

## Red Wednesday Primary Schools Assembly:

### Notes for Teachers

Aid to the Church in Need's #RedWednesday initiative aims to highlight the injustices and religious persecution found in our world today. Our #RedWednesday Assembly is the perfect resource for you to use with your students to help them understand the tragic plight of many Christians around the world. It requires minimal preparation in your classroom or hall; the assembly is mostly in video format, with ACN staff leading students through the assembly.

**Who We Are:** Aid to the Church in Need is a Catholic charity who support Christians around the world who experience any kind of persecution, oppression or pastoral need. We fund around 5,000 projects in over 140 countries, and help both Christians as well as their wider communities. You can find out more about us by visiting our website > <https://acnuk.org/about/>

**When is #RedWednesday?** This year, #RedWednesday is on 24th November.

**What is #RedWednesday?** #RedWednesday is our annual, global, campaign to raise awareness for those who suffer the human rights violation of religious persecution. You can find out more about #RedWednesday here: <https://acnuk.org/our-campaigns/redwednesday/>

**Assembly Aim:** Our Red Wednesday assembly aims to help your students understand more about Red Wednesday and the work of ACN. They will have a chance to learn more about the type of help offered by ACN, and how important this is for those who receive it.

#### Preparation for the Assembly:

- We recommend that you watch the assembly through before showing to your students, as some sections may not be suitable for all students.
- Take a look at the resources page <https://acnuk.org/resources-landing/>

#### Guide to each of the slides:

1. Opening slide = Opening slide to the assembly – this can be on the screen when students come into the assembly hall.
2. Slide 2 – Welcome to our Assembly! = Briefly introduce ACN, and explain to students that they will learn more about ACN during the assembly. They will next hear a message from Maisy Milk - one of ACN's helpers.
3. Slide 3 = Click play, and the video will begin. There will be a short message from Maisy Milk - our character who helps out with primary schools. She will remind students about Red Wednesday, and all the good things that happen because of it.
4. Slide 4 = Click play, and the video will begin. There will be a short message from Bridget, explaining what the students are going to see next – some evidence of the type of projects that ACN is able to help with.
5. Slide 5 = Click play, and the video will begin. This video describes the type of help ACN is providing in Syria and Lebanon, and what projects ACN is able to support thanks to our supporters!
6. Slide 6 = Click play, and the video will begin. Bridget says a short thank you, and finishes the assembly by leading a prayer.
7. Slide 7 = Bridget finishes the assembly with a prayer. Children can make the sign of the cross if they like, or just simply listen quietly. Bridget will then thank the students for their

participation. You can reiterate this again if you like before dismissal back to class! Thank you.

### **Things to Consider for #RedWednesday Itself**

- There is a variety of ways to get involved – from saying a simple prayer together as a class or school, to fundraising or hosting a special assembly, to name a few ideas. Discuss with staff or students, what you might like to do at your school.
- You may want to consider the cross-curricular links that #RedWednesday touches upon, including justice, freedom, equality, prejudice and discrimination.
- If you have lots of languages spoken in your school, why not create a follow-up assembly or prayer service on #RedWednesday with students leading the Our Father in their language of choice? Alternatively, our #RedWednesday Novena has everything you need to run a daily prayer time in the lead up to the day itself.

**Check in with Us!** No matter what you are planning for #RedWednesday, whether it's small or big, we'd love to hear from you! Let us know what you're up to at: [Schools@acnuk.org](mailto:Schools@acnuk.org) so we can add you to our interactive map.