



“ For him, you have worth; you are not insignificant. You are important to him, for you are the work of his hands. That is why he is concerned about you and looks to you with affection (Christus Vivit, 115). ”

## **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY**

National Youth Sunday is a unique opportunity to celebrate the role and significance of young people in the Catholic Church in England and Wales today. It provides an opportunity to focus on the role of young people in the Sunday Liturgy and in the life of the parish. National Youth Sunday is celebrated on the Feast of Christ the King, the last Sunday of the Church's year, the Sunday before Advent. Universally it is marked on Palm Sunday.

### **1. To recognise young people as a gift to be celebrated in the Church and affirming them as disciples of Christ.**

- a) To foster a culture of encouraging young people so that they feel at home in the Church (and in church).
- b) To call young people to witness to Christ the King and to share their faith stories.
- c) To celebrate liturgy that inspires young people to engage actively in living their faith.

### **2. To recognise that all the baptised have a responsibility for youth ministry and are called to offer young people authentic support as they grow in their relationship with Christ.**

- a) To enable people to understand youth ministry and to affirm the variety of contributions they can make.
- b) To offer opportunities for participation and training in youth ministry.
- c) To pray for the needs and concerns of young people and for youth ministry.

### **3. To raise the profile of youth ministry and to understand its place in the mission of the Church.**

- a) This Sunday affirms the teaching of the Church about youth ministry and each diocese is invited to reflect this locally.
- b) To recognise and reward the generosity of leaders and young people in serving others and to foster a culture of gratitude for all they bring to the Church.