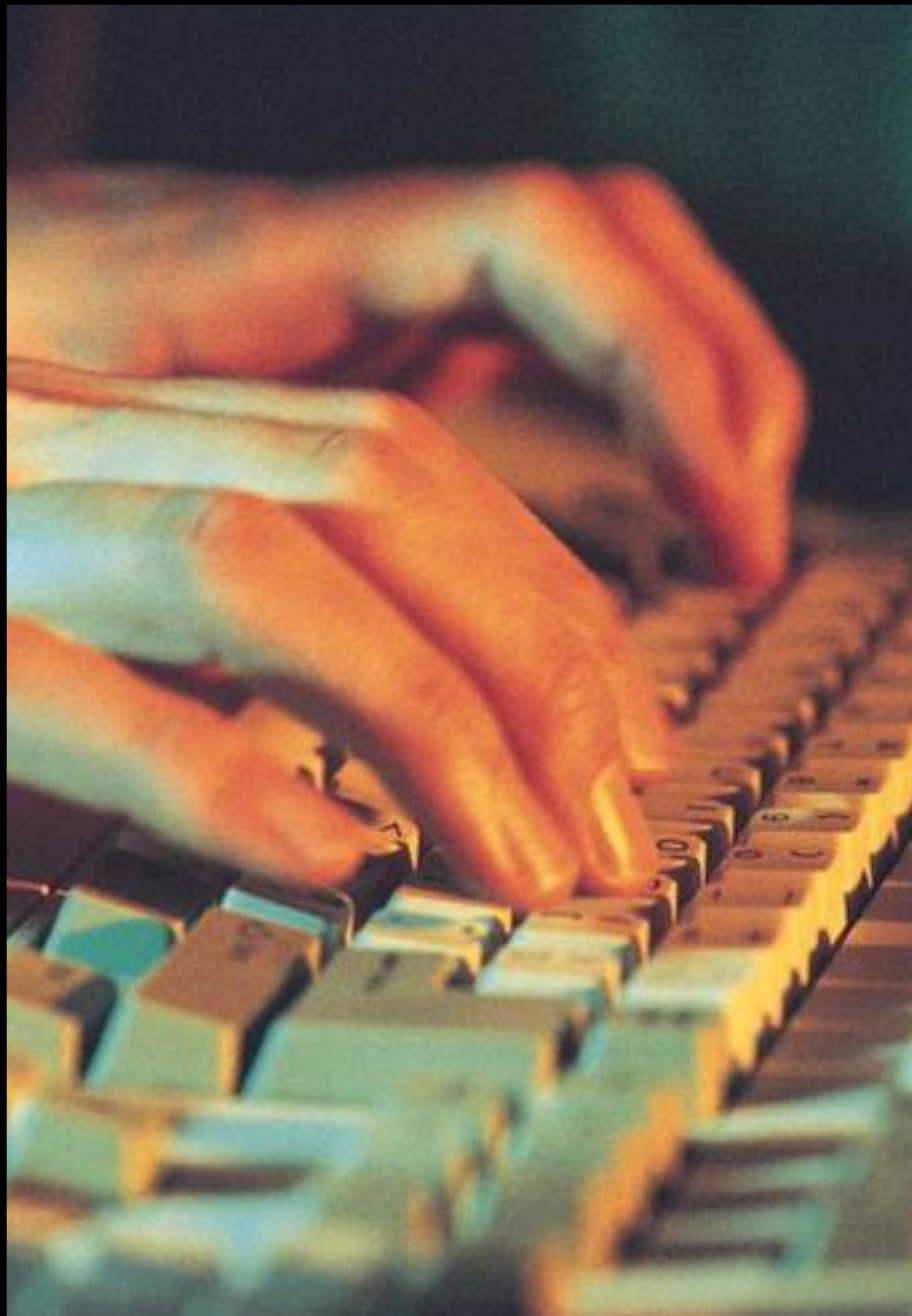
























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We are God's Hands.....