

Teacher notes for God's People (year 4) poster

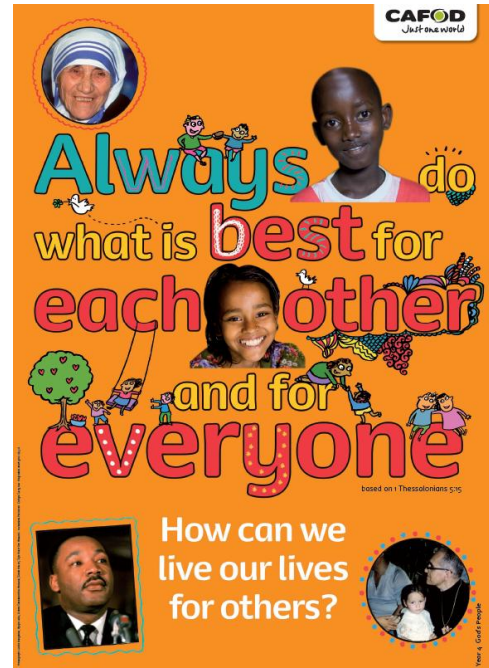
Download the poster here.

Before the topic begins (EXPLORE)

Encourage children to spend some time looking at and exploring the poster. Ask them to think about the words and the images in the poster.

Suggested activities for the children:

- Pick out different people – what, if anything, do the children already know about them?
- Use post-it notes to jot down ideas about what they see in the poster or questions they might have – take away each question as they are answered throughout the topic.



During the topic (REVEAL)

The poster can be used alongside God's People lesson plans, to help reveal to the children that different saints show people what God is like. *Download the lesson plan here.*

Scripture: Always do what is best for each other and for everyone (based on 1 Thessalonians: 5:15).

Look up the scriptural reference. Discuss what is meant by the piece of scripture. What does it mean to do the best thing? How do you know what the best thing is? What is best for everyone? Is the same thing always best for everyone?

Focus question: How can we live our lives for others?

With a talk partner, small group or as a class, discuss the focus question – how can we live our lives for others? Pick out ways we can do this, using ideas from the poster as a starting point. How did Oscar Romero, Mother Teresa and Martin Luther

King do this? (See *God's People Lesson Plans*, Reveal Focus 3, 5 and 6 respectively). What about the other individuals in the poster? Unpack what it means to live for others – compare what it means to live for ourselves versus living for others, perhaps acting out/drawing different scenarios for each.

Alternatively, mind map ideas of ways we can live our lives for others – either individually, in groups or as a whole class. You may wish to do this as an assessment activity at the beginning of the topic. You could come back to the mind map towards the end of the topic, adding any further points in a different colour (to assess the learning that has taken place).

Discussion activity: Read the quote from scripture – *Always do what is best for each other and for everyone*. Discuss the difference between *each other* and *everyone*. Could *each other* be interpreted as more local, and *everyone* as more global? You could fold the poster in half and read and discuss each half of the poster separately. Look at the top half of the poster and discuss what is meant by: *Always do what is best for each other*. Then look at the bottom half of the poster and discuss what is meant by: *Always do what is best for ...everyone*.

Display activity: Invite the children to write about/draw ways of doing what is best for each other and everyone. You could turn this into a display. Put the poster at the centre and add children's drawings and writing around the poster.

Class worship: Display the poster and use it as a focus point to give thanks and praise for God's people all over the world. Focus on the scripture: *Always do what is best for each other and for everyone*. Use it as a statement to live by.

Written activity: Ask children to write about how we can live our lives for others. Encourage them to say why they think it is important to live our lives for others. Children may want to also write about how the individuals shown in the poster live their lives for others.

You could use this as an assessment activity. For level 2, encourage children to **retell** some special stories about people who show what God is like (AT1 (i)) and or/**describe** some ways in which religion is lived out by different saints (AT1 (i)). For level 3, encourage children to **give reasons** for certain actions (AT1(iii)) and/or **make links** between scripture and the action and beliefs of followers of God's way (AT1 (i)). For level 4, encourage children to **write about** how religious belief has shaped the way some people live out their lives (AT1 (iii)) and/or **describe and**

show an understanding of scripture, beliefs, ideas, feelings and experience, making links between them (AT1 (i)).

Values activities: Use the poster to introduce some of the key principles of Catholic Social Teaching (CST). For example, what ways do/did the people in the poster put into action the principles of CST? For a description of the key principles of CST, go to cafod.org.uk/comeandsee

Beyond the topic (RESPOND)

The poster offers an opportunity for children to apply their learning to other areas of their lives, as well as make connections in their learning to other curriculum areas (for further ideas see topic web on page 4).

Final celebration: Display the poster in a celebration of the children's new knowledge and understanding of ordinary people who do extraordinary things and different saints who show us what God is like.

Background information

As well as photographs of Oscar Romero, Mother Teresa and Martin Luther King, the poster contains photographs of two children.

The boy's name is Eric. He is 8 years old and lives in Rwanda. You can find out more about his story in *Eric's story PowerPoint* and *God's People lesson plans*, Explore: ordinary people who do extraordinary things.

The girl's name is Nitu. She is 10 years old and lives in Bangladesh. You can find out more about her story in *Nitu's story PowerPoint* and *God's People lesson plans*, Reveal Focus 4: An ordinary person showing us what God is like.

CITIZENSHIP/PSHE

Playing an active role as citizens:

Look at Oscar Romero's aspire quote:

'Aspire not to have more but to be more'

Reflect on this quote and what it means. Who do you aspire to be like? Why?

Create campaign posters to inspire action in the school community, the local community etc. For example, create posters campaigning for others to show love/respect/kindness etc to others.

ICT

Present research of different saints using a variety of software/ programmes.

Use Excel (or equivalent software) to visually display facts and statistics from different countries (see geography activities). Draw conclusions from the data.

HISTORY

Further research the lives of the people on the poster – what else can children find out about these people? What are their qualities?

Research the lives of saints/ and other extraordinary people.

God's People
Year 4

GEOGRAPHY

Research facts about natural resources, population, life expectancy, climate in Bangladesh, Rwanda and UK: compare and contrast different localities.

LITERACY

Speaking and Listening:

Hold debates about what makes someone extraordinary – who inspires you?

Discuss the statement: We're all in it together – we are all called to be saints.

Interview someone who lives their life for others e.g. a relative/ member of the local community. Find out what they do for others and why they do it.

Writing (for a range of purposes and audiences):

Write a biography of a saint/extraordinary person.

Write a letter to God explaining who should be a saint and why.

Write a job description for a saint.

Reading:

Explore a range of information/non-fiction texts e.g. about the lives/work of different saints.

ART

Design your own poster which includes special people who live their life for others – who would you have on it and why? Design and include illustrations which show ways of doing what is best for others.