

St. Hilda's Resource Centre 391 West Road NE15 7PY

On Monday February 2nd the Centre opened its Lending and Reference Library to the public. There are three rooms containing books to consult or borrow, audio and video recordings, periodicals and pamphlets covering a wide range of topics. Many Church documents, Papal Encyclicals, Vatican and UK Church publications are there for consultation.



We began receiving books in September from closed presbyteries and personal donations, and the long process of sorting books continues to the present. Many duplicated books have been stored and old or damaged books have been discarded, but we have shelved several hundred, by many well respected authors on all aspects of our faith. They can be read here in comfort or borrowed.

Collections of audio recordings by Raymond Brown, Richard Rohr, Sean Conaty and several others are available as audio cassettes or CDs.

Similarly many DVDs to go alongside others already acquired by the Diocesan Department for Spiritual Development.

Room 7 contains books with a wider lay appeal. Prayer, Spirituality, Faith, Catechesis, Catholic Social Teaching, Old & New Testament, Bible Context, and the perennial topics of life - Suffering, Death and Relationships.

Room 5 has more specialised subjects, including a large Biographical section, Theology, Ethics, Philosophy, North East Christianity, works on early Church History, and from Vatican II onwards.

Room 4 has the audio-visual resources and the Church Periodicals and Documents. The DVD series and also several posters can be borrowed for parishes to use.

Room 2 has many resources for schools that can be borrowed to supplement other course material.

Those wishing to learn more about the Gospel message and its implementation in the 21st. century than they learnt at school can find material to suit all tastes, providing informative support and encouragement, free to borrow and enjoy. As responsible adults in the secular world of our time we need to develop a mature adult faith based on our own experience and prayer. We hope this material will be of great help to all who have consciously started their own spiritual journey, and will be a spur to those who are yet to begin.

Our personal spiritual development evolves by stages throughout our life and there comes a time when we need to seek help from those who have made the journey before us, and can give advice born out of experience beyond our own. It can be difficult these days to find authoritative guidance, but we hope this useful collection will bring the experience and insight gathered over centuries to our wider lay community in a way that is both relevant and meaningful to them.

The library is open from 9am to 3.45pm every weekday, extended to 6pm on Fridays, and Saturday 9.30am to 12.00pm. Visitors are asked to sign in first at the Reception Desk in the main St. Cuthbert's Care building before heading for the library side entrance near the car park.

Further enquiries can be made to Pat Kennedy Manager at Diocesan Offices 0191 2433313 or pat.kennedy@diocesehn.org.uk

Paul F. Copeland Librarian

