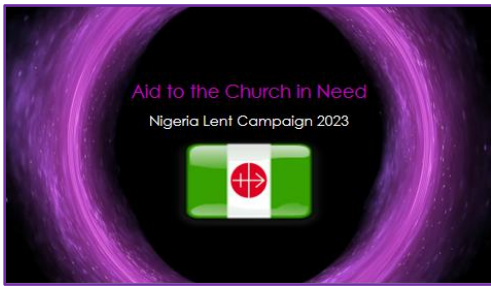


Aid to the Church in Need

Nigeria Lent Campaign 2024 – Support Document



‘Whatever you did for the least of my brothers and sisters, you did for me.’

Matthew 25: 40

1. PowerPoint/Resource Overview

This year's 'Lent Campaign' PowerPoint presentation has been created to support schools in developing their understanding the work of 'Aid to the Church in Need' (ACN) in general terms, with a specific focus on the organisation's work in supporting persecuted Christian communities in Nigeria.

The PowerPoint is split into three main sections as follows:

- Part One: ACN Introduction – Nigeria Lent Campaign 2024
- Part Two: Collective Worship Template
- Part Three: Additional Resources/Fundraising Ideas

1a. Part One: ACN Introduction – Nigeria Lent Campaign 2024

The grid contains 20 slides, each with a number in the bottom left corner and a star icon in the bottom right corner. The content of the slides is as follows:

- 1: Title slide: Aid to the Church in Need Nigeria Lent Campaign 2023
- 2: ACN was founded in 1947 as a Catholic aid organisation for war refugees and is dedicated to the service of persecuted Christians all around the world. Every year, ACN supports thousands of projects and communities in nearly 150 countries across the globe. This is ACN's logo!
- 3: Just a few months ago, King Charles III met witnesses of Christian persecution at an Advent event in London in which Aid to the Church in Need were involved.
- 4: This Year, ACN's Lenten Campaign is focused on supporting persecuted Christians in Africa, and in particular, those living in Nigeria.
- 5: Let's find out a few facts about the continent of Africa and the country of Nigeria before we look at the support ACN provides for Christians in these areas.
- 6: AFRICA ...is the second largest continent in the world!
- 7: Africa covers about 20% of the world's land mass. The population of Africa is over 1.2 billion (that's nine zeros!) Around 70% of the world's cocoa is grown in Africa. In total, there are 54 countries in Africa.
- 8: And one of those 54 countries is called... NIGERIA
- 9: Nigeria (officially the Federal Republic of Nigeria) is located in West Africa. Nigeria borders Niger in the north, Chad in the northeast, Cameroon in the east, and Benin in the west.
- 10: Population: 225 million people. Capital: Abuja, which has around 3.5 million inhabitants. Name: The name originally comes from the Niger river which flows through the country. Motto: Unity and faith, peace and progress.
- 11: 'Unity and faith, peace and progress.' Unfortunately, millions of Christians in Nigeria are not able to celebrate their faith freely, they are persecuted for their beliefs and do not live in peace.
- 12: Here are some examples of how ACN use your donations to support different Catholic communities in Nigeria...
- 13: Construction of a fence for the Zuru convent of the Dominican Sisters.
- 14: Fr. Andrew Danjuma helping the local community thanks to the new car bought by ACN.
- 15: This is seminarian Steve Luis during his classes in Nigeria. The ACN supports seminarians as they prepare for their vocation to become priests.
- 16: Construction of a fence for the Moulfash convent of the Dominican Sisters.
- 17: Construction of a 17 Seesom facility with a Common Room and meditation chapel for the Dominican Sisters in Gusau.
- 18: Bishop Stephen Mojias, blessing school children in an IDP (internally displaced person) housing estate supported by ACN in Yala diocese, Nigeria.
- 19: In the following video you will hear about how donations received by ACN are used to help Christian communities in Nigeria to celebrate 'Lenten'.
- 20: Video player showing how donations are used to help Christian communities in Nigeria to celebrate 'Lenten'.

- **Slide 1:** Opening Slide (looped video) - appropriate music could be used here as pupils gather/prepare.
- **Slides 2 – 3:** Brief introduction to Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) and its global perspective.
- **Slides 4 – 10:** Introduction to this year's Lent Campaign for Nigeria (Africa/Nigeria facts)
- **Slide 11:** Focus on Nigeria's 'motto: 'Unity and faith, peace and progress.'; introduction of the word 'persecuted' – teachers to explore/explain at an appropriate level.
- **Slides 12 – 19:** Specific examples of the support provided to various Christian communities in Nigeria through the money raised by ACN during previous fundraising/Lenten campaigns.
- **Slide 20:** ACN video (subtitled) from a priest's perspective detailing the challenges faced by Catholic communities in Nigeria as they try to live out their faith on a daily basis. 'Priests in Nigeria are often kidnapped due to their efforts to spread the Christian message; this is referenced once (18 - 22 seconds) but not explored further. If preferred, the video could be forwarded four seconds at this point, or simply begun from 22 seconds. This video explains how the money donated for a Mass Stipend will support a Catholic community in Nigeria.

1b. Part Two: Collective Worship Template

The image shows a grid of 40 numbered slides for a collective worship template. The slides are arranged in a 4x10 grid. Each slide contains text, images, and a small ACN logo. The slides are numbered 21 through 40. The content of the slides includes:

- Slide 21:** Opening Slide (looped video) - appropriate music could be used here as pupils gather/prepare.
- Slide 22:** Brief introduction to Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) and its global perspective.
- Slide 23:** Introduction to this year's Lent Campaign for Nigeria (Africa/Nigeria facts)
- Slide 24:** Focus on Nigeria's 'motto: 'Unity and faith, peace and progress.'; introduction of the word 'persecuted' – teachers to explore/explain at an appropriate level.
- Slide 25:** Specific examples of the support provided to various Christian communities in Nigeria through the money raised by ACN during previous fundraising/Lenten campaigns.
- Slide 26:** ACN video (subtitled) from a priest's perspective detailing the challenges faced by Catholic communities in Nigeria as they try to live out their faith on a daily basis.
- Slide 27:** 'Priests in Nigeria are often kidnapped due to their efforts to spread the Christian message; this is referenced once (18 - 22 seconds) but not explored further. If preferred, the video could be forwarded four seconds at this point, or simply begun from 22 seconds. This video explains how the money donated for a Mass Stipend will support a Catholic community in Nigeria.
- Slide 28:** Bible reading of Matthew 4:1-11.
- Slide 29:** Reflection on the passage: 'Why is this Gospel passage important for us during Lent? What does this passage teach us about Jesus and how we can lead our lives? How does this passage link to the work of ... in Nigeria?'
- Slide 30:** Prayer: 'Let Us Pray' with images of liturgical candles.
- Slide 31:** Prayer: 'We pray for the Christians in Nigeria who are not allowed to practice their faith freely...'
- Slide 32:** Prayer: 'We pray that the Christians in Nigeria know and feel God's presence...'
- Slide 33:** Prayer: 'The day that Christians in Nigeria would find unity in their belief in God and the man Jesus...'
- Slide 34:** Prayer: 'We pray that all Christians in Nigeria find the grace to lead their lives in the heart of God...'
- Slide 35:** Prayer: 'We pray that all Christians in Nigeria know that God is with them...'
- Slide 36:** Amen.
- Slide 37:** So what could your class be to support Christian communities in Nigeria during Lent?
- Slide 38:** 'Being A Lent Hero' - The ACN has 'Lent' ideas about how you can be a hero during Lent as you share God's love and show your support for various Christian communities around the world, including Nigeria. Here are just a few!
- Slide 39:** Go to an extra Mass every week to pray for someone else. Ask your parents to take you to 'stations of the Cross'. Say 'Thank You' to God for 5 things every day! Organise a Class/Club Sale (or other events) for ACN.
- Slide 40:** There are lots of other great 'mission' ideas on ACN's 'Being a Lent Hero' document! Your teachers can show these with you using the link below!

This collective worship is based on the 'Gather – Word – Response – Mission' model. An appropriate prayer focus including appropriate liturgical colours (purple), a Bible and other appropriate items/resources (including a printed ACN logo) could also be included.

- **Slide 21:** Opening Slide (Part One – Slide 1)
- **Slides 22:** Introduction – linked to Part One; this can be re-worded if being used separately from the introduction to the 'Nigeria Lent Campaign 2023.

- **Slides 23 – 28:** The Word – The Temptation in the Wilderness (Matthew 4: 1 – 11)
- **Slide 29:** Reflection/Discussion slide based on Matthew 5: 11 – 12; this can be used or removed as required.
- **Slides 30 – 36:** Prayers of the Faithful – these can be adapted as required; opportunities for spontaneous prayer could also be included.
- **Slides 37 – 40:** Mission – Some ideas for the children's 'mission' following the collective worship are shared; these are taken from the ACN's 'Being a Lent Hero' document (<https://acnuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Lent-Ideas.pdf>).

1c. Part Three: ACN Support Materials/Resources



- **Slide 41:** Introductory slide.
- **Slides 42 - 43:** ACN's 'Bible Project for Lent' – click on the following link to download this resource: <https://acnuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/CB-Easter.pdf>; slide 43 includes an example of one of the videos available to use in school.
- **Slides 44 - 45:** ACN's 'Way of the Cross' resource – click on the following link to download this resource: <https://acnuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/2022-Children-Stations-of-the-Cross-1.pdf>
- **Slide 46:** The ACN website features a 'Make a Mass Offering' page whereby your school can support a priest/community in Nigeria by offering Mass for just £5; other 'packages' are also available through the following link: <https://acnuk.org/get-involved/mass/>.
- **Slide 47:** ACN's 'Being a Lent Hero' document containing various 'mission' ideas to help pupils show their support for persecuted Christian communities in Nigeria and throughout the world; click on the following link to download this resource: <https://acnuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Lent-Ideas.pdf>
- **Slide 48:** Closing slide (looped video); this slide can be inserted at various points throughout Part One/Two if required.

2. Catholic Self-Evaluation Document - Evidence

Through using the materials provided for this year's '[Nigeria Lent Campaign 2023](#)', school leaders will be able to provide evidence to support the following sections of the Catholic Self-Evaluation Document (CSED):

Catholic Life and Mission (CLM)

Pupil Outcomes

CLM1.3. How well pupils flourish as they seek opportunities to grow in virtue.

CLM1.4. How well pupils respond to Catholic Social Teaching.

CLM1.5. The extent to which pupils show respect for themselves and others.

Leadership

CLM3.1. How committed are leaders and governors to the Catholic life and mission of the school.

CLM3.3. How committed are leaders and governors to Catholic Social Teaching.

Religious Education (RE)

Pupil Outcomes

RE1.4. The extent to which pupils are developing as religiously literate and engaged young people who have the knowledge, understanding and skills – appropriate to their age and capacity – to reflect spiritually, and think ethically and theologically, and who are aware of the demands of religious commitment in everyday life.

Leadership

RE3.7. The extent to which the subject leader ensures that the learning in the classroom is enriched by the extra-curricular opportunities provided for pupils.

Collective Worship (CW)

Pupil Outcomes

CW1.1. The extent to which pupils are engaged by and participate in prayer and liturgy.

CW1.5. The ability of students to reflect on their experience of prayer and liturgy and the extent to which this reflection inspires them to action.

Provision

CW2.4. The extent to which the celebration of prayer and liturgy has Scripture at its heart, and how well informed that selection is by the liturgical calendar and takes account of the capacity of the participants.

3. [Religious Education Directory \(RED\) Links](#)

The materials contained within the PowerPoint presentation (including the additional ACN resources signposted in 'Part Three') will support schools in addressing all three elements within the 'Understand – Discern – Respond' structure of the revised RED (January 2023), particularly those

related to various principles of Catholic Social Teaching (see Caritas Westminster - <https://www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/catholic-social-teaching.php>), including:

- Human Dignity
- Community and Participation
- Solidarity and Peace.

Once schools have adopted the revised RED and become more familiar with its topic-related contents, direct links to the work of ACN could be mapped/linked to various topics. Over time, ACN will identify specific links to various standards within the RED.

ACN UK (February 2024)